Civil Rights Legal Internship Program - Summer 2019

New York Lawyers for the Public Interest (NYLPI) invites accomplished and highly motivated second-year law students with a demonstrated commitment to civil rights to apply for its Civil Rights Legal Internship Program. Applications for this competitive program are accepted on a rolling basis until positions are filled. Early application is strongly encouraged.

About NYLPI

NYLPI is a non-profit civil rights legal organization that pioneered the practice of community lawyering in New York City. NYLPI’s dedicated and talented staff employs bold, creative approaches to litigation, policy advocacy, and community organizing to advance equality and civil rights. We welcome interns in three core program areas:

- **Disability Justice** works to advance civil rights and ensure equality of opportunity, self-determination, and independence for people with disabilities. Our advocacy spans many areas, including housing, transportation, education, community integration, and government programs and services.

- **Environmental Justice** fights to create sustainable, healthy communities and end disproportionate exposure to pollution, including through community organizing and providing legal assistance to low-income neighborhoods and communities of color that bear an unfair burden of environmental threats.

- **Health Justice** seeks to end discriminatory barriers to health care, healthful housing and other spaces, and healthy lives through its focus on health care advocacy using a lens of racial justice and immigrant rights. Our advocacy includes improving health care access for immigrants with serious medical needs and attacking the adverse social determinants of health.

About the Program

The Program provides ten weeks of substantive legal work and intensive training in a collaborative environment under the supervision of experienced attorneys. NYLPI seeks to eliminate financial barriers to participation in the program, and invites applicants to discuss the potential for stipends, if needed.

Typical work assignments include

- Drafting memoranda and conducting legal research in support of litigation and policy campaigns
- Interviewing and assisting in representing individual clients
- Meeting with community organizations
- Attending court hearings and depositions

Additional learning opportunities have included

- A legislative advocacy training led by NYLPI’s lobbyist
- A deposition training led by NYLPI’s legal director
- A tour of the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit by a federal judge
- A tour of the Museum of Modern Art’s accessibility features

How to Apply

Please submit a letter explaining your interest in the Program, your resume, and a legal writing sample (no more than six pages) via email to internships@nylpi.org with “Civil Rights Legal Internship” in the subject line. Please note that we accept applications from current second-year law students only.

Our Commitment to Diversity

We value the dynamism and perspective that staff diversity in all its forms brings to the work and culture of our office. NYLPI is an equal opportunity employer and strongly encourages people of color, people with disabilities, LGBTQ+ people, and people who have lived in poverty to apply.