Internship Announcement
Legal Intern Summer 2023

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) is the nation’s foremost defender of constitutional rights and civil liberties. ACLU of Colorado is an affiliate of the national ACLU, and it is the state’s guardian of freedom, working in the courts, in the legislature, and in communities across the state to protect and advance civil rights and civil liberties for all. Founded in 1952, ACLU of Colorado is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to fulfilling the promise of equal justice under the law for all Coloradans. For more information about the work of the ACLU of Colorado and the civil liberties principles we uphold, please visit our website at www.aclu-co.org.

Commitment To Equity, Diversity, Belonging, and Inclusion

ACLU of Colorado is an equitable opportunity employer. We believe that having a board, staff, and volunteer base with diverse personal and professional backgrounds enhances our ability to meet our mission and creates an environment where all community members can thrive. We strongly encourage applications from all qualified persons, including people of color, immigrants, women, people with disabilities, members of the LGBTQ community, those who have been formerly incarcerated, and other members of underrepresented and marginalized groups.

ACLU of Colorado does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, national origin, marital status, citizenship, disability, veteran status, or record of arrest or conviction. We are committed to providing a work environment that practices equitable and inclusive treatment and is quick to act to prevent and address harassment or discrimination of any kind.

Job Description

Law students interested in public interest work are encouraged to apply for summer 2023 intern positions with the ACLU of Colorado located in Denver. Students should expect to work full-time for ten consecutive weeks over the course of the summer. Legal interns at the ACLU of Colorado will gain valuable experience working under the supervision of ACLU attorneys on the wide variety of civil liberties issues that comprise the ACLU’s docket. Visit ACLU CO - In the Courts for descriptions of recent ACLU of Colorado cases, and ACLU CO - Our Issues for descriptions of recent ACLU of Colorado advocacy.

Main Responsibilities

Law students interning with the ACLU of Colorado participate in many aspects of litigation and legal advocacy including legal research, legal writing, interviewing witnesses, and other factual and legal investigation. Interns also participate in meetings of staff and co-counsel discussing case selection and litigation strategy.

Qualifications

ACLU of Colorado prefers students who will have completed two years of law school, have a demonstrated interest in civil rights, civil liberties and social justice, and possess excellent writing, communication and organizational skills. Exceptional first-year students are also encouraged to apply.
Work Accommodations during the COVID-19 Pandemic
ACLU of Colorado has a hybrid return-to-work model that began on June 1, 2022. To make it safe to work at the office amid the COVID-19 pandemic, we have a mandated mask policy and a mandatory vaccination policy, unless you request in writing a medical or religious exemption. A successful applicant will need to provide a copy of their updated COVID vaccination card.

Compensation
ACLU of Colorado will compensate successful intern applicants through a $8,000 stipend that will be paid over the course of ten weeks as wages, subject to withholding. Students are still encouraged to seek grants or fellowships from public interest fellowship funds through their law school or other funders. Arrangements can also be made with the student’s law school for work/study stipends, depending on the availability of work study in conjunction with a paid internship. Some summer students have received law school credit for their work in addition to funding, but that varies by school.

To Apply
Students interested in spending a summer working with the ACLU of Colorado Legal Department should submit a cover letter explaining your interest in the ACLU of Colorado, a resume, list of three references, and short writing sample (5-10 pages).

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis and reviewed until the positions are filled. Interested applicants are encouraged to submit their applications by December 3, 2022.

Applications can be sent by email to ACLU of Colorado Paralegal Nicole Loy at nloy@aclu-co.org, with “Law Student Internship” in the subject line. No phone calls please. Qualified applicants chosen for an interview will be contacted directly by ACLU of Colorado legal department staff. Any questions regarding whether the application has been received or is complete should be directed to Nicole Loy at nloy@aclu-co.org.