



**Fall 2020/Spring 2021 Legal Externship Program
American Civil Liberties Union of Louisiana**

Location

Remote (New Orleans, LA)

Overview

The ACLU of Louisiana is a nonpartisan public interest organization devoted to protecting and extending civil rights and civil liberties. Whether it's ending mass incarceration and police brutality, achieving full equality for LGBTQ+ people, protecting privacy in the digital age, preserving the right to vote, or ensuring reproductive freedom, the ACLU is principled and strategic, willing to take on tough civil liberties issues to defend all people from government abuse and overreach.

Fall 2020/Spring 2021 externships will focus primarily on contributing to, and building out, the ACLU of Louisiana's latest initiative, "Justice Lab: Putting Racist Policing on Trial." In short, externs will be intimately involved with **(i)** the case intake process, and **(ii)** rollout of the initiative's restorative justice platform—which seeks to lend voice to individuals' whose cases cannot be litigated. More information about Justice Lab is located [here](#). At bottom, the initiative aims to bring a wave of lawsuits challenging racially discriminatory policing practices in Louisiana.

Externs will also have the opportunity to draft an impact litigation complaint that specifically focuses on Black trans sexworker rights, and to build out the ACLU of Louisiana's legal information clinic program.

Full-time externs are expected to commit 40 hours per week to the program, while part-time externs are expected to commit 20 hours per week.

Externs will be principally responsible for:

- Conducting factual and legal research
- Identifying and conducting interviews with prospective Justice Lab and impact litigation plaintiffs
- Communicating with ACLU of Louisiana partners—including law firms, law school clinics, community organizations, and clients
- Drafting memoranda and portions of an impact litigation complaint
- Developing and executing protocols outlining processes related to key ACLU of Louisiana initiatives

Desired Experience and Qualifications of Interested Law School Students

- Excellent writing, research, and communication skills
- A deep interest in issues related to civil rights and civil liberties, police practices, constitutional and criminal law, access to justice, and diversity, equity, and inclusion
- Ability to handle multiple projects

Compensation

Our externship positions are unpaid. Externs selected for the program will register with their law schools for academic or pro bono credit.

How to Apply

Applicants should submit a cover letter, resume, law school transcript, and a writing sample to **nahmed@laaclu.org**. Application materials must be compiled and submitted in a single .pdf file. In the subject line of the email, applicants should include their full name, whether they are seeking a full-time or part-time externship, and which term they are applying for (*i.e.*, **Jane Doe Full-Time Fall 2020 Externship**).

Positions will be filled on a rolling basis.

The ACLU of Louisiana values diversity and inclusivity and encourages applications from all qualified individuals without regard to race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, national origin, marital status, citizenship, disability, veteran status and record of arrest or conviction.