Animal Legal Defense Fund Student Chapter Requirements

To be affiliated with the Animal Legal Defense Fund, a law student organization must:

1. Be a recognized student organization within their law school.

2. Incorporate Articles One, Two, Four, and Seven from the Student Chapter Sample By-Laws and the following mission statement into its by-laws: “To provide a forum for education, advocacy, and scholarship aimed at protecting the lives and advancing the interests of animals through the legal system, and raising the profile of the field of animal law.”

3. Include Animal Legal Defense Fund Student Programs Attorney Kelly Levenda in your chapter’s public email list.

4. Have at least two active members.

5. Provide a list of officers and their email addresses for the current academic year using the online form no later than October 1 every year. New chapters may form at any time.

6. Use “Animal Legal Defense Fund” in the chapter name. You may incorporate your school name in the chapter name, i.e., Lewis & Clark Law School Animal Legal Defense Fund, or Animal Legal Defense Fund - Lewis & Clark Chapter.

It is preferred but not required that the organization have a faculty advisor.

Student chapters should strive for food served at chapter events to be 100% plant-based (vegan) as this is in line with Animal Legal Defense Fund’s mission to protect the lives of animals. (We don’t eat our clients!) This is consistent with the project grant requirement that any food funded by Animal Legal Defense Fund must be plant-based.

Benefits

Animal Legal Defense Fund Student Chapters may advertise that they are affiliated with the organization and will be recognized on our website. Student chapters are encouraged to use the student chapter logo and Facebook cover photos and can also request free tabling materials including newsletters, brochures, pens, and stickers to use at events.
Animal Legal Defense Fund also supports its student chapters through project grants and travel grants for chapter members to attend animal law conferences and events.

Chapter officers will receive the Animal Legal Defense Fund Law Student eNewsletter, which includes announcements about educational and funding opportunities, animal law events, employment and internship opportunities, and our cases and campaigns.

Forming an Animal Legal Defense Fund Student Chapter also makes animal law more visible at law schools, encouraging peers to think and debate about this emerging field of law.

Please contact Animal Legal Defense Fund Student Programs Attorney Kelly Levenda with any questions.