

2018 BERTHA JUSTICE FELLOWSHIP FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What does 0-2 years of experience mean? We mean the amount of time since you have received your JD or LLM degree. In other words, the minimum requirement (0 years) is that you have completed your degree and have taken the Bar exam by the time you start the position in September 2018; we will not consider applicants who graduated from law school prior to Spring of 2016. Bertha Fellows positions are limited to individuals who are 0-2 years out of law school, and does not depend on years of practice experience.

I don't have my JD yet. Can I apply? Yes, the Bertha Fellowship is open to candidates who will have a J.D. degree as of the start date of the fellowship in September 2018.

I am still waiting on my bar results. Can I apply? Yes, as long as you will have taken your bar exam by September 2018, you are welcome to apply. If you have failed the Bar exam you must be willing to retake it.

Do I need to be admitted to the NY Bar?

No, as long as you are admitted to another state that is fine. It is also ok if you are awaiting your Bar results.

Do I have to be a US citizen to apply for a Bertha Fellowship? You certainly can apply for a Bertha Fellowship as a non-US citizen. Please note that we have a very strong preference for someone with a JD or an LLM, so that they may be able to practice in the United States.

Does the Bertha Fellowship at CCR require being based in New York? Yes, the program is based in New York City office and the Bertha Fellows would be required to work out of our office.

Is there flexibility on the timing, for example if I cannot start until October 2018 or I would prefer to start over the summer? There is limited flexibility on the timing of the Bertha Fellowship start date. Please indicate in your cover letter potential conflicts. Should you be considered for a position, this can be discussed with the search team and fair agreement can be reached.

Can I apply for more than 1 fellowship? Yes, please follow the application instructions for each position. You will not need to submit a different essay or writing sample for each position unless you choose to do so.

What is the relationship between the Fellows and the Bertha Justice Network? The Bertha Fellows are part of the Bertha Justice Network, a national and international network of legal workers, law students, lawyers, law professors, and activists that believe in both human rights and building social movements and connects the most cutting-edge legal organizations across the world—in Haiti, Palestine, India, Colombia, the Philippines, South Africa and Europe—to train our respective next generations and build a global movement for justice.

I interned at CCR, can my supervisor serve as one of my references or write my letter of recommendation? That is up to you. We have a preference for letters from folks outside CCR, but if your most significant supervision was by a CCR lawyer or Advocacy Program Manager, you should feel free to ask them.