



SUMMER 2023 CLINICAL LAW STUDENT INTERN

The East Bay Community Law Center (EBCLC) is seeking **full-time law interns for its 2023 Summer Program**. EBCLC is the largest provider of free legal services to low-income residents of Alameda County, California, and is home to the community-based clinical program for UC Berkeley School of Law during the academic year. **During the full-time summer session, EBCLC welcomes students from ALL law schools.**

What is the East Bay Community Law Center?

EBCLC is a nationally-recognized clinical program founded by Berkeley Law students in 1988 with the dual mission of providing high quality legal services to low-income clients and first-rate clinical education to law students.

As a woman of color-led and centered organization, EBCLC takes a [women of color centered approach](#) to providing legal services. We believe that if we solve the disparate outcomes that women of color experience in healthcare, housing, education, immigration, debt collection, and the criminal legal system, all people will thrive.

In eight distinct clinics, EBCLC staff and students take a multimodal approach to addressing the causes and conditions of poverty and inequality by providing to clients legal education and outreach, brief services, holistic representation, and policy advocacy.

Placements are available in the following six clinics for Summer 2023:

- **Clean Slate:** legal services to help people with criminal records overcome barriers to employment, education, and civic participation.
- **Community Economic Justice (CEJ):** focused on empowering low-income communities of color to build long-term solutions to poverty through the advancement of community-owned cooperative businesses and affordable housing.
- **Education, Defense and Justice for Youth (EDJY):** pushing back against school push-out by providing holistic defense to youth in delinquency proceedings in Alameda County juvenile court, including social work support and education advocacy.
- **Health & Welfare:** interdisciplinary, holistic approach to address the social conditions known to contribute to poor health outcomes in low-income communities and to improve the health and well-being of individuals living with HIV and other chronic illnesses, children, youth, and families living in poverty.
- **Housing:** Litigation practice designed to protect and promote safe, adequate and affordable housing for low-income tenants.
- **Immigration:** Dedicated to helping immigrants regularize their legal status and assume their rightful place in the community; focus on particularly vulnerable populations: youth, people with disabilities/chronic illness & their families, LGBTQ and individuals in removal proceedings.

Why should I intern at EBCLC?

Gain Hands-on Lawyering Experience:

EBCLC offers you the opportunity to put your classroom learning to work and to gain a broad range of experience in the real-life practice of law. With extensive substantive law and skills training, you have primary responsibility for your legal work, including conducting client interviews, counseling clients, negotiating settlements, drafting pleadings, and representing clients in administrative hearings and court proceedings.

Receive Close, High-Quality Supervision:

EBCLC summer student applicants apply to work with one clinic and will work under the supervision of one of EBCLC's clinical supervisors. Supervisors offer day-to-day direction on casework and projects, meet weekly to review your work, and organize regular "case rounds" for all students within a practice group.

Serve the Community:

As law student interns, you make a substantial contribution to advancing EBCLC's racial justice mission by meeting the legal needs of EBCLC's clients at a time when resources to address these needs are increasingly scarce, often by design.

Build Your Resume:

Employers in the private, government and non-profit sectors are looking for students who are "practice-ready," and they highly value the practical skills and professional responsibility students learn in clinical settings such as EBCLC.

Time Commitment & Location

The Summer 2023 session is nine weeks long (Tuesday, May 30, 2023 to Friday, July 28, 2023). Interns are expected to work 35 hours per week, Monday through Friday. Workloads in any given week may vary due to the nature of a live client practice, but you will not regularly be required to work more hours than anticipated.

Please note: EBCLC is a women-of-color centered community-based organization that is deeply committed to equity and inclusion across programs. In light of the ongoing COVID19 public health crisis and in an effort to continue to offer the highest quality of services to our community, our staff continues to work primarily remotely. EBCLC's physical offices remain open on a limited basis pursuant to strict COVID protocols. We continue to regularly monitor public health guidance and take serious precautions for in-person work. To that end, **EBCLC Summer Interns should expect to have a "hybrid" clinical experience. Some trainings, including orientation on Tuesday, May 30, 2023, will be in-person while others may be remote. The same can be said for the work in clinic as we aim to center the needs of our clients and the communities we serve. Some in-person work may be required.**

Qualifications

As a racial justice organization, EBCLC expects its staff and students to reflect on how structural racism manifests in their work, as well as their own relationship to race and racism.

No specific previous training or coursework is required. However, a demonstrated commitment to serving low-income, minority and underrepresented individuals and groups, and/or previous experience in one of our practice areas or in public interest law is highly desirable, as is second language ability in any of the following: Spanish, Cantonese, Vietnamese, Cambodian, or Farsi.

Compensation

EBCLC staff will provide any needed support to students working to secure funding through fellowships from law schools and other public interest sources; however, we are unable to offer compensation for summer internship positions.

Application Instructions

Interested law students should navigate to [this webpage](#) and go to the “How do I apply” section at the bottom to submit an application for the summer program. Applicants will be asked to upload:

- A brief cover letter* in one page or less, resume, and three references (at least one employment-related reference.)

**In your cover letter, please consider addressing one of the questions below:*

- 1. Please describe how your lived experiences and professional roles will enable you to help advance EBCLC’s women of color centered approach to providing legal services.*
- 2. Please share your thoughts about EBCLC’s expectation that its staff and students engage in analysis around the role of race in their work, and why you want to join EBCLC as a clinical intern.*

- A short writing sample (5-10 pages).

You will also be asked to rank your top three clinic preference(s) and whether you would accept a placement in any clinic.

Application Timeline

Applications are accepted and hiring decisions made on a rolling basis until positions are filled. Incomplete applications will not be considered. All completed applications will be acknowledged via an automated email.

EBCLC will start reviewing applications in January 2023. March 31, 2023 is the current deadline for accepting applications.

Questions?

For more information on EBCLC’s summer program, visit <http://ebclc.org/students/summer-program/>. If you have additional questions, please contact EBCLC Clinical Program Coordinator, Katia Kiston (kkiston@ebclc.org) or EBCLC Interim Clinical Director, Rosa Bay (rbay@ebclc.org).