

WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON SUMMER DIVERSITY EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM

There is a national effort to provide federal judicial externship opportunities to students who are underrepresented in the legal profession. The ABA Judicial Internship Opportunity Program, the Administrative Office of the United States Courts Summer Judicial Internship Diversity Project, and the Sonia & Celina Sotomayor Judicial Internship Program are just a few examples of this ongoing effort. These efforts highlight both the importance of diversifying the judiciary and judiciary staff, and the need to provide underrepresented law students opportunities to develop the skills and gain the experiences necessary to meet the needs of the wide range of cases and clients that come before the Courts. The Western District of Washington is partnering with the Federal Bar Association for the Western District of Washington to provide judicial externships to law students who are underrepresented in the legal profession and provide each student with a rigorous and structured educational program and a \$5,000 stipend to defray the students' living expenses. Externship opportunities will be in both District Judge and Magistrate Judge chambers in Seattle and Tacoma.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The program is open to all 1L and 2L students at an accredited law school who seek a judicial externship as part of a law school judicial externship class. Exceptions to the externship class requirement will be considered on a case by case basis. This is a summer externship that starts between May 31, 2022 and June 13, 2022, depending on the students' law school terms. The externship is an eight-week, full time program. The externship will be demanding, and externs should be hardworking, organized, honest, ethical, and committed to making the most of their summer to gain critical lawyering skills and habits. Preference is given to students who are underrepresented in the legal profession.

APPLICATION MATERIALS

The application period opens on December 1, 2021, and closes on February 11, 2022. Applications are considered on a rolling basis, and applicants will be notified as soon as possible. Interested students should submit the following materials to diversity_externship@wawd.uscourts.gov:

1. A resume.
2. A cover letter of one to two pages setting forth why you are interested in being a judicial extern, what you hope to gain, what life experiences you would bring to the program, if you have a preference for placement in Seattle or Tacoma, and, if you are seeking an exception to the law school externship class participation requirement, the basis for seeking that exception.
3. A writing sample (10 pages or fewer).
4. The names and contact information for three references. One should be a legal writing professor, if possible (no family members please).