

Drake Law School Rural Access to Justice Initiative Program Description and Application

Drake Law School understands the importance of the rural law practice and plays an integral role in connecting students with employment opportunities to grow the legal practice across Iowa. Thanks to the generosity of the Lohse Family of Bondurant, Iowa, Drake Law School is able to establish the Rural Access to Justice Initiative (RAJI). Through RAJI, Drake hopes to reduce any financial barriers for a law student to consider a summer clerkship in rural Iowa. Drake can offer a stipend to a participating student to offset housing, commuting, or other financial obstacles to an otherwise enriching professional experience. There are a limited number of stipends available, which will be awarded on a rolling basis as applications are received. The Director of Career Development and the Director of the Agricultural Law Center will review all applications and awards consistent with the Drake Law School Rural Access to Justice Initiative Summer Clerkship Stipend Program Guidelines.

Criteria:

- Student intends to accept a summer clerkship with a rural Iowa law practice, business, or employer. “Rural” shall mean a non-metropolitan city or area in Iowa as determined by Drake Law School.
- Student has demonstrated below a budget, cost, or other financial need. This could include commuting costs, housing costs, wage differential compared with similarly situated positions, or similar financial need.
- The student must complete the intended summer clerkship program or may need to return the funds, either in entirety or on a pro rata basis.
- Applications will open when classes begin for Fall Term. Deadline to apply is May 20 of that academic year, after which time the Law School may need to decline to consider applications.

Student Name: _____ **Current Class Level:** _____

Student ID: _____

Employer: _____ **City:** _____

Intended Dates of Summer Clerkship: _____

Clerkship is Full-time ____ **or Part-time** ____ . (choose one) If part-time, how many hours per week: _____

How Did Student Learn of This Clerkship: _____

Has Student Previously Received a RAJI Summer Stipend? Yes ____ No ____

Financial Need:

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

By signing above, Student agrees that all information is truthful and that Student intends to complete a summer clerkship with the stated Employer as described. Student understands that if the clerkship was available but not completed, Student may need to return the funds, either in entirety or on a pro rata basis as determined by Drake Law School.

Received By: _____ **Date:** _____

Submit completed applications to Career Development Office in 181 Opperman or e-mail to law-career@drake.edu.