

Legal Internship & Externship Program

During a summer or semester, work alongside judge advocates and civilian attorneys, gaining valuable legal experience, the opportunity for academic credit, and greater insight into life as a Coast Guard judge advocate.

[Apply Now](#)

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If you have questions or concerns, please email the Intern/Extern Program
Manager at CoastGuardDCL@uscg.mil.

Application Deadlines

- Summer Internships: due January 15th
- Fall Externships: due May 1st
- Spring Externships: due October 1st

Applications open after the preceding application cycle has closed.

Eligibility

- Be a United States citizen of good moral character
 - Foreign nationals are not eligible. Dual citizens of the U.S. and another country may apply. Dual citizenship may impact the security screening that is required prior to starting the internship/externship.
- Be a law student enrolled in an American Bar Association (ABA)-accredited school with at least one year completed by the time you *start* the internship/externship

Experience

- Draft briefs, conduct legal research, assist with depositions, or help an attorney prepare for a trial.
- Work alongside civilian attorneys, judge advocates, paralegals, and military judges.
- Gain valuable insight on the Coast Guard and its legal community.
- Receive training and feedback on your work.
- Learn what it's like to be a Coast Guard judge advocate or civilian attorney.

Programs

CGJAG offers full-time summer internships and part-time or full-time semester externships.

- Internships and externships are in person.
- Internships and externships are unpaid, and interns must pay for all lodging and travel expenses.
- There are no physical fitness or medical requirements to do the internship/externship.

Summer Internship

- Start date: first Monday in June
- Length: 10 weeks
- Hours: full-time

Fall or Spring Externship

- Start date: flexible, depending on school externship program requirements
- Length: school semester (typically 14-16 weeks) depending on school externship program requirements
- Hours: full-time or part-time, dependent on credit requirements

Locations

Interns and externs will work at one of several Coast Guard legal offices across the United States. Openings at particular locations are not guaranteed and are subject to office availability.

Potential locations include

- Washington, DC
- Charleston, SC
- Boston, MA
- Norfolk/Portsmouth, VA
- Miami, FL
- New Orleans, LA
- Yorktown, VA
- Cleveland, OH
- Alameda, CA
- New London, CT
- Cape May, NJ
- Seattle, WA
- Honolulu, HI
- Juneau, AK

Practice Areas

Interns will be exposed to one or more practice areas, depending on office assignment.

Practice areas include

- Military Justice (Criminal Law)
- Maritime and International Law
- Environmental Law
- Civil Litigation
- Cyber Law
- Intelligence and Information Law
- General (Fiscal, Employment, Ethics, Real Property, Administrative) Law
- Legislation
- Member Advocacy and Legal Assistance
- Procurement Law

U.S. Coast Guard
Office of the Judge Advocate General

Application

To apply, complete all sections of the application form and submit all supporting material (cover letter, resume, transcript, letter of recommendation, and legal writing sample) by the application deadline.

Click the application link below for detailed instructions.



Application Form

If you have questions or concerns, please email the Intern/Extern Program Manager at CoastGuardDCL@uscg.mil.