



Law Student Opportunities: Summer 2026

For over 95 years, Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (LAFLA) has been the frontline law firm for low-income people in Los Angeles. LAFLA is committed to promoting access to justice, strengthening communities, fighting poverty, and affecting systemic change through representation, advocacy, and community education. To learn more, please visit our website at <https://lafla.org/>. Applications for our Summer Law Clerk Program are reviewed on a rolling basis. Interested students may apply online at <https://lafla.org/get-involved/probono-volunteer/>.

Details for the 2026 [Summer Law Clerk Program](#):

- Fulltime, Monday through Friday 10-week program
- *New sustainable schedule!* 8:30AM – 5:00PM PT, alternating some Fridays off
- Program Dates: Tuesday, May 26 – Friday, July 31
 - Mandatory Orientation first 2 days with additional trainings throughout summer
- Placements are team-specific and hybrid preferred
- Educational Reimbursement provided:
 - Up to \$8,000 for Summer Law Clerks
 - Up to \$10,000 for [LEIF Fellows](#)
 - Split into multiple payments
 - Dependent on work performance
 - First reimbursement provided in June, made in the total amount of \$5,800

Please choose and rank up to **3 teams** that you wish to work with and list in your cover letter. We will try to accommodate placement. We have also included some videos for you to learn more!

Asian Pacific Islander Community Outreach Project (API) is charged with the task of assisting and connecting API, limited English proficient or monolingual individuals and families to legal services in all of LAFLA's substantive areas. The API Project specializes in working with survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, trafficking, torture, and other related crimes in the areas of family and immigration law, as well as others. Clerks will staff and screen language hotlines, staff community clinics, draft pleadings, interpret/translate, and prepare applications. Bilingual capacity in Korean, Mandarin, Cantonese, Vietnamese, Khmer, Hindi, Tagalog, or Japanese is required.

The **Disaster Response Workgroup** is a new legal project created to respond to community legal needs following the January 2025 Los Angeles wildfire disaster and to position LAFLA to rapidly respond to future disaster issues. To help those impacted by disasters, clerks will attend legal clinics, trainings, and workshops held for our community and also have the opportunity to work on a variety of issues, such as FEMA appeals, housing, government benefits, immigration law and other legal issues. Bilingual capacity in an API language or Spanish preferred.

Economic Stability Workgroup (ESWG) seeks law clerks to work on either government benefits cases, employment cases, or student loan cases. Clerks will interview clients, conduct legal research, draft pleadings, and prepare cases for administrative hearing or trial. Clerks may also help staff clinics.

Eviction Defense Center (EDC) advocates for Los Angeles renters by defending them in eviction proceedings, advocating for repairs in slum housing, protecting renters' rights under local rent control laws, and preserving subsidized housing. Clerks will write research memoranda; draft pleadings, discovery, and motions; prepare cases for trial; interview clients; help develop materials on Know Your Rights Webinars; and make appearances in Superior Court with their supervising attorney. Certified law students may also argue motions under the close supervision of one of our attorneys.

Housing and Communities Workgroup (HoCo) advocates for the creation and preservation of affordable housing, increasing economic power of low-income communities, bolstering environmental justice and equity, combatting unlawful housing practices and defending and strengthening civil rights. Students will assist with legal research and litigation tasks such as investigations, discovery, client interviewing, and drafting documents, as well as staff a weekly community legal clinic, and participate in coalitions with community organizations. Students may also assist with transactional law tasks, such as reviewing real estate due diligence materials, drafting acquisition/property management or loan financing- related documents, and preparing memorandums of understanding.

Immigration Access Workgroup (IAWG) focuses on immigration law in both affirmative and defensive contexts. Applications include affirmative asylum, VAWA, U-Visa, T-visa, as well as removal defense. Law clerks will have the opportunity to conduct client interviews, perform legal research and country conditions research, participate in and evidence collection, draft declarations and briefs, and more. Law clerks may also get to work closely with torture survivors. Both virtual and hybrid schedules are available. Spanish bilingual capacity strongly preferred.

Restoring Communities (ReCo) workgroup focuses on assisting those with criminal records to remove barriers for successful re-entry back into society. ReCo provides holistic legal services covering many areas of law, such as housing, family law, and occupational licensing, and specializes in criminal record clearing/expungement. Students will conduct intakes and meet with clients, prepare petitions and declarations, participate in virtual and in-person legal clinics, conduct research, draft motions, and have the opportunity to attend hearings with workgroup attorneys.

Santa Monica Office provides a unique opportunity to experience a holistic approach to practicing law. The office provides low-income Santa Monica residents with a wide range of legal services including housing, family law, government benefits assistance, and affirmative litigation. Students will have the opportunity to conduct client interviews; draft pleadings, discovery, motions and declarations; prepare cases for trial and staff the domestic violence clinic located at the Santa Monica Courthouse.

Veteran's Justice Center (VJC) provides holistic legal services to low-income veterans in Los Angeles County with a particular focus on (1) housing and communities, (2) economic stability, (3) VA benefits, and (4) employment barriers. VJC clerks will have the opportunity to develop expertise in multiple substantive areas of law, and to develop skills in litigation, research and writing, client interviewing, and policy work. Veteran candidates are highly encouraged to apply.

