



EAST BAY
COMMUNITY
LAW CENTER

SUMMER 2026 PROGRAM



The East Bay Community Law Center (EBCLC) is seeking full-time law student interns. During the full-time summer session, EBCLC welcomes students from all U.S. law schools.

**BE PART OF THE FUTURE GENERATION OF
SOCIAL JUSTICE LAWYERS AND ADVOCATES!**



ABOUT EAST BAY COMMUNITY LAW CENTER (EBCLC)

EBCLC is one of the largest providers of free legal services in the East Bay and is a nationally recognized leader in community law, serving 4,000 clients each year.

The Law Center is also home to the community-based clinical program for UC Berkeley School of Law during the academic year. EBCLC welcomes students from all U.S. law schools during its full-time summer session.

Mission & Vision

Our mission is to promote justice and build a community that is more secure, productive, healthy, and hopeful by providing legal services and policy advocacy that are responsive to the needs of low-income communities and law training that prepares future attorneys to be skilled and principled advocates, who are committed to addressing the causes and conditions of racial and economic injustice and poverty.

We envision a California where Black and Indigenous communities, and those at the intersection of multiple oppressions, are positioned to realize thriving, healthy, and dignified lives through our three-pronged approach.



Direct Legal Services

Free legal services to overcome challenges caused by economic and racial injustice



Robust Clinical Education

Activate law and social work students to advance community justice



Systems Change

Champion local and statewide policies to advance justice in California & beyond

WOMEN-OF-COLOR CENTERED PLATFORM

EBCLC centers women of color as catalysts to transform and uplift entire families and communities. We believe that if we solve the disparate outcomes that women of color experience in healthcare, housing, education, immigration, debt collection, and the criminal legal system, all people will thrive.

This approach underpins our services and advocacy efforts. You can learn more about the principles that guide this approach at ebclc.org/about-us/women-of-color-centered-platform/



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EBCLC CLINICS

For more than three decades, law students have advanced vital legal support and policy advocacy at East Bay Community Law Center (EBCLC).

For the Summer 2026, placements are available in the following clinics:

- **The Education Defense & Justice for Youth (EDJY) Program** provides representation to youth caught at the intersection of the juvenile legal and education systems. EDJY attorneys and advocates participate in local and statewide coalitions working to center community in developing solutions to the deeply entrenched problems of school push-out and incarceration. The team collaborates to provide support and representation in juvenile court, school expulsion, and special education proceedings. *EDJY is comprised of two clinics: the Youth Defender Clinic and the Education Justice Clinic. During the summer, students work under the EDJY program.*
- **The Health Law and Public Benefits Clinic** is one subunit of the Health & Welfare Unit, students will collaborate on advocacy to address the health determinants and social disparities of low-income clients via our medical-legal partnerships, support clients with appealing disability and public benefits programs; and potentially assist with statewide policy work.
- **The Consumer Justice Clinic** is another arm of the Health & Welfare Unit, Consumer Justice Clinic students will be working on a broad range of matters ranging from pre-to-post litigation civil cases, dealing with administrative agencies, drafting amicus briefs and regulatory comments (if interested), designing and hosting community workshops (if interested), and assisting with statewide policy work (if interested). Students will receive cross-training with Health & Welfare clinic students in areas relevant to both clinics.
- **The Housing Clinic** is a fast-paced litigation practice designed to protect and promote safe, healthy, and affordable housing for tenants through eviction defense and local policy advocacy. The team focuses on defending eviction lawsuits brought against tenants living with low-income, as well as enforcement of local rent and eviction control ordinances.
- **The Homelessness Advocacy Clinic** is housed within the Housing Unit, and students will deal with the intersection of lack of economic opportunity, displacement, and the criminal legal system. The scope of work may include eviction defense, civil litigation, probate guardianship to support unhoused pregnant people, and a wide scope of advocacy work for unhoused and those at high-risk of becoming unhoused.
- **The Immigrant Youth Defenders Clinic** will directly assist clients at the intersection of immigration, family, probate, and criminal law. Students will attend in-person trainings, client meetings, and court hearings, as needed. Clinic participants will gain experience in complex legal argumentation and analysis.
- **The Immigration Community Justice Clinic** will directly assist clients seeking immigration relief (such as asylum, DACA, family reunification, citizenship, and more). Both in and out of the courtroom, students will conduct client consultations, assess eligibility for benefits and deportation relief, and gather and prepare evidence for immigration applications. Clinic participants will gain experience in complex legal argumentation and analysis.



WHY INTERN AT EBCLC?

The center teaches critical, practical, and hands-on lawyering skills, while fighting for justice, and encouraging reflection.

GAIN HANDS-ON LAWYERING EXPERIENCE

EBCLC offers you the opportunity to put your classroom learning to work and to gain a broad range of experience in the real-life practice of law. With extensive substantive law and skills training, you have primary responsibility for your legal work, including conducting client interviews, counseling clients, negotiating settlements, drafting pleadings, and representing clients in administrative hearings and court proceedings.

RECEIVE CLOSE, HIGH-QUALITY SUPERVISION

Summer interns apply to work with one clinic and will work under the supervision of one of EBCLC's clinical supervisors. Supervisors offer day-to-day direction on casework and projects, meet weekly to review your work, and organize regular "case rounds" for all students within a practice group.

SERVE THE COMMUNITY

As law student interns, you make a substantial contribution to advancing EBCLC's racial justice mission by meeting the legal needs of EBCLC's clients at a time when resources to address these needs are increasingly scarce, often by design.

BUILD YOUR RESUME

Employers in the private, government and non-profit sectors are looking for students who are "practice-ready," and they highly value the practical skills and professional responsibility students learn in clinical settings such as EBCLC.

EBCLC Cultivates Future Social Justice Leaders

TRANSFORMING LAW STUDENTS INTO ADVOCATES

For decades, EBCLC has sustained a pipeline of Bay Area social justice lawyers. Every year, EBCLC trains passionate law students to challenge systems that oppress marginalized communities. We're a trusted hub for innovative attorneys who harness the power of law to defend those who have the fewest resources and face multiple hurdles, because we understand nobody lives single-issue lives.



YOUR WORK MAY INCLUDE:

- Interviewing clients and conducting intake; drafting client declarations;
- Issue-spotting, oral and writing advocacy, and creative problem-solving;
- Advising clients on their legal options;
- Conducting fact investigation, including interviewing witnesses;
- Conducting legal research and writing legal memos/briefs;
- Drafting pleadings and motions, propounding and responding to discovery, developing case strategies, negotiating settlements, and preparing for trials;
- Representing clients in court, including delivering opening and closing statements and conducting witness examination (certified students);
- Drafting education materials and developing outreach strategies;
- Researching, organizing & presenting community legal and know-your rights workshops to community-based organizations and client groups;
- Participating in policy legislation advocacy and lobbying.

Students' work differs by clinic, and is dependent on the cases brought in by clients.

SUMMER 2026 PROGRAM DETAILS

QUALIFICATIONS & EXPECTATIONS

No specific previous training or coursework is required. However, a demonstrated commitment to serving low-income, BIPOC and underrepresented individuals and groups, and/or previous experience in one of our practice areas or in public interest law is highly desirable, as is second language ability in any of the following: Spanish, Cantonese, Vietnamese, Cambodian, or Farsi. Additionally, as a racial justice organization, EBCLC expects its staff and students to reflect on how structural racism manifests in their work, as well as their own relationship to race and racism.

TIME COMMITMENT

The Summer 2026 session is nine weeks long, from **Tuesday, May 26, 2026 to Friday, July 24, 2026**. Interns are expected to work **35 hours per week**, Monday through Friday. Workloads in any given week may vary due to the nature of a live client practice, but you will not regularly be required to work more hours than anticipated.

LOCATION

EBCLC Summer 2026 interns should expect to have a **“hybrid” clinical experience**. The distribution of in-person vs. remote hours is determined by individual clinics. As we aim to center the needs of our clients and the communities we serve, some in-person work may be required and some hours may be completed remotely. Similarly, some trainings—including mandatory EBCLC-wide orientation trainings held during the first week of the internship—will be in-person, while others may be remote. In-person work and trainings will take place at one of EBCLC's two offices (2921 Adeline Street & 2001 Center Street Suite 400) in **Berkeley, California**, and/or off-site as required by the work.

COMPENSATION

EBCLC staff will provide any needed support to students working to secure funding through fellowships from law schools and other public interest sources; however, we are unable to offer compensation for summer internship positions. We will also provide support for students who may be eligible to seek credit.



APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

EBCLC's Summer 2026 Program Application can be found here
<https://ebclc.org/legal-education/clinical-education/summer-internship-application/>



MATERIALS REQUESTED

Applicants will be asked to upload:

1. A brief cover letter* in one page or less (you may be asked to respond to one or two questions), resume, and three references (at least one employment-related reference.)
2. A short writing sample (5-10 pages).

* In your cover letter, please consider addressing the following prompt:

- EBCLC's largest constituency of clients are Black and Latinx women. We are a racial justice organization and take a women of color centered approach to our legal advocacy. We believe that if we solve the disparate outcomes that women of color experience in healthcare, housing, education, immigration, debt collection, and the criminal legal system, all people will thrive. Please share your thoughts about why you want to join EBCLC as a clinic student and how your lived experiences, professional roles and/or interests will enable you to help advance our mission. What are you most eager to learn from your clinic experience?

You will also be asked to rank your top three clinic preference(s) and whether you would accept a placement in any clinic.

TIMELINE

Applications are accepted on a **rolling basis**, and hiring decisions made until positions are filled. Incomplete applications will not be considered. All completed applications will be acknowledged via an automated email.

QUESTIONS

Please direct your questions to Clinical Program Coordinator Alexis Turner at aturner@ebclc.org.





Alexis Turner
Clinical Program Coordinator
aturner@ebclc.org