About the LL.M. Academic Externship Program

Georgetown Law’s LL.M. Academic Externship Program brings public and private sector organizations together with students in our advanced degree programs. LL.M. students earn academic credit by working for employers such as government agencies, law firms, accounting firms, international organizations, and corporations. Externships enable students to integrate theory and doctrine from the classroom with real world experience, leading to a deeper understanding of the law in action.

Georgetown Law LL.M. students have held externships at organizations such as: Alston & Bird, Amnesty International, Caplin & Drysdale, D.C. Office of Tax & Revenue, Deloitte, Federal Trade Commission, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA), International Monetary Fund, KPMG, Office of United States Trade Representative, United States Tax Court, and the World Bank.

Externship Sample Projects

LL.M. externs can perform the following tasks for your organization:

- Conduct legal and factual research in relevant areas of law
- Assist in researching and writing articles, preparing presentations and preparing client alerts regarding recent regulatory guidance and legislative developments in relevant legal areas
- Attend, summarize and analyze legislative and other public hearings on various subjects
- Summarize new developments in the law for a monthly newsletter
- Summarize and analyze proposed legislation
- Prepare compilations, charts and spreadsheets on relevant laws and statutes
- Prepare presentations highlighting recent developments in the law or offering an overview of a particular area of law

Externship Program Requirements

LL.M. students earn two academic credits for their related work for an organization of their choice, within the following parameters:

- Academic externships are unpaid
- Work must be legal in nature and performed under the direct supervision of a lawyer
- Externships at for-profit organizations must be for non-billable work
- LL.M. students must work a minimum of 10 hours each week and a maximum of 20 hours each week for at least 11 weeks in a semester
- Externships are graded on a pass/fail basis

Supervisors of LL.M. academic externs are required to complete a Supervision Agreement Form at the outset of the externship, give the extern regular feedback during the externship and assess student performance at the conclusion of the externship.

For More Information

Georgetown Law Graduate Career and Professional Development
202-662-9036   |   lawllmexternship@georgetown.edu

Extern Supervisor Comments

Extern supervisors have had the following thoughts to share about their Georgetown LL.M. academic externs:

"I relied on [the student] to perform all the functions of a permanent member of our staff...I would fight to have [the student] work for me again in the future."
From a U.S. Government Agency

"[The student]’s work was of professional quality, timely submitted, and well drafted. She quickly grasped the essence of the work that we do … and fast made herself an integral part of our team."
From an international organization

"From day one, [the student] was eager to jump in and assist on any and all matters across the multiple facets of the legal team… [The student] was seen as a trusted and reliable resource and was praised by the members of the legal team with whom she worked for her drive and initiative."
From a company

"[The student] was not a mere extern, but a full member of the legal team. [The student]’s work has been so impressive that our co-counsel has hired him for a year following his graduation from GULC."
From a law firm