

EXTERNSHIPS

Program Description

Jeffrey R. Baker, Director of Clinical Programs

The Externship Program provides academic credit for work at a field placement in governmental, judicial and public interest law offices. Students may work in a “for profit” firm only if the student’s work is dedicated exclusively to a governmental or public interest client on a *pro bono* basis, such as where a firm is representing an indigent client in a court-appointed case.

Students receive one hour of academic credit for each 60 hours of work in the field and an additional hour of academic credit for the classroom component. Externs attend the weekly class to explore issues that arise in the field and to examine issues of professionalism, ethics, lawyering and legal decision making. Students also must produce a weekly journal reflecting on their externship experience and tracking progress toward educational and professional goals that each student sets at the beginning of the term.

The following state agencies, courts and public interest firms currently offer externship field placements to students:

Public Interest:

Alabama Appleseed,

Equal Justice Initiative of Alabama,

Georgia Innocence Project,

Legal Services of Alabama,

Southern Poverty Law Center.

Judiciary:

Alabama State Supreme Court,

Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals,

Montgomery County Circuit Court (multiple judges),

Bullock County Circuit Court,

Elmore County Circuit Court and

Chilton County Circuit Court.

State Government:

Alabama Department of Corrections,
Alabama Board of Pardons and Paroles,
Alabama Legislative Reference Service,
Alabama Department of Public Health,
Alabama Department of Industrial Relations,
Alabama Attorney General's Office,
Alabama Governor's Legal and Finance Offices,
Montgomery County District Attorney's Office and
Elmore and Autauga Counties District Attorney's Office.

Military:

42 Air Base Wing JAG Office at Maxwell Air Force Base and
908 Airlift Wing JAG Offices at Maxwell Air Force Base.