



JRC-JTB Summer Judicial Internship Diversity Project Announcement to Law Students

The **Judicial Resources Committee of the United States Judicial Conference** and **Just the Beginning – A Pipeline Organization** is pleased to announce the annual Summer Judicial Internship Diversity Project (“SJID Project”). The SJID Project’s goal is to provide highly qualified law students from socioeconomic, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds underrepresented in the legal profession with summer judicial internships in the chambers of federal and state appellate judges, federal district judges, and federal bankruptcy and magistrate judges. The SJID Project is national in scope and seeks to place approximately 100 law students as judicial interns across the country.

Interns will have the opportunity to draft bench memoranda, judicial orders, and opinions on a variety of substantive matters, including motions to dismiss, motions for summary judgment, magistrate judge reports, and habeas corpus petitions. Applicants should possess strong research and writing skills and be prepared to handle the rigors of working in a court.

There are two rounds of review to select interns. In the first screening, the reviewers evaluate the application documents and look for minimal typographical errors; demonstrated ability to follow directions; 3.0 grade point average; and any supplemental considerations when a candidate has exhibited a need or ability. Students who do not go beyond the first screening are offered resources to improve their chances of obtaining a judicial internship in the future. During the second screening, the reviewers interview candidates to evaluate their level of preparation, professionalism, and response to substantive questions. Students who pass the first and second round of review are then matched to judges primarily based on the student’s geographic preference and residence. Judges will likely conduct their own interview to select the candidate that is the best fit for their chambers. Applicants must commit to two mandatory training workshops and hired interns must complete a legal writing assignment due in April 2022 to prepare them for the internship. Interns will also participate in SJID Project Toolkit, bi-weekly sessions in the summer that will provide resources and support throughout their internship. Candidates must be available to work full-time as an intern for a minimum of eight weeks.

TO APPLY: Click [HERE](https://www.jtb.org) to apply or visit our website, [jtb.org](https://www.jtb.org).

Paper applications will **not be accepted**. The application will ask applicants to submit the following materials.

- a **cover letter** explaining the applicant's interest in participating in the Summer Judicial Internship Diversity Project and the importance of diversity in the legal field. Please address your cover letter to Cristina Figueroa, Program Director 70 W. Madison St. Suite 2900, Chicago IL. 60602.
- a **resume**.
- a **law school transcript**, official or unofficial (if first semester law school grades are unavailable at the time of the deadline, please upload an undergraduate transcript and send your law school grades to sjidproject@jtb.org as they become available).
- a **writing sample** (no more than 10 pages in length).
- a list of **three references** (no family members, please).
- a signed **Memorandum of Understanding** (see below, page 3). This document stipulates the requirements and expectations of the program.

Applications will be received online until **5:00 p.m. EST on Sunday, January 9, 2022**.

Early applications are highly encouraged.



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At present, this is an unpaid internship. Applicants are strongly encouraged to seek law school or non-profit funding and scholarships. Applicants are also encouraged to seek school credit hours or use the internship hours for pro bono certification. Please contact your law school's career advisor to explore funding options available to students.

JTB has partnered with multiple organizations to help secure funding for interns.

- **Judicial Intern Opportunity Program ("JIOP"):** The SJID Project and JIOP will consider law students for admission into both programs concurrently to students who meet the criteria. Students who follow the procedures outlined below will receive a \$2,000 award from JIOP and will be eligible to participate in programs and events of both programs:
 - Apply to both the SJID Project and JIOP.
 - Advance in the review process for both the SJID Project and JIOP.
 - Are matched successfully with a judge participating in both JIOP and the SJID Project.
- **Federal Magistrate Judges Association ("FMJA"):** Four students matched with federal magistrate judges will receive a \$2,500 stipend from the FMJA and will be designated as FMJA Fellows. All interns matched with magistrate judges through JTB will have the opportunity to apply for the stipend through the FMJA.
- **National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges:** Six students matched with federal bankruptcy judges will receive a \$3,000 stipend from the NCBJ and will be designated as NCBJ Fellows. All interns matched with bankruptcy judges through JTB will have the opportunity to apply for the stipend through the NCBJ.
- **International Women's Insolvency and Restructuring Confederation ("IWIRC"):** Six female students matched with bankruptcy judges will receive a \$2,500 stipend from the IWIRC and will be designated IWIRC Fellows. All female interns matched with bankruptcy judges through JTB will have the opportunity to apply for the stipend through the IWIRC.
- **Islamic Scholarship Fund ("ISF"):** ISF students selected in 2021 may bypass the first and second round of application review and are eligible to receive a \$2,500 stipend if successfully hired by a JTB judge.
- **Eastern District of Virginia:** Law students placed with federal judges from the Eastern District of Virginia will receive a \$2,000 stipend from the United States District for the Eastern District of Virginia.
- **Kelly Guzzo, PLC:** The firm will fund ten interns matched with circuit court judges in the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- **American College of Trial Lawyers ("ACTL"):** The ACTL will select interns from the SJID project to be part of their mentorship program with ACTL Fellows, prestigious trial attorneys. Select interns will also be funded by the ACTL.

General application questions can be directed to sjidproject@jtb.org.

NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY. The officers, directors, committee members, employees, and persons served by this organization shall be selected entirely on a nondiscriminatory basis with respect to age, sex, race, religion, national origin, and sexual orientation. It is the policy of JTB-APO not to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, ancestry, marital status, gender, sexual orientation, age, physical disability, veteran's status, political service or affiliation, color, religion, or national origin.



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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The Judicial Resources Committee and Just the Beginning – A Pipeline Organization’s Joint Summer Judicial Internship Diversity Project (“SJID Project”) is a program that strives to provide underrepresented and economically disadvantaged law students an opportunity to work inside a judge’s chambers as a judicial intern.

INTERN’S OBLIGATIONS

I, _____, understand and agree to the following terms of participation for judicial interns during the Summer of 2022:

1. I agree to be available to work as an unpaid judicial intern for a minimum of eight weeks, 40 hours per week. This minimum requirement ensures that I will receive all the benefits of working in judicial chambers.
2. I understand that this is an unpaid judicial internship, and that I will seek law school or non-profit funding. If I receive any financial stipend or compensation from any source for the judicial internship, I agree to promptly disclose this to the judge and to JRC-JTB via sjidproject@jtb.org.
3. I agree to make myself available to be interviewed by a screening panel in January 2022.
4. I agree to promptly respond to any judge’s inquiry and to make myself available to be interviewed by judges in February of 2022.
5. I agree to view the Interview Skills Webinar in January of 2022 and the Legal Writing Webinar in March of 2022 aimed at preparing candidates to work in the chambers of judges.
6. I agree to complete and submit a legal writing assignment by the first week of April 2022. I understand the screening committee will evaluate my writing and provide feedback to help students cultivate their writing skills before beginning the internship.
7. I agree that I will uphold the standards of professionalism. This includes wearing business formal attire, unless otherwise instructed by the judge. I will conduct myself in a professional manner, which includes addressing the judge, law clerks, chambers staff, court staff, and court users courteously and reporting for work on time, every day.
8. I agree that all my work must be carefully edited and in its third draft before submission to the judge or law clerk. I will ensure that all my work is done to the best of my ability.
9. I agree to follow all school internship guidelines for credit hours or for any other benefit. If JTB is not currently on my school’s list of providers for academic credit, I will contact JTB immediately.



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10. I affirm that I am currently enrolled in good standing in an American Bar Association- accredited law school.
11. I agree to report to both the judge all judicial internship hours worked and to maintain a record of all hours worked. I agree to provide the record of hours I worked upon JRC-JTB's request.
12. I agree to submit to JRC-JTB evaluation reports when requested.
13. I agree to timely respond to JTB requests for information, including evaluations of my intern experience, my current or future employment status and contact information and I agree to submit a student information form with my application.
14. I acknowledge that any internship I obtain is solely for educational purposes. I understand that I will not be an employee of the Judicial Resources Committee, any court, or JTB-APO. I agree that if I undertake an internship, it will be primarily for my own benefit and to further my knowledge, and without any expectation that I would receive an offer of employment after the internship is complete.
15. I agree to notify JTB in writing if I am hired as a post-graduate, full-time federal law clerk.

Printed Name _____

Signature _____

Mailing Address _____

Email _____

Cell Phone Number _____