



LEGAL ADVOCACY SUMMER INTERN

The mission of the American Diabetes Association is to prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of all people affected by diabetes. To that end, our Legal Advocacy team is committed to ending discrimination against people with diabetes. **We are seeking a full-time summer intern to join this critical effort. This is a paid position.**

Our Legal Advocacy attorneys provide free phone and email legal assistance to people facing diabetes discrimination across the country. The people we help are often in crisis situations. They may have lost their jobs, have had a child removed from school, or have had a loved one suffer from receiving little or no diabetes care in detention. Others simply want clear information about their rights. We provide assistance in the following areas:

- School and education
- Employment
- Corrections and law enforcement
- Public accommodations and access to programs

In addition, Legal Advocacy contains a litigation program which engages in impact litigation in matters involving or affecting people with diabetes. This work includes authoring and signing onto amicus briefs, assisting outside attorneys who are representing people with diabetes in matters involving discrimination, and involvement as plaintiff in select cases.

Expectations for Summer Intern:

The summer intern will report jointly to the Director of Legal Advocacy and to the Director of Litigation. The intern will receive training in the science of diabetes and on disability discrimination law, and will assist in the provision of legal services to people affected by diabetes discrimination. He or she may provide the following services:

1. Intake for people affected by diabetes discrimination

- Conduct detailed legal intake based on training
- Help with issue-spotting and identifying potential urgencies
- Produce written or verbal case analyses and participate in strategy decisions
- Connect on a human level with people who are often in distress

2. Coordinate Advocacy Attorney Network referrals

- As needed, find available network attorneys and contact them to explain details of case that is being referred
- Report back attorney availability and connect the client with the attorney

3. Perform research projects



- Perform case specific legal research for people with diabetes
- Where appropriate, synthesize the legal research into public-facing fact sheets
- If interested, design and complete a personal legal research project. *The project must be connected to diabetes discrimination.*

4. Assist with litigation activities

While litigation activities can be unpredictable, some examples may include:

- Drafting discovery requests
- Assisting with editing and drafting briefs, settlement agreements, or other court filings
- Conducting legal research on discrete issues related to the litigation
- Participating in litigation strategy calls
- Performing outreach to outside attorneys litigating on behalf of people with diabetes

5. Perform substantive administrative duties on time

- Track projects and hours worked
- Attend staff meetings
- Complete case notes and reports

6. Convey legal information under supervision of Program attorneys *(This is only available for interns who have demonstrated success in conducting legal intakes and comprehension of the law and essentials of diabetes.)*

Summer Intern Skills and Requirements:

- Completed at least one year at an accredited law school, or recent graduate
- Interest in creative problem solving, conflict resolution and nontraditional legal work
- Ability to adapt communication to widely different audiences
- Superior phone and email/written communication skills
- Ability to quickly learn and internalize complex medical and legal concepts
- Ability to conduct broad legal research, not just case law (informal guidance, agency directives, websites)
- Clear, simple, professional legal writing
- Strong organizational and time management skills for a high-volume caseload
- Coordination skills for interacting with a large and passionate volunteer network
- Emotional intelligence
- Positive and collaborative disposition
- Professional attitude and strong work ethic



Any of the following skills strengthens your application, but are not required:

- Disability rights law experience or knowledge, especially in our areas of service
- Detailed understanding of diabetes
- Experience with legal aid hotlines or direct legal services programs
- Spanish language skills
- Identify with broader disability and civil rights movements
- Demonstrated interest in entering public service or public interest work

To apply, please send a cover letter and resume to Sarah Fech-Baughman at sfech@diabetes.org.

The Association is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Prospective employees will receive consideration without discrimination because of race, color, religion, creed, gender, national origin, age, disability, marital or veteran status, sexual orientation, or any other legally protected status.