



Seasonal Fellowships- Applicant Information

Eligibility

We are pleased to accept applications for seasonal fellowships from those who can commit to spending at least eight weeks with us, full-time.

As a non-profit Reprieve is not able to offer any funding for seasonal placements. Applicants must have an external funding source that equates to a funding award that meets or exceeds the minimum wage in the location that they will be based for their fellowship. Funders are often universities or other institutions. We don't typically have other funding sources but can accept applications on the basis of academic credit during term-time.

Candidates should provide details of their proposed funding source and the amount of funding available when they apply. Funding does not need to be secured at the point of application.

Application process

Applicants should submit their cover letter, résumé/CV, details of their proposed funding source, and application form in PDF format as soon as they are able to. Applications are assessed at regular intervals by our fellowships panel, who will shortlist suitable candidates for interview. Shortlisted candidates will normally be invited to attend two online interviews before an offer is made to those who are successful. This process can often take 4-6 weeks, and so applicants should ensure that any deadlines are highlighted in their application.

Applicants for the summer (May-September) of 2026 should be submitted by an initial deadline of 31 December 2025. If any places remain we will continue to accept rolling applications, and will run a waitlist of interested applicants. Our website will be updated when places are filled and we move to a waitlist. We cannot guarantee if places will come available, but this has happened in previous years.

Offers are conditional upon the award of funding that meets the eligibility criteria outlined above, and two references.

Location

Seasonal fellows will usually be working with a team fully or partially based in London. Applicants should expect to work remotely from the US, and there may be an option to spend part of the placement working in our Washington offices. We will be pleased to discuss this with interested applicants.

Team allocation

Where possible we hope to offer fellows placements with a team whose work is of particular interest to them. Applicants should express any interest in working with a particular team in their application documents.

Team allocation is balanced with our caseload and internal capacity to prioritize the needs of those we work for. When an offer is made for a seasonal fellowship we will share details of the proposed work area with the fellow as soon as possible. Fellows can expect to learn



about the work and cases of other teams at Reprieve during their placement.

What to expect during your placement

Fellows can expect to support their team with a variety of projects and tasks over the course of their placement. This can range from legal research to drafting case studies and working on case management documents.

Reprieve's combination of investigation, litigation, press and political advocacy means that fellows can expect to work on a variety of legal and non-legal tasks. The tasks that fellows take on will depend on the work of their team at the time, but we will always do our best to ensure that fellows have a broad range of tasks and are able to explore their interests. Fellows will be given the opportunity to attend internal meetings regularly, and externally where possible. Administrative tasks are shared across the team, and fellows can expect to work on these tasks in addition to work on larger projects.

Reprieve encourages fellows to connect and network with each other over the course of their placement.

We will try to ensure fellows are able to produce a writing sample where we can, but the confidential nature of our work may mean this is not always possible.

Feedback from our fellows

I worked with the US Death Penalty team and was involved in both advocacy and client-based work. The scope of my work was largely based on an interest I had expressed, but I would recommend that fellows be open to work they have not previously done as it can be a surprising and useful learning experience. I did some work on lethal injection state laws and advocacy, and also some intersectional research on disability, race, gender and the death penalty, and experienced a steep learning curve. My team was always willing to answer questions and helped me to navigate unfamiliar work.

Stuti, Fellow 2022

As a Summer Fellow with the Africa team, I conducted cross-jurisdictional research into death penalty challenges in the continent. I had the opportunity to draft case comments, case summaries, and case assessments, which I presented to the team at Reprieve and our partners overseas. I was also able to draft written submissions at the High Court level. I benefitted greatly from the mentorship and feedback provided by Reprieve – the fellowship is a great way to dip your toes into exciting research and advocacy that makes a difference!

Sarah, Fellow 2022