



Princeton
Internships in
Civic
Service

PICS 2010 Internship Description

Organization Name: Lawyers For Children, Inc.

Internship Location: 110 Lafayette Street, 8th Floor, New York, New York. LFC's office is located in downtown Manhattan.

Required Dates: Yes No If yes, internship must start on: _____ and end on _____ or must include the period:

Housing Will Be Available to Intern: Yes No If yes, housing will be free: or housing will cost the student:

Expected working schedule for this internship:

Start Time: 9:00-9:30AM End Time: 5PM
Lunch break: 1 hour (duration) 1PM-2PM (specific time, if applicable)

Additional Information, if necessary:

(Please indicate if any of the preparation work will take place outside of the regular work schedule)

Organization Description

Please describe your organization briefly, including mission statement, activities, size etc. Please also explain the benefit that will be derived by your organization by sponsoring a Princeton intern.

Lawyers For Children (LFC) is the leading professional, not-for-profit child advocacy organization in New York City dedicated to representing children whose parents or guardians have placed them into foster care, and who are the subjects of abuse, neglect, termination of parental rights, adoption, paternity, family offense, custody and visitation proceedings. LFC employs an innovative multi-disciplinary approach to child advocacy, pairing an attorney and a social worker with extensive experience as children's advocates to represent over 6,000 young people every year. We listen carefully to our clients, make sure they understand their options and protect their right to a safe, secure and supportive place to call home. In addition to representing individual children, LFC works to effect positive system-wide reform of the foster care system.

LFC's services and special programs for New York City's most vulnerable children, include:

- Individual, Multidisciplinary Legal Advocacy and Social Work Services for Children;
- The Public Policy and Special Litigation Project;
- The Adolescents Confronting Transition (ACT) Project (for youth aging out of foster care);

Princeton Internships in Civic Service is administered by the
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12 Stockton Street
Princeton, NJ 08540
609-921-7948, pics@69csf.org, www.69csf.org



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- The Domestic Violence Project;
- Immigration Rights Project for Children in Foster Care;
- Mental Health Advocacy Project for Children in Foster Care;
- Education Advocacy Project for Children in Foster Care;
- Child Sexual Abuse Evaluation and Education Project;
- Special Project on Behalf of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Questioning Youth in Foster Care; and
- Special Publications for Children in Foster Care.

LFC welcomes the opportunity to provide training and field experiences to students interested in a public service field, particularly those interested in child advocacy. LFC staff and clients benefit tremendously from the energy and enthusiasm that students bring to their internship experiences.

Internship Description

Describe in detail the work or project will do; please be as specific as possible. Please also explain the benefit that a student will obtain by interning with your organization.

An internship at LFC allows students who have expressed interest in child welfare issues to work directly with underserved children and families who are involved in cases before the Family Courts of New York City, and to witness first hand the effectiveness of our multi-disciplinary approach to child advocacy. Summer interns are assigned to assist a staff social worker with every aspect of their cases. Among other responsibilities, interns will assist social work staff in preparing cases for court by reviewing case records, participating in client interviews, accompanying social work staff on home visits and site visits, making phone calls to gather information about the client and the case, and appearing in court when necessary. During the course of their internship, students are exposed to a wide range of public policy and child welfare issues, including the foster care system and preventative services, special education, public benefits, public housing, homeless services, the criminal and juvenile justice systems and drug treatment services and policies.

Intern Qualifications

Describe any particular skills, background, or qualities you are seeking in an intern.

Potential social work interns will have expressed interest in children's services, social services, public policy, human rights or a social work-related field through both direct work or volunteer experience and coursework. LFC looks for motivated high-achieving students with excellent communication skills. Qualified bilingual students are of particular interest during the internship selection process.

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