

**Call for Applications for 2025-2026
Thomas Edison Innovation Law and Policy Fellowships**

The [Center for Intellectual Property x Innovation Policy \(C-IP²\)](#) at George Mason University – Antonin Scalia Law School invites applications for a non-resident fellowship program. [The Thomas Edison Innovation Law and Policy Fellowship](#) program is designed to develop rigorous scholarship on intellectual property (IP), creativity, and innovation law and policy.

The Fellowship promotes excellent academic research about IP and related rights in the innovative and creative communities. The program consists of a series of three (3) invitation-only meetings over the course of a year. Fellows are **required** to attend the entirety of all three roundtables, and attendance is a material condition of a Fellowship. Over the course of these meetings, Edison Fellows work under the guidance of Distinguished Commentators and with each other to turn paper ideas into polished manuscripts publishable in law reviews or other academic journals. The Fellowship is designed primarily for tenure-track professors and for lawyers and Ph.D. graduates interested in academic positions focusing on research in IP, creativity, and innovation. C-IP² also considers applications from recently tenured academics and from practitioners interested in writing about IP, creativity, or innovation policy.

FELLOWSHIP DETAILS: C-IP² will provide lodging (unless participants are local) and meals at all in-person meetings. Fellows must arrange their own transportation, which will be reimbursed following the meeting and details specified in advance. However, Fellows that do not have U.S. citizenship cannot be reimbursed but may utilize C-IP²'s travel agent, at no cost to them. Fellows will receive an honorarium of three thousand (US \$3,000) dollars upon completion of the Fellowship requirements, as set out below. Should the Fellowship end up not taking place over the 2025-2026 timeframe, accepted applicants will automatically have a place in the 2026-2027 cohort.

1. SUBMISSION OF PAPER PROPOSALS - SUBMISSION DEADLINE OF C.O.B. 5:00 P.M. EST, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2024: Proposals should include a statement of the issue to be addressed, the proposed methodology, and the feasibility for completion by January 2026. Proposals should be no longer than five (5) pages. C-IP² will notify those chosen to present their proposals at the initial March roundtable by C.O.B. 5:00 P.M. EST on FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2024.

2. PRESENTATION OF PAPER PROPOSAL AT A RESEARCH ROUNDTABLE (LOCATION TBA) ON MARCH 19-20, 2025: Fellows will present their proposals at a research roundtable held on **March**

19-20, 2025. Each proposal will be reviewed by Distinguished Commentators and Fellows to provide constructive feedback at the roundtable.

3. PRESENTATION OF FIRST DRAFT AT A RESEARCH ROUNDTABLE (LOCATION TBA) ON SEPTEMBER 17-18, 2025: Each Fellow is required to submit a First Draft of their paper **E.O.D. SUNDAY, AUGUST 17, 2025.** Each First Draft will be reviewed by Distinguished Commentators and Fellows to provide constructive feedback at the roundtable.

4. PRESENTATION OF SECOND DRAFT AT A RESEARCH ROUNDTABLE (LOCATION TBA) ON JANUARY 21-22, 2026: Each Fellow is required to submit a Second Draft of their paper by **E.O.D., SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2026.** These drafts should be substantially revised from those presented at the September research roundtable. Ideally, Second Drafts will be essentially ready for journal submission. At a minimum, Second Drafts must state a clear thesis and argument, identify an important contribution to relevant scholarship, and demonstrate substantial progress at incorporating feedback received on First Drafts.

5. COMPLETION OF FINAL DRAFT AND SUBMISSION TO AN ACADEMIC JOURNAL (FEBRUARY-MARCH 2026): Following presentation of their Second Draft, Fellows are expected to make final revisions to their papers and submit them for publication in a suitable academic journal. Upon completion of this requirement, Fellows will receive the honorarium.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE: To apply to be a C-IP² Edison Fellow, please email your application to cip2@gmu.edu. All proposals are treated confidentially. Applications must include: **1)** a research proposal (max 5 pages); **2)** your CV and/or resume that includes current mailing address; **3)** confirmation of current citizenship, VISA status, dates of VISA, and sponsoring institution (if applicable); **4)** completed and signed Agreement (see below); and **5)** anything else you think would be helpful. **Incomplete applications may not be considered.**

Submit the proposal application (research proposal, CV/resume, citizenship and VISA information, anything else helpful) as a **single** PDF file, titled "**Last Name, First Name – Edison Application – date of submission**" and send the signed agreement PDF separately as "**Agreement – Last Name, First Name – date of submission.**"

FURTHER INFORMATION: For more information regarding this program or other initiatives of C-IP², please visit <https://cip2.gmu.edu/> or reach out to C-IP² Interim Executive Director [Joshua Kresh](#).



Center for Intellectual
Property x Innovation Policy

Thomas Edison Innovation Law and Policy Fellowship Agreement

Date:

Name

Title, Organization

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email Address

Should you be accepted into the 2025-2026 Thomas Edison Innovation Law & Policy Fellowship Program, by completing and signing this agreement from the Center for Intellectual Property X Innovation Policy (C-IP²) at George Mason University, Antonin Scalia Law School, you agree to the following:

PROGRAM PARTICIPATION, FELLOWSHIP RESEARCH AND WRITING:

- You have made your employer or university aware of this Fellowship and its requirements, and they have given you permission to attend all 3 meetings in person.
- The materials (research proposals, drafts, contact information) are private and won't be shared with anyone outside of the Fellowship and immediate staff.
- Your name may be publicly listed on the C-IP² website as being part of the Fellowship.
- To attend all 3 Fellowship Meetings, held March 2025, September 2025, and January 2026, for the duration (see above details for specific dates).
- To submit in advance of each Fellowship Meeting, by dates set by C-IP² staff (see above), the written version of the work-in-progress required for that meeting.
- To present a brief synopsis detailing a proposed thesis and research at Meeting 1.
- To present a first draft work in progress, researched and drafted over the spring and summer months of 2025, at Meeting 2.

- To present an updated second draft of the work-in-progress at Meeting 3, taking into consideration specific commentary from the Distinguished Commentators given at Meeting 2.
- To submit the Paper to a law journal in the February-March 2026 submission period, or to other journals appropriate for other academic disciplines. If unable to submit during this period, you will work with C-IP² on an updated and reasonable submission time.

PAYMENT(S)

- U.S. citizens and green card holders (including those currently abroad) will receive a research stipend of US\$3,000, three thousand dollars, paid on delivery of the final draft Paper that is posted to SSRN (www.ssrn.com) and submitted to a law journal or to any other academic journal.
- International scholars will receive a research stipend of US\$3,000, three thousand dollars, paid on delivery of the final draft Paper that is posted to SSRN (www.ssrn.com) and submitted to a law journal or to any other academic journal. This payment is solely for research and writing work performed *outside* of the United States. Payment is pending approval from GMU's International Tax Office and submission of related tax documents. If applicable, the Office will withhold any required taxes from your grant payment, thus reducing your net payment amount by the amount of taxes withheld.
 - These scholars may opt to either: receive an additional US\$1,000, one thousand dollars, after the first meeting and completing necessary tax paperwork to use toward small travel costs for the 3 meeting, or receive US\$4,000, four thousand dollars, at the completion of the program and above requirements.
 - Note: C-IP², GMU cannot reimburse travel expenses to those without U.S. citizenship. C-IP²'s travel agent can book airfare and train fare. The additional \$1,000 is for the Fellow to use toward small ground transportation such as taxis, Ubers, parking, travel/non-meeting meals, etc.
- Foreign national scholars in the U.S. who are on a VISA will receive a research stipend of US\$4,000, four thousand dollars, paid on delivery of the final draft Paper that is posted to SSRN (www.ssrn.com) and submitted to a law journal or to any other academic journal. The payment may be made to the Fellow or their sponsored organization on their behalf, pending the VISA type. Foreign national scholars must have their University's or Organization's signed approval (see below) as part of their application. This signature also confirms the immigration office has been made aware of the program and payment details, if applicable. Payment of the research stipend is contingent upon payment eligibility approval by the GMU International Tax Office. If applicable, the Office will withhold any required taxes from your grant payment, thus reducing your net payment amount by the amount of taxes withheld.

If you do not deliver on the above terms, and an extension or allowance has not been granted, the grant total will be reduced. No extension will be unreasonably withheld, conditioned, or delayed.

PROMOTION OF RESULTS

At C-IP²'s request you agree to use reasonable efforts to cooperate with C-IP² staff to promote and communicate the results of your Research Paper to the public ("Promotional Activities"). Such activities likely include preparation of a policy brief and a blog post or op-ed summarizing the results of the Paper, participation in a webinar, or podcast, and other communications and outreach activities.

Attribution to C-IP²

To the extent not objected to by the publisher, any publication of the Paper will include an acknowledgement of C-IP²'s support. Such attribution will include substantially the following information: "The research and writing of this paper was supported by the Thomas Edison Innovation Law and Policy Fellowship, Center for Intellectual Property x Innovation Policy, George Mason University – Antonin Scalia Law School."

Applicant/Fellow Name (Printed): _____

Applicant/Fellow Name (Signed): _____

Date: _____

Foreign National Details (if applicable):

Sponsored University/Organization: _____

Sponsored Contact Name, Title, & Contact Information: _____

Sponsored Contact Name (Signed): _____