

JUDICIAL EXTERNSHIPS

What is an externship and how is it different from a clerkship?

- Externs perform duties very similar to that of judicial clerks, including: legal research, preparing memos and drafting orders, writing draft opinions and stipulations, assembling documents, and reviewing motions, memoranda, briefs, and other documents submitted to the court.
- An externship involves working in a judge's chambers, but for **credit, as opposed to pay**.
- Judicial externships are performed while you are still a student, either during the school year or during the summer in between. A clerkship is a post-graduate, paid position.

Advantages

- The opportunity to strengthen analytical skills and legal writing abilities.
- The opportunity to work closely with a judge and receive insights into the judicial system.
- A judicial externship can offer a nice boost to your resume.

Disadvantages

- No pay, only credit.
- You may take your marching orders from the clerk, rather than the judge.

Applying for an Externship

- 1) Check the externship database for available externship positions

URL: http://www.law2.byu.edu/page/?id=current_students&cat=careers&content=externships

Contact the CSO for the password.

- a. You should be able to find contact information, information about prior externs and application requirements.
- 2) For courts not located in the externship database, check the "Resources" section of this Guide for directories.
 - a. Submit a cover letter and resume directly to chambers.