

# Berkeley Empirical Legal Studies Graduate Fellowship Academic Year 2023-2024

## Center for the Study of Law and Society, Berkeley Law Fellowship Information

**Application Period: February 6 – April 6, 2023**

The 2023-24 BELS Fellows will be **announced** by May 5, 2023

The Center for the Study of Law and Society (CSLS) at Berkeley Law is pleased to announce the **Graduate Fellowship in Empirical Legal Studies** for the **Academic Year 2023-2024**. The University of California Berkeley has long been associated with innovative empirical research on law, at least since the founding of the Center for the Study of Law and Society by Philip Selznick in 1961. CSLS is one of the headwaters for the law and society field and empirical legal studies. Today, Berkeley Empirical Legal Studies (BELS) is characterized by a rich interdisciplinary approach that seeks to ground empirical analysis theoretically and embrace a broad range of methods, both quantitative and qualitative.

**BELS Fellows** will be **doctoral students** drawn from a wide range of disciplines across the UC Berkeley campus, including those in the Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities, Biological Sciences, International Studies and Area Studies, Schools of Public Health, Business, and Public Policy, Colleges of Natural Sciences and Engineering, as well as from the School of Law (PhD, JD and JSD). We anticipate ten to twelve (10-12) Fellows will be selected annually.

**Eligibility:** UC Berkeley doctoral, JD, and JSD students engaged in theoretically-informed, empirical research projects that investigate the origins, dynamics, and/or consequences of law and law-related social institutions. Preference will be given to students who will be in their third year or beyond during the period of the Fellowship. We welcome projects that use quantitative and/or qualitative methodology, and address contemporary or historical contexts. Students are expected to be in residence at UC Berkeley for the duration of the period they hold a BELS Fellowship.

### **The benefits of the Fellowship are:**

1) **A research fund of up to \$2,000** for expenses related to the research process (e.g., purchase of data sets, transcription and/or coding costs, purchase of equipment such as tape recorders, purchase of video tapes, research related travel costs, subject costs, copying expenses, computer software, etc.). Salary may not be funded by the Fellowship.

2) **Monthly BELS Fellows Workshops** led by CSLS Faculty Director KT Albiston where Fellows will present and discuss their research. Fellows will also have the opportunity to attend and participate in CSLS activities, such as the Empirical Methods Mini-Series, the CSLS Speaker Series, and other conferences and events.

3) Opportunities for **informal scholarly exchange** with other Fellows from many UCB departments, faculty members from Berkeley Law and other units on campus, and with many of the visiting scholars doing research at CSLS.

**Fellows have the following responsibilities:**

1. Attend and participate in BELS Fellows Monthly Workshop, present research at one workshop and act as a discussant in a second workshop.
2. Fellows are expected to attend and participate in all BELS Fellows Workshops. If it is necessary to miss a session for scholarly reasons (such as presenting research at a conference or interviewing for an academic position) or because of a personal emergency, Fellows should inform Professor Albiston or CSLS Director, Pamela Erickson, of the absence as early as possible.
3. Submit a research progress report (up to 2pp.) within 60 days of the ending of the Fellowship period that explains how the funding was used during the Fellowship period and what grant proposals and/or fellowship applications have been completed to extend this research.
4. Provide CSLS with an electronic version of work written during the support period.
5. Acknowledge Berkeley Law and CSLS in all written work (e.g., dissertations, articles, books, etc.) that develops out of the BELS Fellowship.

**For further information:**

If you have questions about the application process, contact [csls@law.berkeley.edu](mailto:csls@law.berkeley.edu). For questions about your eligibility, your research project or the BELS Fellowship, please contact Professor Catherine Albiston, CSLS Faculty Director, at [calbiston@law.berkeley.edu](mailto:calbiston@law.berkeley.edu)

If you wish to make a change to a file in your application, please edit it and send it in with edit2 or edit3, etc., at the end of the file name. We will keep the latest version in your application file.