

**POST-GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP FOR 2012 LAW GRADUATES;  
WASHINGTON, D.C. AND CALIFORNIA OFFICES**

**The National Senior Citizens Law Center (NSCLC)** is a non-profit organization dedicated to obtaining justice for America's low-income elderly and people with disabilities, with an emphasis on the problems affecting people of color and women. We work nationally to assure income and health security in old age by improving access to quality health care including long-term care, protecting and strengthening public benefit programs, and safeguarding meaningful access to the courts for enforcement of statutory protections. Our specific areas of expertise include Medicaid, long-term care, Social Security, Supplemental Security Income, various facets of the Medicare program, and federal rights under safety net and civil rights statutes. We litigate class action lawsuits, advocate before legislatures and public agencies, provide trainings and consultations for public interest attorneys and other advocates, and prepare reports and other information on current issues within our expertise. More information is available at [www.nsclc.org](http://www.nsclc.org).

**The Position:** NSCLC seeks to sponsor law student applicants for 2012 Fellowships, including school-based fellowships, the Borchard Foundation Center on Law and Aging Fellowship, the Equal Justice Works Fellowship, the Skadden Fellowship, and others. Work could commence in summer or fall 2012. The joint application process between NSCLC and the applicant for a 2012 fellowship would begin in summer 2011. The location for the Fellow is Los Angeles, Oakland or Washington, D.C., depending on the fellow's preference, the subject matter, and NSCLC's needs.

NSCLC is also interested in hearing from attorneys who wish to take a year-long law firm sabbatical, or associates seeking out-placement opportunities at a national public interest setting; although NSCLC can offer broad public interest legal exposure on issues of national import, no compensation is available for these arrangements.

**The Project:** NSCLC staff would work with the applicant to prepare a fellowship application for a project of the applicant's choosing, in any area of NSCLC's expertise, including income advocacy, Medicaid, assisted living, and at-home options for long-term care; Medicare Part D; and issues affecting dual eligibles (those on both Medicare and Medicaid). NSCLC's *Herb Semmel Federal Rights Project* also focuses on access to the courts for all underserved populations. NSCLC attorneys will work very closely with prospective fellowship applicants to develop a fellowship project that meshes NSCLC priorities to the applicant's interests and talents.

As an example, a potential arena is an Elder Income Rights Project focused on the historically neglected SSI program for low-income elders and individuals with disabilities. The program is crucial for many vulnerable populations. More than two out of every three people receiving SSI on the basis of age are women, one out of every three people applying for SSI on the basis of age speaks a language other than English, and a disproportionate percentage are African-American. Areas of concern within SSI that might be addressed are the need for modernization, the inadequate resources devoted to language assistance for a linguistically diverse population, and the flaws in due process protections. The Project could include litigation and advocacy; a campaign to reform the Social Security Administration (SSA) appeals system; and training materials and issue briefs. The Fellow could also choose to focus on LGBT seniors, who suffer disproportionately from income-related policies and procedures.

**Qualifications:** The ideal candidate has high-caliber legal research and writing skills, a genuine and documented commitment to working for poor and underserved populations, and an ability to take initiative and work independently. A commitment to a public interest career is extremely desirable. Previous experience or familiarity with income issues is helpful. Individuals with ties to low-income, racial/ethnic minority communities, and other underserved populations are encouraged to apply.

**Applications:** Please send a cover letter, resume, law school transcript, writing sample, and three references to: Hiring Coordinator, NSCLC, 1330 Broadway, Suite 525, Oakland, CA 94612. No calls please. Applicants are encouraged to apply ASAP. NSCLC is committed to diversity. Applications may be emailed to [Oakland@nslc.org](mailto:Oakland@nslc.org).