



2020 Summer Legal Internships

Catholic Migration Services (“CMS”) is currently accepting 2020 summer legal internship applications for our **Tenant Advocacy Program**, and for our **Immigration Unit**. CMS is a nonprofit provider of legal services for low and moderate income residents of Queens and Brooklyn, and is an affiliated agency of Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens.

The **Tenant Advocacy Program (“TAP”)** at CMS assists tenants – primarily residents of Queens – with a wide array of housing-related legal services ranging from brief advice to full representation in court proceedings. TAP assists tenants with matters such as eviction defense, obtaining needed repairs, combatting landlord harassment and rent overcharges, obtaining renewal leases, and obtaining rent increase exemptions for seniors and persons with disabilities. We typically litigate cases in Queens Housing Court and at administrative agencies, and also periodically represent clients in Queens Supreme Court and the Second Department. Because TAP also has tenant organizers, our legal team and organizers collaborate to lead community education events and bring group cases. Interns will have the opportunity to work on a variety of matters during the summer internship under the supervision of TAP’s four experienced attorneys. The TAP intern will work in our Queens office.

The **Immigration Unit** at CMS is comprised of three programs: the Removal Defense Project (“RDP”), Affirmative Filings, and Naturalization. RDP represents immigrants who are before Immigration Court seeking forms of relief such as defensive asylum, Special Immigrant Juvenile Status, cancellation of removal for lawful permanent residents and non-lawful permanent residents, motions to reopen, and 212(C) waivers. The RDP team also files affirmative asylum petitions, U visas, T visas and I-130 family based petitions associated with a removal case before United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (“USCIS”). The affirmative filings team files R visas, religious worker petitions, consular processing family petitions, Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) petitions, I-130 family petitions, inadmissibility waivers, I-90 green card renewals, and adjustment of status applications. The Naturalization Team submits naturalization applications and N-600 (application for certificate of citizenship for people who derived or acquired US citizenship through their parents) applications before USCIS. The summer intern will get experience working in all three areas of our immigration practice.

Summer legal interns should be currently enrolled in an ABA accredited law school. Summer interns are expected to work Monday through Friday (excluding any holidays) from approximately 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM for the duration of the internship, however periodic evening hours may be required in lieu of daytime hours so that the intern can participate in community events, legal clinics or client meetings. The internship is unpaid, however CMS will support the applicant’s effort to obtain funding from outside sources (e.g., their law school, Equal Justice America, etc...)

Interested applicants should email a cover letter, resume, writing sample, and three references to David Colodny, Director of Legal Services, at dcolodny@catholicmigration.org.