



Elder Law Section (ELS) of The Florida Bar Fellows Program Application

The mission of the ELS Fellows Program is to cultivate dynamic and diverse leaders within the ELS by attracting attorneys who are new to the practice of **elder law**, providing them with meaningful opportunities to develop leadership skills within the ELS through section activities, and encouraging their continued involvement in the ELS.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

The Selection Committee seeks to recruit attorneys from diverse backgrounds, whether geographically, racially, ethnically, or otherwise, who have demonstrated an interest in practicing elder law and who are interested in becoming more involved in the ELS and its committees.

To be eligible for selection as a Fellow, individuals must:

- Be an attorney member in good standing with The Florida Bar.
- Be a current member of the ELS.
- Be admitted to The Florida Bar for less than 10 years or be new to the practice of elder law within the immediately preceding 5 years.
- Focus a substantial portion (at least 50%) of their practice to elder law.
- Submit a completed application, including a current resume, personal statement, and 2 letters of recommendation. Letters should be from other attorneys, community leaders with whom you'd had a professional dealing within the last 5 years.

PROGRAM DETAILS AND REQUIREMENTS:

Fellows will be appointed to a two-year term, during which each Fellow will be expected to:

- Serve as an active member of the ELS Inclusion, Diversity & Engagement Committee by attending and participating in committee meetings in accordance with the committee's policies.
- Serve as an active member of at least one ELS Substantive Committee (e.g., Ethics, Guardianship, Special Needs Trust...) by attending and participating in committee meetings in accordance with the committee's policies.
- Complete at least one special project on behalf of a Substantive Committee of the Fellow's choice each fiscal year, such as drafting proposed legislation or an administrative rule on behalf of the committee, writing a substantive article for *The Advocate* or for *The Florida Bar Journal* on behalf of the ELS, or chairing a subcommittee to address a specific issue or topic that furthers the aims and goals of the committee and the ELS.

- Submit a special project proposal to the ELS Executive Committee by October of each fiscal year outlining a plan for successfully executing the aforementioned special project.
- Submit a special project report to the ELS Executive Committee at the end of each fiscal year detailing how the special project was executed and critically evaluating the project's success.
- Complete a minimum of 8 hours of continuing legal education (CLE) in elder law for each year of appointment, for a total of 16 hours in a 2 year term. CLE hours for courses approved by The Florida Bar as elder law certification CLE's, as well as for courses sponsored by the Academy of Florida Elder Law Attorneys will count toward the minimum required CLE credits. The determination of whether other CLE hours may be counted towards a Fellow's minimum CLE requirements shall be in the discretion of the ELS Executive Council.
- Attend all ELS Executive Council meetings each fiscal year, with at least two meetings attended in- person each fiscal year.
- Participate in Fellow meetings and other ELS meetings and activities.

COMPLETING AND SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION FORM:

Please review your application for completeness and correctness prior to submission in order to avoid delays in the processing of your application. Incomplete or inaccurate applications may be rejected from consideration.

- Complete the PDF application form and save as a PDF to your local device. Forms completed within the web browser will **not** be automatically saved or submitted. PLEASE USE THE FILLABLE FIELDS WITHIN THE PDF DOCUMENT AND **DO NOT SCAN THE PDF.**
- Please fill out the application form completely. Do not leave any blank fields.
- Each application should be accompanied by a cover letter to including a personal statement from the applicant.

The application package should include:

- The application, cover letter with personal statement, applicant's resume and two recommendation letters, saved and submitted as one PDF document.
- A current Professional Headshot of the applicant approved for Media Release. (High resolution in .JPEG).

Completed application package should be emailed to the ELS Administrator, Emily Young, at **EYoung@FloridaBar.org** no later than 5:30 p.m. (EST) on March 15th.

Incomplete applications cannot be accepted, and late applications **will not be considered**. Notices regarding selection status will be sent to applicants in April.

Elder Law Section of The Florida Bar Fellows Program Application Form

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Mr. Mrs. Ms.

NAME: _____

BAR NUMBER: _____

ETHNICITY: _____

FIRM/EMPLOYER: _____

FIRM SIZE: _____

POSITION WITH FIRM/EMPLOYER: _____

PRIMARY AREA(S) OF PRACTICE _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

HOW LONG HAVE YOU PRACTICED ELDER LAW? _____

YEARS: _____ MONTHS _____

DATE ADMITTED TO THE FLORIDA BAR: _____

PRIMARY CIRCUIT(S) IN WHICH YOU REGULARLY APPEAR: _____

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

On a separate page, using no more than 500 words, please respond to the following prompts:

- Explain your interest in the ELS Fellows Program.
- Detail your eligibility in meeting the requirements of the program.
- Describe how you plan to contribute to the mission of the ELS Fellows Program.

VOLUNTEER/COMMUNITY BAR ACTIVITIES:

Please list, **in order of importance**, the five most important volunteer, community, or bar association activities in which you are currently or have been previously involved.

Organization (including location)	Describe Activity or Position(s) Held	Dates of Involvement

EDUCATION:

Please provide the following information with respect to your law school and college education.

Universities/College	Degree	Graduation Date	Major

List any leadership positions awards received in college, law school, or during legal career.

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Please provide the following information with respect to all past employment following graduation from college (other than your current position).

Employer (Including Physical Address)	Dates of Employment	Position Upon Leaving

PROFESSIONAL RESUME:

Please include a copy of your current professional resume with this application.

REFERENCES:

Use this portion of the application to designate **two individuals** (at least one outside your firm) who will serve as references for you and who are knowledgeable about your community involvement, leadership experience and skills.

Name: _____

Company/Organization: _____

Title: _____

Business Phone: _____

Business Email Address: _____

Name: _____

Company/Organization: _____

Title: _____

Business Phone: _____

Business Email Address: _____

Elder Law Section Fellow Commitment and Signature

By submitting this application, I understand and agree that as part of the application process, representatives from The Florida Bar and Elder Law Section may contact my references and other affiliated businesses and organizations to verify the information I have provided in my application.

I am aware that by signing this form I am committing to fully attending and participating in all aspects of the Fellows Program (including completion of any homework assignments) during the entire duration of the program. I understand that failure to participate may result in my dismissal from the program (exceptions to this policy will be made on a case-by-case basis). Any final decision regarding my dismissal will be left to the discretion of the executive council of the Elder Law Section of The Florida Bar. I understand that as a part of participating in the Fellows Program I am agreeing to become involved with and undertake Florida Bar committee, section or division service, local or voluntary bar service, other community leadership activity, and/or act as a mentor to future Elder Law Section Fellows for at least **two years after completing the program**. I further agree to comply with all of the rules of the Section.

Applicant's Signature:

Date:
