

Organization Overview

UnLocal is a community-centered non-profit organization providing direct immigration legal representation and community education to New York City's immigrant communities. UnLocal's client base is primarily undocumented people who are at liberty while fighting their removal proceedings, but we provide a wide-range of humanitarian services, including through participation in coalitions designed to meet emerging needs. For example, UnLocal is part of the Rapid Response Legal Collaborative, along with the New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG) and Make the Road New York, which represents individuals with removal orders who are at imminent risk of deportation and detention. Additionally, in 2022, as a response to the humanitarian crisis, UnLocal launched the Pro Se Plus Project (PSPP) in collaboration with African Communities Together, Masa, Venezuelans and Immigrants Aid, Inc., Catholic Migration Services, Central American Legal Assistance, and NYLAG. PSPP connects new immigrant arrivals to holistic pro se services and to educational presentations that help navigate the complex immigration system. Lastly, UnLocal's long-standing Queer Immigrant Justice Project serves LGBTQIA+ immigrant communities with identity-affirming legal services.

We are seeking a passionate and motivated Legal Intern to join our team for Summer 2025. This role provides an opportunity to work alongside experienced legal professionals, contributing to real cases and gaining hands-on experience in humanitarian immigration law. We value passion, language skills, and prior experience—but we also recognize the unique qualities that dedication and a willingness to learn bring. If you're a rising 2L or 3L with a strong desire to make an impact, we encourage you to apply.

Responsibilities:

- Conduct legal research and draft memoranda on issues related to asylum, deportation defense, post-order defense, and other immigration matters
- Assist attorneys in preparing and filing immigration applications, including gathering evidence and documentation
- Support attorneys with client intake, interviews, and case preparation, maintaining a trauma-informed and culturally competent approach
- Attend and participate in team meetings, strategy sessions, and case reviews
- Engage with UnLocal's community outreach initiatives and educational programs to help raise awareness about immigrant justice

Qualifications:

 Rising 2L or 3L law student with a demonstrated interest in immigration law and social justice



- Cover letter required; please highlight your passion for immigrant justice and public interest work
- Previous experience in immigration or nonprofit legal work is preferred, though not required if genuine interest and commitment are demonstrated
- Fluency in Spanish and/or French strongly preferred to support our diverse client base
- Strong research, writing, and interpersonal skills; comfort working with vulnerable communities

Compensation: UnLocal's legal internships are generally unpaid, however:

- We are committed to working with students to support their application and/or compliance for school-based or private funding
- Should lack of compensation pose a barrier for you, please apply anyway and include that information in your cover letter

To Apply:

Submit your resume, cover letter, and any other relevant materials to Adrian España, Director of Human Resources, People and Culture - Adrian@unlocal.org.