

Internships in Historic Preservation Law



Overview

The National Trust for Historic Preservation's Law Department welcomes a limited number of interns in its Washington, DC headquarters each year. The Law Department's internship program provides practical learning opportunities to law students preparing for careers in historic preservation. With a particular focus on broadening the diversity of individuals pursuing careers in historic preservation law, the National Trust is interested in attracting applicants with diverse backgrounds and experiences.

The Law Department's staff attorneys provide a wide array of legal services to the organization, which includes litigation and legal advocacy relating to the preservation of historic properties; providing general in-house legal assistance to the various operating divisions of the National Trust; providing advice – both within the organization and to the public – on matters relating to federal, state and local preservation laws; and coordinating with government agencies and other non-profit organizations involved in historic preservation. In addition, the Law Department publishes educational materials relating to preservation law.

The Law Department also plays a key role in support of the National Trust's Public Lands Initiative. One of the primary goals of the Public Lands Initiative is ensuring that federal agencies – primarily the Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service – recognize and comply with historic preservation laws during the development of land use plans and projects. The Law Department frequently represents the National Trust in the administrative process for oil and gas projects; land-use plan revisions for areas with significant cultural resources, including units of the National Landscape Conservation System; and off-highway vehicle route designations.

Legal interns are exposed to all areas of the department's work and are provided with a variety of research and writing opportunities.

Eligibility

The internship program is targeted to second- or third-year law students, preferably with a demonstrated interest in historic preservation or a related field. Excellent writing abilities are a prerequisite, and law review or journal experience is a plus. Work performed by the intern will be directed and reviewed by supervising attorneys within the Law Department.

Stipend

Although most internships with the National Trust are unpaid, a modest stipend will be provided to interns selected for the Mildred Colodny Internship in Historic Preservation Law. Please specify in your cover letter whether you would like to be considered for this stipend. In some instances, students who are receiving classroom credit are unable to accept outside funding for their work. The Law Department will assist interns in obtaining academic credit or funding from their law school, as applicable.

Deadlines & How to Apply

Summer: February 10, 2012

Internships are available for the fall, spring and summer. Although fall, spring and summer interns are all eligible for the Mildred Colodny Internship in Historic Preservation Law, the National Trust may elect not to select an intern for any given semester due to availability of the funds. Interested students should send a resume, detailed cover letter and writing sample not exceeding ten pages to (electronic submissions are strongly encouraged):

Legal Internship Program
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Washington, DC 20036
E-Mail: law@nthp.org
Phone: 202-588-6035
Fax: 202-588-6272

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is an equal opportunity organization and does not discriminate on the basis of race, age, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, sexual orientation, veteran status or disability. The National Trust for Historic Preservation actively seeks opportunities to include members of these groups in its programs and activities.