

2022 Summer Program – Law Student Intern



Safe Passage Project provides free legal services to over 1,000 immigrant youth in New York City and on Long Island. Free legal services are critical because there is no right to free representation in immigration courts. Having a lawyer can increase the odds of success from approximately 15% to over 80%.

Our staff attorneys both directly represent clients as well as mentor pro bono volunteer attorneys who take on cases with Safe Passage Project. The most common forms of relief we seek for our clients are Special Immigrant Juvenile Status and asylum. We regularly practice before the NYC Immigration Courts, NY Family Courts, NY and NJ Asylum Offices, USCIS, and the Administrative Appeals Office.

About the Law Student Intern Role

Law student interns are an important and exciting addition to our diverse team of lawyers, paralegals, and social workers. Interns will be assigned to work with either one or two supervisors. Interns will have weekly check-in meetings and two designated feedback sessions with their supervisors. While our internship will be **fully virtual** this summer, we will offer a comprehensive virtual orientation at the beginning of the summer and several virtual brown bag lunches throughout the course of the summer with staff attorneys and other members of staff to discuss important legal topics and participate in Q&A sessions. Interns will support their supervisors in their case work and can expect to work on cases that involve Special Immigrant Juvenile Status, asylum, U non-immigrant status, adjustment of status, naturalization, or DACA renewals. Interns will work with Safe Passage Project staff who are directly representing clients or supporting pro bono volunteer attorneys.

Responsibilities

Interns receive remote “hands-on” experience, including communicating with clients, interpreting for attorneys in client meetings, drafting affidavits, helping prepare legal filings, and observing court hearings. Interns also help develop case strategy, conduct legal research, review reports about country conditions, and conduct initial screenings. Interns must take ownership of their projects, track their assignments, and provide feedback to their supervisors.

We seek interns who are

- Enrolled in an accredited law school
- Open to giving and receiving feedback
- Flexible and willing to roll up their sleeves and work on a variety of assignments
- Able to meet deadlines and work independently

- Preferably fluent in Spanish or another language spoken by the young people we serve (please indicate your language skills, if any, in your application)
- Enthusiastic to work in a scrappy, innovative environment

Compensation

We are unable to offer compensation for the internship, but we encourage finding external funding.

General Information

- Official start date: Monday, June 6, 2022. There is a **required** orientation that day.
- Full-time commitment for at least eight weeks (Typical office hours are 9am-5pm). There may be some flexibility where necessary. Interns can discuss remote office hours with their supervisors.

How to apply

Please complete a short questionnaire, submit a resume that lists any language skills, and submit a cover letter via the link on our website.

Applications will be considered on a rolling basis. Our application period closes on March 1, 2022.

Safe Passage Project is an equal opportunity employer. Women, people of color, LGBTQ people, veterans, and people with disabilities are encouraged to apply.