

JIOP ELIGIBILITY

The mission of the Judicial Intern Opportunity Program is to provide opportunities to students who are members of racial and ethnic groups that are traditionally underrepresented in the profession. The program also provides opportunities to students with disabilities, students who are economically disadvantaged, women and students who identify themselves as LGBT.

About Race and Ethnicity:

Black, African American (Not Hispanic or Latino) refers to people having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa.

Asian, Asian American (Not Hispanic or Latino) refers to people having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent, including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Hispanic/Latino(a) refers to persons of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin regardless of race.

American Indian/Alaskan Native (Not Hispanic or Latino) refers to people having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintain a tribal affiliation or community attachment.

Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (Not Hispanic or Latino) refers to people having origins in any of the peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Island.

Multi-racial refers to people who identify with more than one of the above races.

White (Not Hispanic or Latino) refers to people having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.

Defining Sexual orientation and Gender identity:

Gender Identity refers to a person's innate, deeply felt psychological identification as male or female, which may or may not correspond to the person's body or designated sex at birth (meaning the sex originally designated on the person's birth certificate).

Sexual Orientation refers to an individual's physical and/or emotional attraction to the same and/or opposite gender. "Heterosexual," "bisexual" and "homosexual" are all sexual orientations.

Defining lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender:

- **Lesbian:** a woman whose physical and/or emotional attachments are to women.
- **Gay:** a man whose physical and/or emotional attachments are to men.
- **Bisexual:** a man or woman whose physical and/or emotional attractions and attachments are to persons of both genders.
- **Transgender:** an umbrella term that includes individuals or varying gender behaviors, inclusive of, but not limited to: transsexuals who experience and/or express their gender identity by identifying or referring to themselves as changing their sex; and others who question their gender identity or expression.

How do I know if I have a disability?

You are considered to have a disability if you have a physical or mental impairment, or medical condition that substantially limits a major life activity, or if you have a history or record of such an impairment or medical condition. Disabilities include, but are not limited to: blindness, deafness, cancer, diabetes, epilepsy, autism, cerebral palsy, HIV/AIDS, schizophrenia, muscular dystrophy, bipolar disorder, major depression, multiple sclerosis, missing limbs or

partially missing limbs, post-traumatic stress disorder, obsessive compulsive disorder, impairments requiring the use of a wheelchair or intellectual disability (previously called mental retardation).

About Economically Disadvantaged:

Economically Disadvantaged refers to students from a low income family, or from an economically or otherwise disadvantaged background. Students applying under the economically disadvantaged category may be asked to submit supporting financial documents, unless they qualify under another program qualification. These documents along with the statement of interest will be reviewed to determine eligibility and lack of opportunity due to individual economic circumstances.