

Legal Externship for Academic Credit

WorkLife Law is seeking law students to serve as legal externs for quarter- or semester-long positions. This role is a good fit for 2Ls and 3Ls interested in learning more about workers' rights, racial equity, economic security, and reproductive freedom. WorkLife Law will only consider applications from students who are able to receive academic credit from their law schools.

About WorkLife Law

WorkLife Law is a national advocacy and research organization that advances gender and racial equity by strengthening legal rights for pregnant people and family caregivers. WorkLife Law seeks to ensure all people have the freedom to build and maintain economic security through employment and educational opportunities, without having to sacrifice their health or their loved ones' care. As an affiliate of UC Law SF, WorkLife Law addresses structural inequality by changing public policy at the state and national levels and undertaking research and policy analysis to inform the field. WorkLife Law also engages in educational programming, builds the capacity of grassroots organizations, and provides direct assistance to workers and students in need. Current areas of focus include fighting for reproductive justice; preventing discrimination against family caregivers; promoting legal rights for pregnant and lactating workers; operating the nation's only legal resource center for pregnant and parenting students; and ensuring equitable access to leave.

The Role

The Legal Extern will work closely with and learn from WorkLife Law attorneys who are advancing work and family justice by supporting policy advocacy, direct legal assistance, and public education. Legal Externs will have the opportunity to learn about and be involved in all aspects of our work by researching law and policy; participating in strategy sessions; and contributing to articles, reports, and amicus briefs.

Qualifications

- Completion of 1L year at an accredited law school by the start of the externship.
- Strong legal research and analysis skills.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- Interest in advancing civil rights, gender equity, and/or social justice.
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively in a remote environment.
- Knowledge of employment and anti-discrimination laws preferred, but not required.

Spanish language skills preferred, but not required.

Compensation

Because WorkLife Law operates with limited resources, we are unable to offer financial compensation for this role. We are accepting applications only from candidates who are able to receive academic credit under programs offered by their law schools. WorkLife Law's attorneys are able to offer the training, evaluation, and support that is typically a part of such academic programs.

Application Instructions

Please submit the following materials to info@worklifelaw.org with the subject line "Legal Externship Application – [Your Name]":

- Cover letter explaining your interest in an externship for academic credit with WorkLife Law
- Resume

If your application advances, you will be asked for:

- A list of 2-3 professional references with contact information
- A short legal writing sample (5–10 pages) (We prefer a writing sample that has not been edited by anyone else, but if that is not available, please explain the extent and nature of any editing of your sample.)
- Unofficial law school transcript

For more information about WorkLife Law, visit: https://www.worklifelaw.org.

WorkLife Law is committed to building a diverse and inclusive team. We encourage applications from members of underrepresented communities and are eager to provide disability accommodations, when needed.

