



CIVILIAN OFFICE OF POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY

INTEGRITY • TRANSPARENCY • INDEPENDENCE • TIMELINESS

UNPAID LEGAL INTERNSHIP JOB DESCRIPTION

PUBLIC SERVICE INTERNSHIPS: PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Public Service Internships provide students with the opportunity to work within the public sector/city government by actively participating in the administration of programs and the services offered to city residents and neighborhoods at large. In addition to obtaining valuable work experience in an area relating to their field of study, interns have the opportunity to receive guidance and direction from professional staff members on issues relating to their professional growth and career goals. Interns are also allowed to participate in the Public Service Intern Program to satisfy degree requirements.

CIVILIAN OFFICE OF POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY: MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Civilian Office of Police Accountability (COPA) is to provide a just and efficient means to fairly and timely conduct investigations within its jurisdiction, including investigations of alleged police misconduct and to determine whether those allegations are well-founded, applying a preponderance of the evidence standard; to identify and address patterns of police misconduct; and, based on information obtained through such investigations, to make policy recommendations to improve the Chicago Police Department and reduce incidents of police misconduct.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES

The COPA Legal Intern will be assigned to assist the Legal Unit's attorneys on a variety of projects in conjunction with operational activities. This may include providing assistance to the legal department staff with:

- assisting investigators in preparing for civilian and officer statements;
- researching parallel civil and criminal litigation;
- researching relevant case law and applying it to the investigations by drafting legal analysis and conclusion for the investigations; and
- preparing responses to information requests received by the department (including responses to FOIA requests).

MINIUM QUALIFICATIONS: Must be a current law school student in good academic standing, enrolled in an accredited law school, with a minimum grade point average of 2.5 on 4.0 grading scale, a 3.5 on a 5.0 grading scale, or equivalent grading scale.

PREFERENCE:

Education: Law Student that is a candidate for a Juris Doctorate degree. Knowledge of:

- Local, State and Federal laws, ordinances, statutes and court decisions relating to municipal operation.
- Evidence, Constitutional Law, and Civil & Criminal Procedure.
- Methods and techniques of legal research.

DUTIES: The COPA Legal Intern will be assigned to assist the Legal Unit's attorneys on a variety of projects in conjunction with operational activities. This may include drafting legal memoranda, conducting legal research and analysis, and preparing responses to information requests received by the department (including responses to FOIA requests).

INSTRUCTIONS: Interested applicants must submit a cover letter and resume with the following attachments in order to be considered for the internship:

- Writing sample: 5-10 pages
- Law School Transcript
- Verification of Current Law School Enrollment

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Friday, January 21, 2022. Applications must be submitted by the individual applying. No second party applications may be accepted.

APPLICANT INTERVIEWS: Week of January 31 – February 4, 2022

APPLICANT SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION: Monday, February 14, 2022

ONBOARDING: Tuesday, May 24, 2022

INTERNSHIP DURATION: June 2022 through August 2022

Please submit all documents via e-mail to: COPAInternship@chicagocopa.org

Please include **LEGAL INTERNSHIP APPLICATION** in the Subject Line

Note: These are temporary positions and the number of available positions is limited.

If you would like to request a reasonable accommodation due to disability or pregnancy in order to participate in the application process, please contact the City of Chicago, Department of Human Resources, at 312-744-4976 or disabilityaccommodations@cityofchicago.org Please be prepared to provide information in support of your reasonable accommodation request.

All references to political sponsorship or recommendation must be omitted from any and all applications materials submitted for city employment. The City of Chicago is an Equal Employment Opportunity and Military Friendly Employer