



**BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
J.D. CLASS OF 2025
N. NEAL PIKE DISABILITY RIGHTS FELLOWSHIP**

Purpose

The Law School has created a 12-month, full-time fellowship to honor the legacy of alumnus N. Neal Pike ('37), an outstanding advocate for the rights of people with disabilities. The goal of the fellowship is to assist a member of the Class of 2025 to launch their career in the field of disability rights law.

Applicant Eligibility

Third year JD students who have not secured post-graduate positions by March 31, 2025, and who are not pursuing additional graduate degrees, are eligible to apply for the fellowships.

Eligible Fellowship Host Organizations

- State or local government agencies and nonprofit organizations located within the United States or its territories (positions within courts do not qualify).
- All Fellowship host organizations are responsible for malpractice insurance, legal training and supervision. Fellows must be supervised by an attorney.

Selection Criteria

The application process is competitive and takes into consideration the nature of the legal work you will perform; your applicable skills and experience; the need of the community you will serve; the nature of the supervision and training provided by the fellowship host; and how closely connected the mission of the entity and the work you will do as a fellow are to your overall career goals and your background.

Fellowship Duration and Graduate Commitment

The fellowship term will run from September 1, 2025 to August 31, 2026. Each selected fellow is expected to work the full one-year term of the fellowship.

Any applicant selected for the fellowship who does not graduate in May 2025 will have the fellowship automatically rescinded.

BU School of Law Requirements for Selected Fellows:

1. Selected fellows must be eligible to graduate, without condition, from BU School of Law in May 2025 and eligible to sit for the Bar Exam in July 2025.
2. The N. Neal Pike Fellow must submit a written narrative report to the BU School of Law Office of Career Development and Public Service by October 1, 2026. The written narrative report should be at least 2,500 words, double-spaced, and should include the nature of the work completed, professional development benefits gained through the fellowship, subsequent employment

plans, an evaluation of the fellowship host, and a recommendation as to the host's suitability for future placements.

Fellowship Award

Each fellow will receive an award of \$65,000.00, paid in monthly installments over the 12-month period, plus Boston University standard benefits.

Fellows are considered Boston University employees and are **not eligible** for the Boston University Law Loan Repayment Assistance Program ("LRAP") during the year of their fellowship. IRS rules prohibiting employer-provided loan cancellation prevent Boston University employees from participating in the LRAP Program.

Application Requirements

All applications must be uploaded to CareerHub by March 31, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. Confidential recommendation letters must be submitted to the CDO via email to lawcdo@bu.edu by the same deadline with the subject heading "N. Neal Pike Fellowship Recommendation."

Recommendation letters may otherwise be uploaded to CareerHub with the candidate's other application materials.

The required application materials are:

1. Fellowship cover sheet and checklist with your name, the name and location of the sponsoring organization/agency, type of entity (e.g., nonprofit, local government, state government), and a completed checklist of required application materials.
2. An essay of no more than 750-800 words, double spaced, which sets forth the legal or policy work you will be doing during the fellowship; the applicable skills and experience; the need for the type of work you will be doing (e.g., impact on the community, individual clients, etc.); and how the fellowship fits within your career goals.
3. A current resume.
4. A commitment letter from the fellowship host describing the nature of the proposed legal work for the fellow; why the fellowship host seeks a fellow (i.e., the manner in which the fellow's work will serve the community); why the fellowship host would not otherwise be financially able to support a new attorney; and the nature of the supervision and training that the host organization will provide.

Fellowship hosts are encouraged to provide as much detail as possible about the organization/agency and the work the fellow will be doing. There is no need for applicants and employers to design a new project. Fellows may work as a staff attorney as needed by the fellowship host.

5. Documentation demonstrating registration for the July 2025 Bar Exam. If it is not possible to provide documentation by March 31, 2025, applicants may note they will supplement their materials with this documentation and then submit documentation as soon as possible.

6. Three (3) letters of recommendation from law school faculty or employers addressed to “Dear Fellowship Selection Committee:” Do not include more than three (3) letters of recommendation.
7. A law school transcript (unofficial permitted) and copies of other graduate school transcripts.

Application Review Process

Applications will be reviewed by a Selection Committee of faculty, administrators, and alumni. The Selection Committee’s composition and deliberations are confidential. Final confirmation of the fellowships is made by the Dean of the Law School.