National Student Legal Defense Network

Summer Internship in Higher Education Litigation & Advocacy

Organization Description
The National Student Legal Defense Network (Student Defense) is a non-profit organization focusing on consumer protection in higher education. Through litigation and advocacy, we work to advance students’ rights to educational opportunity and ensure that higher education provides a launching point for economic mobility. We seek to protect students from predatory lending and other abusive practices by for-profit and other institutions of higher education. Student Defense has successfully brought challenges to the Trump Administration’s attempts to rollback key regulatory protections for student loan borrowers and helped clients secure discharges of their federal student loan debt.

We are currently accepting applications from law students for 2020 summer internships. Our office is located in downtown Washington, D.C.

Job Duties and Responsibilities
Summer legal interns will be responsible for legal research and writing, factual investigation, development of advocacy materials, discovery review, and a host of other needs that may arise in Student Defense’s litigation and advocacy work. Although Student Defense prefers second-year students who have taken classes in administrative law, bankruptcy, and/or consumer law, we will consider applications from exceptional first-year students. Summer interns are expected to work for at least ten (10) weeks. Student Defense offers a stipend to all of its summer interns.

To Apply
Please e-mail a resume, cover letter, ten-page writing sample, and transcript to careers@defendstudents.org as soon as possible, but no later than March 1, 2020. Student Defense will review applications and make a decision on a rolling basis.

Please address your cover letter to the “Student Defense Hiring Committee” and include “Summer Internship Application” in the email subject line. Candidates should highlight any personal or professional experience that demonstrates their connection to the populations that Student Defense serves.

Student Defense is an Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Employer and encourages applications from all qualified individuals without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, disability or veteran status, or other non-work-related factors.