

2027 Governing For Impact Legal Fellowship

GOVERNING FOR IMPACT

Position Title: Legal Fellow

Location: Washington, DC

Employment type: Full-time, exempt

Salary: \$90,000; plus benefits

Position Summary

[Governing for Impact](#) (GFI) seeks full-time Legal Fellows for 2027-2028. Primary responsibilities will include developing policy ideas, conducting legal research, and assisting in outreach to stakeholders. Legal Fellows will principally focus on GFI's future-planning work, including designing policy proposals to equip future administrations to quickly and effectively implement regulatory reforms. Fellows will have the opportunity to develop their own policy portfolio, if desired, and to think creatively about regulatory proposals.

The ideal candidate would be a strong legal researcher, an excellent writer, and have an interest in administrative law, statutory interpretation, and the policymaking process generally. This is a good opportunity for recent graduates interested in developing skills helpful for a future career in the federal government, regulatory policy, and administrative law generally. GFI is a small organization where fellows can shape the organization's work and are expected to manage their own projects, contribute to the organization's mission, and socialize ideas with experts and stakeholders. We are currently hiring for 2027 Fellowships starting in Summer or Fall 2027 for an anticipated 1-year term, with the possibility of extension based on organizational needs and funding. Like all positions at GFI, the fellowship is at-will employment, and the anticipated term is not a guarantee of employment for any specific duration.

Applications are due by November 1, 2026.

About GFI

Corporations, industry lobbying groups, and right-wing advocates have invested heavily in the infrastructure needed to win regulatory fights. Organizations like the Chamber of Commerce and the National Federation of Independent Businesses use teams of regulatory lawyers to comment on rules and conduct research to use in lawsuits. And when an industry-friendly president is in office, they put those assets to use to develop and defend harmful regulatory proposals.

The result is a lopsided fight where one side is well-resourced and the other has historically lacked the expertise and know-how needed to fight back and help those in government do what the American people need: address the rising threat of climate change, protect workers, defend reproductive freedom, and more.

Governing for Impact fills this gap, helping partners with the nitty gritty details of executive branch policy development and implementation, including innovative legal analysis, in order to develop policies that can withstand judicial scrutiny and attack. GFI understands that the pro-democracy movement cannot continue to be outmaneuvered in this space and must match conservatives' legal expertise, deep familiarity with how each agency works, and knowledge about how to best leverage the rulemaking process to achieve our policy goals.

Key Qualifications

There are innumerable ways to learn, grow, and excel professionally. We respect this when we review applications and take a broad look at the experience of each applicant. We want to get to know you and the unique strengths you could bring to the work. This said, we are most likely to be interested in your candidacy if you can demonstrate a majority of the qualifications and experiences listed below:

- Must be a recent graduate from an accredited law school (0-3 years since graduation preferred, as of Fall 2027)
- Active membership in good standing in the bar of at least one U.S. state or the District of Columbia, or bar admission in progress (i.e., having taken, or being registered to take, a bar examination administered no later than July 2027). Fellows who are not yet admitted are expected to become admitted at the earliest opportunity.
- Excellent interpersonal skills – in person, by phone, and over Zoom
- Ability to work independently, as well as within a team, under tight deadlines
- Highly organized and attentive to detail
- Self-motivated and able to handle multiple projects simultaneously and see them through to completion
- Familiarity with administrative law, including the Administrative Procedure Act, is preferable

Benefits

- The salary for this position is \$90,000 annually
- GFI provides a comprehensive benefit plan, including:
 - Health, dental, vision insurance
 - 401k with employer match
 - Paid time off (vacation, sick leave, holidays)
 - Paid parental leave
 - Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA)

Location

- Hybrid in Washington, D.C., with at least a 2 days per week in-office expected

How to Apply

Please send an email to recruiting@governingforimpact.org titled **“2027 Fellowship Application - [APPLICANT NAME]”** with a resume, a writing sample (persuasive policy memo preferred, but not required), and a cover letter with a few quick paragraphs explaining your interest, qualifications, and potential availability. No phone calls please.

Equal Employment Opportunity Statement

Governing for Impact (GFI) is a 501(c)(3) public charity and is committed to attracting, developing and retaining exceptional people, and creating a work environment that is dynamic, rewarding and enables each of us to realize our potential. GFI provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants without regard to race, color, religious creed, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, political affiliation, ancestry, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, and all other classifications protected by law in the locality and/or state in which you are working. GFI is proud to foster a safe and inclusive workplace for all.

GFI is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities throughout the application and hiring process and during employment. If you need an accommodation, please send an email to recruiting@governingforimpact.org.