



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

Invites applications for the:

SUMMER 2026 INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

COMPENSATION: This is an unpaid governmental internship for Summer 2026. Check with your school to see if grant or scholarship opportunities are available.

DATES: May 26, 2026 through July 31, 2026
(10 weeks)

APPLICATION PERIOD: Accepting applications beginning in December 2025.
Interviews will begin in January 2026.

PROGRAM INFORMATION:

The Office of the County Counsel for the County of Los Angeles is one of the largest public civil law firms in the United States. Additionally, the County of Los Angeles has a responsibility and aspires to become a region where every resident can thrive regardless of the color of their skin, gender, religion, or national origin.

This summer, the Office is offering internship positions. These internships will be hybrid positions (remote and in-person).

APPLICATION INFORMATION:

Applications must include a resume, a cover letter, and writing sample that is no longer than 10 pages. The cover letter should include information as to the following questions: (1) Why does the applicant want to intern with our Office; (2) What relevant experience and skills does the applicant have; (3) What particular division(s) would the applicant like to be placed in (we recommend that the applicant state more than one division, but less than four); and (4) Why is the applicant interested in those particular divisions.

Applicants can apply directly at <https://counsel.lacounty.gov/internship-program/> or submit required documents and any questions via email to: InternProgram@counsel.lacounty.gov.

All internships are unpaid. Accordingly, interns must secure their own financing for the summer. Please check with your law school to determine if you are eligible for grants, scholarships, and/or law school credit.

DESIRED CLASS LEVEL(S):

The summer internship program is open to first, second, and third-year law students.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The interns will ideally participate in the internship program both in-person and remotely. The internships will be hybrid positions. The remote location must be within the United States. Participation in the program from outside of the United States is not permitted under any circumstances. If a candidate wishes to only participate in the internship program remotely or in-person (i.e., not hybrid participation), that candidate must indicate so in their cover letter, and/or during the interview process. It is up to each individual division within the Office to determine whether it can accommodate a fully remote or fully in-person intern.

Second-year and third-year law students who have satisfactorily completed a course in Evidence are eligible to obtain "certification" through the State Bar and make court appearances, take depositions, and participate in active litigation under the close supervision of County Counsel attorneys in applicable programs. Certification for each intern is subject to approval by the State Bar. Interns are responsible for applying to the State Bar for the certification and paying for the certification.

INCLUSION, DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND ANTIRACISM (IDEA):

The Office of County Counsel is committed to inclusion, diversity, equity and antiracism. We believe that these principles are necessary to build a culture of belonging for all employees, volunteers, and summer interns. Our commitment is to deliberately and intentionally advance IDEA and through these efforts better serve the County of Los Angeles.

THE FOLLOWING DIVISIONS ARE INTERVIEWING CANDIDATES FOR THE PROGRAM:

In the **Affirmative Litigation and Consumer Protection Division**, interns will work with attorneys on consumer protection-related matters, environmental justice/public nuisance issues and code enforcement cases. The assignments may include advising the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs on wage enforcement matters, drafting and preparing civil rights amicus briefs, attending court hearings as well as conducting legal research and preparing legal memoranda and briefs.

In the **Appeals Division**, interns will work with attorneys representing the Department of Children and Family Services at the appellate level. Interns will research and receive training on dependency and appellate issues, read opening briefs drafted by opposing counsel, and draft responsive briefs that contain background and argument sections. Interns will also prepare other legal memoranda for the office, draft summaries of recently published appellate cases, present those cases to the division, and have the opportunity to attend courtroom proceedings at the juvenile and appellate levels.

In the **Board Liaison Division**, interns will conduct legal research and draft memoranda on diverse topics, including federal immigration policy, governmental ethics, and conflicts of interest. Interns will review and track pending federal and State legislation of importance to the County. Interns will also have the opportunity to observe board and commission meetings

subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act and assist with research and responses to Public Records Act requests.

In the **Dependency Division**, interns will assist trial attorneys representing the Department of Children and Family Services in child abuse and neglect cases. Interns will have the opportunity to attend court hearings, research legal issues, prepare legal memorandum and briefs, and assist with trial preparation and client communication.

In the **General Litigation Division**, interns will assist attorneys in representing County departments in State and federal litigation, primarily in the areas of vehicle liability and dangerous condition of public property. They may also work on bail bond forfeiture proceedings in criminal courts. Interns will have the opportunity to research legal issues, prepare legal memoranda and briefs, attend court hearings, depositions, site inspections, mediation, and argue before the Court of Appeal.

In the **Government Services Division**, interns will assist attorneys in conducting legal research on various areas of government law, including elections, public finance, government contracts and the California Public Records Act. Interns may be called to assist in drafting local ordinances. Interns will be exposed to litigation and will have the opportunity to attend client meetings and court hearings.

The **Health Services Division**, advises the Los Angeles County Health Agencies, including the Departments of Health Services, Mental Health, Public Health, and Medical Examiner (formerly the Coroner), addressing some of the most pressing concerns facing the County including homelessness, diverting individuals with mental health needs from jail to community-based treatment, public health and sanitation, and ensuring the neediest of the county have access to medical and mental health care. Interns will be exposed to litigation, assisting with providing legal advice, legal research, attending client meetings and responding to Public Records Act requests.

In the **Justice & Safety Division**, interns will assist attorneys in conducting legal research, preparing legal memoranda, and will have the opportunity to attend mediations and roundtables discussing pending lawsuits. Interns may also be called to assist with settlement agreements and responding to requests pursuant to the California Public Records Act.

In the **Labor and Employment Division**, interns will have the opportunity to attend court hearings, mediations, depositions, and roundtables discussing pending lawsuits against the County involving alleged unlawful employment and labor practices. Interns will have the opportunity to research legal issues and prepare legal memoranda and briefs.

The **Litigation Monitoring Division (LMD)** collaborates with other County Counsel divisions, County departments, and third-party partners to problem-solve and address issues unique to County litigation. LMD also oversees the processing of all pre-litigation government claims presented to the County. Interns will observe case roundtables (strategy meetings) in high-priority litigation matters across Divisions and will have the opportunity to discuss the roundtables as a group upon their conclusion. Interns will obtain exposure to public entity litigation of varied subject matters, will have the opportunity to research legal issues, and may also assist with responding to public records requests seeking claims or litigation information.

The **Office of County Hearing Officer (OCHO)**, a division within the Los Angeles County Counsel's Office, conducts independent administrative hearings on matters within the County's jurisdiction. Interns will assist with legal research on a wide range of issues impacting the County and support the preparation of formal hearing officer opinions and decisions. Interns will also draft notices, review and organize evidence, and evaluate requests for reconsideration. In addition, interns will have the opportunity to observe administrative hearings, mediations, and related conferences including prehearing preparation meetings and post-hearing debriefings with hearing officers, gaining first-hand exposure to the County's independent administrative adjudication process.

In the **Peace Officer Records Division**, interns will work with attorneys and paralegals to review and analyze redacted peace officer records and audio/video recordings to ensure compliance with the California Public Records Act and the County Code. Assignments may also include drafting responses to requests for peace officer records, conducting legal research, and assisting paralegals in researching and tracking legislation that affects the release of peace officer personnel records.

In the **Probate Division**, interns will assist attorneys on a breadth of probate-related matters involving conservatorships for the Public Guardian and decedent estates for the Public Administrator, including matters involving personal property, elder abuse, self-neglect, homelessness, mental illness, heirship determinations, civil litigation, and discovery. Interns will have the opportunity to attend court hearings, research legal issues, prepare legal memoranda and briefs, and assist with trial preparation and client communication.

In the **Property Division**, interns will assist attorneys who advise numerous departments on both advisory and litigation matters involving Land Use, Real Estate, Contracts, Writs of Mandate and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Interns will have the opportunity to review and analyze real estate and service contracts, research legal issues, prepare legal memoranda and briefs, attend court hearings, assist with trial preparation, assist with property tax valuation appeals, and attend commission meetings.

In the **Public Works Division**, interns will assist attorneys in a vast array of assignment areas, including construction, storm water quality, water rights and distribution, solid waste and management, traffic and road matters, environmental law, eminent domain, inverse condemnation, and emergency/disaster management. Interns will have the opportunity to research legal issues and prepare legal memoranda and briefs. Interns may be called upon to assist in drafting local ordinances.

In the **Social Services Division**, interns will assist attorneys representing a variety of county departments and entities that administer public benefits and social services, such as the Department of Children and Family Services, Department of Public Social Services, and the Department of Animal Care and Control. Interns will have the opportunity to prepare legal opinions, review contracts, and draft and review County ordinances, legislation, and agency policies. Additional assignments may include general legal research, drafting legal briefs, working in the warrant unit, assisting the Child Abduction Unit, attending Board of Supervisors meetings, and preparing clients for depositions and court appearances.

In the **Transportation Division**, interns will assist attorneys who provide legal advice to the Board of Directors and executive management of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Authority (Metro). The Transportation Division is co-located in the Metro headquarters building

and provides day-to-day advice on a wide range of issues, including, procurement, real estate, civil rights, construction, the Brown Act, public records, and environmental law.

In the **Workers' Compensation Division**, interns will research legal issues, assist with drafting memoranda, and communicate with the third-party administrator and opposing counsel. Additionally, interns will assist with hearing preparation and attend hearings and depositions with supervising attorneys.