



Program Overview

Inspired by Frederick Douglass's commitment to freedom, education, and advocacy, the Human Trafficking (HTI) provides an opportunity for third-year law students to participate in an 8-month, remote fellowship program focused on developing future leaders in the anti-human trafficking movement and providing resources to those currently combating trafficking around the globe.

Fellowship Term

Douglass Fellows will serve for an academic year, from August through mid-April.

Program Components

1. Research & Writing

Fellows will support HTI research efforts to provide clear, data-driven materials for scholars and criminal justice practitioners engaged in combating human trafficking. Some of the projects may include:

- Researching current trends in domestic and international human trafficking law;
- Conducting case review and assisting in the research and publication of the annual Federal Human Trafficking Report;
- Working on amicus briefs to the U.S. Supreme Court or Circuit Courts of Appeal in cases impacting human trafficking laws;
- Researching human trafficking laws and preparing resources and tools for practitioners;
- Analyzing and compiling human trafficking statistics;
- Co-authoring Scholarship material with HTI staff members; and
- Researching and publishing articles for the HTI Trafficking Matters Blog.

2. Mentorship

To encourage each Fellow's personal research goals and career objectives, HTI will pair each Fellow with a mentor who currently works in the anti-trafficking field. Mentors will come from different sectors of the anti-trafficking space, ranging from non-governmental organizations (NGOs), international

organizations, victims service providers, prosecutor's offices, law enforcement agencies, and trafficking-focused government offices. Previous mentors include leaders from the FBI, the U.S. Department of Justice, the U.S. Department of State's Office to Monitor & Combat Trafficking in Persons, the Human Trafficking Legal Center, the International Criminal Court, the Department of Justice, and several distinguished anti-trafficking NGOs. HTI will take each Fellow's particular interests into consideration when determining mentorship matches. Mentors commit to making themselves available—virtually or in person—during the fellowship year to provide in-depth guidance, insight, and advice to Fellows.

3. Strategic Engagement

HTI recognizes the importance of working collaboratively through partnerships in the fight against human trafficking. As such, Fellows will participate in advocacy, training, or the development of materials that support best practices in the response to human trafficking. Some of these projects may include:

- Organizing roundtable discussions for practitioners or stakeholders;
- Hosting panel discussions;
- Hosting the Trafficking Matters Podcast;
- Creating manuals, guides, or toolkits for practitioners; and
- Conducting research or collecting data on human trafficking.

4. Leadership

During the fellowship, HTI encourages Fellows to learn and adopt habits for effective leadership, centered around HTI's core values of clarity, connection, integrity, excellence, innovation, and generosity. Fellows will have the opportunity to attend and engage with HTI staff and other anti-trafficking professionals during lunch & learn series and on occasion, in-person conferences and training events. HTI encourages Fellows to seek meaningful impact in the work that they do as they begin their careers in the legal profession.

Fellowship Time Commitment and Calendar

1. Orientation

In September, Fellows will gather with the HTI Team for a 2-day orientation in the metro-Washington, D.C. area. During this orientation, Fellows will receive an overview of the human trafficking legal landscape, HTI's work, current research projects, as well as HTI's model and core values. Some may also meet their mentors at this time. In addition to the stipend (see below), HTI will cover the cost of travel and accommodations for the 2-day orientation. ***Attendance at orientation is required to participate in the fellowship and is tentatively set for September 11-13, 2024. ***

2. Research & Legal Support

Each Fellow is expected to work an average of 10 hours a week on assigned HTI projects. HTI team members will coordinate with each Fellow to tailor projects

to their interests and will work with them regarding their class schedules. Fellows will participate in a weekly conference call with the supervising attorney to discuss their progress, challenges, and updates.

3. Finale Event

In April, Fellows will gather with HTI Team for a 2-day finale event in a location to be determined. During this event, Fellows will provide a short presentation summarizing their work and contributions during the fellowship. HTI will cover the cost of travel and accommodations for the 2-day finale event. ***Attendance at the finale event is required to participate in the fellowship and is tentatively set for April 9-11, 2025. ***

Douglass Fellow Stipend

HTI will provide a \$5,000 stipend in addition to travel expenses and other costs related to the program. The stipend will be disbursed over the course of the fellowship in eight monthly payments.

Academic Credit

HTI will assist Fellows interested in receiving credit from their home academic institution by providing necessary materials and submitting required performance evaluations throughout the fellowship. Please indicate in your application whether you intend to seek academic credit for participation in the fellowship. Fellows may receive both academic credit and the HTI stipend if their law school allows.

International Travel Possibilities

Subject to each Fellow's interests and HTI's needs, it may be possible for one or more Fellow to travel to one of HTI's country projects in Belize, Uganda, or South Africa.

Fellowship Selection Process

To apply for the Douglass Fellowship, please submit the following application materials, compiled in one PDF document, to applications@traffickinginstitute.org with the subject line "2024-2025 Douglass Fellowship". Please note that proper application is the first mechanism of screening for applicants, so please provide all the information requested below:

1. Cover letter describing why you are interested in this fellowship program;
2. Resume;
3. Law school transcript showing minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0;
4. Contact information for two professional or academic references—NOT letters of recommendation;

5. Indication of whether you plan to seek academic credit for participation in the fellowship; and
6. An essay providing context about the following quote and its connection to the anti-trafficking movement:

“I shall attempt no solution of the origins of evil in the world. Whether it came by the fall of Adam or the fall of anybody else, I neither know or care...It is enough to know that we have it and it is in abundance, and that the best use we can make of it is to resist and destroy it as far as we can.” - Frederick Douglass

The essay should be 500 – 800 words in length, include at least 3 citations (bluebook format), and consider questions such as, but not limited to: *Where in the world was this said? To whom was it said? What was happening in the world at that time? Why was this significant? What led Douglass to say this? How is this relevant to today’s efforts to combat human trafficking? What are some similarities and differences between the anti-trafficking movement and the historical abolitionist and civil rights movements?*

Applications must be submitted no later than March 31, 2024, at 11:59pm EST. Interviews will be held in April, and decisions will be made no later than May 1, 2024.