



THE OPPORTUNITY

The NCBF Open Door Fellowship is a unique, competitive opportunity for first-year North Carolina law students from historically excluded or under-resourced backgrounds. Open Door Fellows will participate in a paid summer program providing an opportunity to gain experience in a legal work setting. Fellows will benefit from meaningful professional experiences and opportunities to widen their professional networks, to “open doors” and to prepare them for the next steps in their legal careers.

As the largest voluntary legal organization in the state, the North Carolina Bar Association is uniquely positioned to open doors for law students by providing opportunities for networking and professional development. To better serve the people of North Carolina and the profession, it is important for the legal community to advance diversity in all its forms – by developing opportunities for law students who come from historically excluded or under-resourced backgrounds to become fully engaged in our profession and our shared work.



My father graduated from college thanks to the GI Bill. That access to opportunity changed the trajectory of his life, and in turn, changed mine. Access to opportunity changes lives, and the NCBF Open Door Fellowship is aptly named for the access to opportunity it affords deserving law students from historically excluded or under-resourced backgrounds. This program is more than just a funded summer work experience; it is a gateway to our profession, providing Fellows with opportunities to engage with our Association through attorney panel discussions, pro bono events, and social gatherings with our diverse committees and divisions. The Open Door Fellowship supports the professional growth of its participants and enriches our legal community by fostering inclusivity and diversity. I

am proud to witness the positive transformations and lasting connections that this fellowship cultivates, and I look forward to seeing our Open Door Fellows alumni group continue to thrive, contribute to the future of our profession, and promote justice for all for the citizens of North Carolina.

– Kim Stogner, NCBA+NCBF President

\$1 Million Campaign to Create an NCBF Restricted Endowment Fund

To fund the NCBF Open Door Fellowship and ensure the NCBF is positioned to support additional diversity, equity and inclusion efforts in perpetuity, we are committed to raising \$1 million to create a restricted endowment fund for this work. A successful Open Door Fund campaign will generate annual distributions to fund the Open Door Fellowship and support other NCBF diversity, equity and inclusion programs and outreach.

By uniting in support of this statewide effort, we will enhance the collective strength of the North Carolina legal community, its commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion, and its ability to effectively serve the public.

For questions or to support, contact us at foundation@ncbar.org.

Commit to advancing diversity in the legal profession

By uniting in support of this statewide effort, members of our legal profession have the power to enhance the collective strength of the North Carolina legal community, its commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion, and its ability to effectively serve the public.

We invite you to support the NCBF Open Door Fund as a Champion for Change, Advocate or Benefactor:

\$100,000 | Open Door Champions for Change

Recognition as an NCBF Open Door Fellowship presenting sponsor for 5 years; Recognition through NCBF Impact Report, website and social media; Opportunity to name two NCBF Endowment Justice Funds; and Special invitations to participate in NCBF diversity, equity and inclusion programs.

\$50,000 | Open Door Advocates

Recognition through NCBF Impact Report, website and social media; Opportunity to name an NCBF Endowment Justice Fund; and Special invitations to participate in NCBF diversity, equity and inclusion programs.

\$25,000 | Open Door Benefactors

Recognition through NCBF Impact Report, website and social media; Opportunity to name an NCBF Lawyer Impact Fund; and Special invitations to participate in NCBF diversity, equity and inclusion programs.

ABOUT THE NORTH CAROLINA BAR FOUNDATION

Mission | Unite the talent and generosity of the legal profession to be a power of greater good for the people of North Carolina.

Vision | A vibrant North Carolina where legal services are available to all, regardless of ability to pay; where members of the legal profession provide community service and leadership that profoundly impacts the public, thereby demonstrating the value of our profession to society; and where all North Carolinians understand and have confidence in a legal system that serves them.

Values | Access to Justice, Service Through the Profession, Civic Education, Professionalism, and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.