Indiana Bar Foundation Fellows
Frequently Asked Questions

What’s the nomination criteria?
1. Dedication to the legal profession
2. Support for access to civil legal aid for all Hoosiers
3. Involvement in and contributions to the legal community and the community at large
4. Demonstrated integrity and character

The Fellows bylaws state that potential Fellows must be: “Members of the Indiana State Bar Association in good standing who are recognized for professional, public and private careers which have demonstrated outstanding legal ability and devotion to the welfare of their community, state and nation, as well as to the advancement of the legal profession.”

The selection committee is encouraged to consider geographic and practice diversity, including members of the state and federal judiciary. Honorees must respect that the Foundation is a non-partisan charitable nonprofit.

What’s expected of me if I’m selected to be a Fellow?
As a Life Fellow, you are expected to acquaint yourself with the Indiana Bar Foundation’s mission, advocate for it to other attorneys, the public, and members of the judiciary, and stay informed on the progress of the mission. Maintaining the four nomination criteria listed above, you will refrain from any activity or involvement that reflects poorly on the profession and your colleagues. Volunteering and donating are not required but are encouraged.

The Foundation looks to you when opportunities arise in a given area – geographically or professionally. For example, if a civic education program in your area needs a coach or guest speaker, the Foundation staff will often recommend an attorney from the list of Fellows first or seek someone those attorneys recommend. This is a form of assurance the Foundation is recommending someone with the utmost integrity.

If I’m not an attorney, can I still be a Fellow?
No, but if you wish to support the Foundation’s mission, active engagement through volunteering and donating are excellent ways to demonstrate support for our shared values.

Are self-nominations allowed?
Not at this time. With a membership of almost 1,000 attorneys, you are encouraged to find a colleague who is currently a Fellow to nominate you.

What’s the deadline for nominations?
Nominations may be submitted by July 1 annually. Find the application here.