

Program Eligibility

All applicants must:

- Be at least 20 years of age by September 1 of the fellowship year.
- Have a bachelor's degree by September 1 of the fellowship year and either a cumulative undergraduate GPA of 2.5 or higher or a GPA of 2.5 or higher in the last 60 (semester) or 90 (quarter) units.
- Have a demonstrated interest in state government and public policy.
- Be authorized to work in the United States for the duration of the fellowship program.

How to Apply

Applicants must submit the following by the application deadline:

- Completed online application at csus.edu/capitalfellows
- Personal statement and policy statement
- Resume
- College transcript(s)
- A list of three individuals who will write letters of recommendation

Applications and specific dates and deadlines can be found online at csus.edu/capitalfellows

For more information, contact

Center for California Studies, California State University, Sacramento
(916) 496-5090; capfellowsoutreach@csus.edu



“The Judicial Fellowship introduced an incredible (and previously unknown to me) opportunity for highly engaging public service. I was looking for ways to make the world a better place when I applied to be a Fellow. My path to being appointed as a CEO of a Superior Court was deeply shaped by the examples of dedicated service I saw around me in the program.”

Laila Waheed, Court Executive Officer, Nevada County Superior Court;
Judicial Fellow, 2017-2018



CAPITAL FELLOWS

The JUDICIAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

A dynamic 10-month fellowship working in court management

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THE JUDICIAL FELLOWS EXPERIENCE

Judicial Fellows work for 10 months in courts or Judicial Council offices across California, gaining direct experience in the administration of a complex and changing court environment. Courts do much more than adjudicate cases. In the service of promoting access to justice for everyone, Judicial Fellows are exposed to executive-level management and the development of a variety of court programs and departments, multi-million dollar budgets, policy, and other managerial tasks. The special challenge of court administration is managing these functions in ways that preserve judicial independence and ensure the efficient and fair administration of the law.

Academic and Field Seminar

Judicial Fellows are enrolled as graduate students at Sacramento State and participate in regularly scheduled academic seminar and field seminars throughout the year. Fellows earn six units of graduate credit in Public Policy and Administration and complete a fellowship project on a topic or issue related to the Fellow's placement court or office. Upon successful completion of all fellowship components, Fellows earn a graduate certificate in Applied Policy and Government.

A field seminar is conducted in conjunction with the academic seminar and takes place monthly. During field seminars, Fellows have the opportunity to learn about various court programs, observe courthouse operations, and speak with experts in the court system throughout the state.

The academic seminar focuses on a critical examination of the California judicial system and its administrative structures, policies, and managerial practices. Fellows study contemporary justice issues, intergovernmental relations, alternative administrative practices, policy analysis, and implementation strategies.

Program Benefits

- Paid full-time employee status, health, vision, and dental benefits
- Graduate Certificate in Applied Policy and Government
- Paid university enrollment and student fees for units in the Public Policy and Administration Department
- Student loan deferment




A day in the life of a Judicial Fellow may include:

- Research and projects involving contemporary justice issues such as Collaborative Court programs, self-help centers, and public access to court services and programs.
- Coordinating and participating in community outreach programs and events such as Law Day.
- Conducting legislative analysis.

Placement opportunities may include:

Superior Court of California, **County of Alameda**
Superior Court of California, **County of Butte**
Superior Court of California, **County of Los Angeles**
Superior Court of California, **County of Placer**
Superior Court of California, **County of San Bernardino**
Judicial Council of California, **Office of Governmental Affairs**

csus.edu/capitalfellows



"The essence of the Judicial Fellowship Program is that you aren't meant to know everything before joining, nor when leaving: The focus is on the person I am now and ways to better myself personally and professionally in the areas where I can contribute the most. As a Black woman, a mother, and a nontraditional college graduate, coming from a small town in the Midwest, I have experienced my share of challenges. My Fellowship experience, however, has instilled gratitude within me that I have felt even in the midst of the challenges — and I've welcomed them all!"

Caché Raine-Jones, Judicial Fellow, 2023-2024