U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division
Housing and Civil Enforcement Section
Student Internship Program

The *Housing and Civil Enforcement Section* (HCE) enforces five federal civil rights statutes:

- the **Fair Housing Act**, which prohibits discrimination in housing;
- the **Equal Credit Opportunity Act**, which prohibits discrimination in credit;
- **Title II of the Civil Rights Act of 1964**, which prohibits discrimination in certain places of public accommodation, such as hotels, restaurants, nightclubs and theaters;
- the **Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act**, which prohibits local governments from adopting or enforcing land use regulations that discriminate against religious assemblies and institutions or which unjustifiably burden religious exercise; and
- the **Servicemembers Civil Relief Act**, which provides for the temporary suspension of judicial and administrative proceedings and civil protections in areas such as housing, credit and taxes for military personnel while they are on active duty.

Legal interns have the opportunity to get hands-on experience in investigating and litigating civil rights cases under the diverse array of laws that HCE enforces. In the past, legal interns have performed a wide variety of tasks, including:

- interviewing witnesses;
- researching legal issues;
- participating in trial strategy sessions;
- reviewing documents;
- attending mediations; and
- drafting memoranda, complaints, motions, and briefs under the supervision of attorneys.

Interns are assigned an attorney-mentor, and they also work closely with the attorneys for whom they complete assignments. HCE accepts interns for each semester (or equivalent) of the academic year and for the summer. For academic semester internships, HCE prefers applicants who can commit at least 20 hours per week for a minimum of ten weeks. For summer internships, HCE asks that applicants commit 40 hours per week for a minimum of ten weeks. HCE does not currently accept applications from undergraduate students.
How to Apply
Interested students should submit a resume, brief writing sample (no more than 10 pages of their own work), transcript (unofficial is acceptable), a list of three references, and a cover letter highlighting their qualifications, interest, and experience in the work of the Division and the Housing and Civil Enforcement Section, as well as the dates/time period they are available to work. Any applicant eligible for veterans’ preference is encouraged to include that information in their cover letter or resume and to attach supporting documentation to their submissions.

Deadlines
Applications are considered on a rolling basis, and positions, particularly for summer interns, may be filled quickly. Applicants are encouraged to apply early in the process. Applications for HCE should be emailed to crt.volunteervacancies-HCE@usdoj.gov.

Summer Interns: Applications from 2Ls will be considered from October 15 through March 1 (and from 1Ls from December 1 through March 1).

Fall Semester: Applications will be considered from March 1 through August 1.

Spring Semester: Applications will be considered from September 1 through December 15.