

SUMMER ASSOCIATE LEGAL FELLOWSHIP



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

The Buckeye Institute is seeking first- and second-year law students to apply for a summer associate legal fellowship.

This position offers the opportunity to directly work with Buckeye's attorneys while providing a strong foundation, hands-on experience, and valuable skills for a career in public policy, research institutions, or other legal careers.

Fellows will assist Buckeye's legal team, including conducting substantive and timely legal and policy research involving exciting and cutting-edge issues and cases. Fellows may have active participation (under the guidance of Buckeye's professional legal team) in cases pending before state and federal courts as well as preparing for filing new lawsuits. The role may also include assisting with the preparation of amicus curiae briefs to be filed in federal circuit courts up to and including the Supreme Court of the United States.

Summer associate legal fellows will be expected to work full-time, in person, during regular business hours when The Buckeye Institute's office in Columbus, Ohio, is open (9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays).

This position may also include exposure to the proceedings of the Ohio legislature and state and federal courts, depending upon their schedules and sessions.

To apply, please submit the following materials to Erin Sutter at [**Erin@BuckeyeInstitute.org**](mailto:Erin@BuckeyeInstitute.org):

- Cover letter explaining why you are interested in this position at The Buckeye Institute.
- Résumé with contact information (name, address, preferred telephone number, email), most recent GPA, degree, and (expected or actual) graduation date.
- Transcript (unofficial records are acceptable).
- Legal writing sample (no more than five pages in length that has not been edited by anyone else or AI), which can be in the form of a short paper or an excerpt from a longer paper.

Applications will be considered on a rolling basis, but should be submitted no later than Thursday, January 7, 2026.

The application process is highly competitive. Accordingly, applicants should demonstrate academic excellence, outstanding verbal and written communication skills, strong research capabilities, and a commitment to limited government and free-market public policy solutions. If selected, applicants may have the opportunity to apply for a \$10,000 grant through one of The Buckeye Institute's partner organizations.

About The Buckeye Institute

Founded in 1989, The Buckeye Institute is an independent research and educational institution—a think tank—whose mission is to advance free-market public policy in the states.

Buckeye accomplishes its mission by performing timely and reliable research on key issues, compiling and synthesizing data, formulating sound free-market policies, and promoting those solutions for implementation in Ohio and replication across the country. It files direct legal challenges and also supports the litigation of other parties through amicus briefs including at the highest levels of state and federal courts.

*According to **The Columbus Dispatch**, The Buckeye Institute has become one of the most prominent players shaping the U.S. Supreme Court’s agenda. The Buckeye Institute came in second place in the country for the number of amicus briefs it filed according to an independent analysis by Empirical SCOTUS.*

Buckeye litigates on a wide range of constitutional rights, amendments, and powers issues. Buckeye primarily supports preventing governments from abusing power, exceeding authority, and infringing on rights. The Buckeye Institute cases include, but are not limited to:

- *First Amendment retaliation, speech, and association-related claims;*
- *Challenging public-sector unions’ ongoing collection of former members’ dues; and*
- *Rejecting Wickard v. Filburn’s expansive interpretation of the Interstate Commerce Clause.*

*The list of Buckeye’s existing cases and briefs can be found **here**.*

Buckeye’s legal team also advocates for sound public policies that:

- *Reform our criminal justice system while keeping communities safe;*
- *Increase worker freedom and vindicate workers’ First Amendment rights;*
- *Oppose abuses by the administrative state;*
- *Defend individual and property rights; and*
- *Uphold the proper balance of power between states and the federal government, and checks and balances between the three branches.*

The Buckeye Institute is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified applicants receive consideration without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, or any other status or characteristics protected under federal, state, or local law.