

Rising for Justice – Tenant Justice Program Spring 2026 Legal Internship/Externship Program

Rising for Justice (RFJ) is accepting applications for legal interns/externs to work in its Tenant Justice Program (TJP), which provides legal representation and counseling to low-income tenants in the District of Columbia. The program fights displacement through illegal evictions, the consequences of poverty, homelessness, and violations of tenants' rights.

Position Responsibilities:

Spring interns participate in interdisciplinary teams with attorneys, social workers, and paralegals to support the legal representation of TJP's clients. Examples of potential work assignments include:

- Conducting client and witness interviews and related investigations;
- Performing legal research and drafting related memoranda;
- Preparing pleadings and other submissions to the Landlord-Tenant Branch of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia;
- Participating in community outreach and educational programs;
- Conducting case record reviews related to impact litigation projects;
- Responding to telephone and email inquiries; and
- Providing additional office support as needed.

Position Qualifications:

Applicants must have completed at least one year of an accredited Juris Doctor program by the start date. Applicants should have a passion for public interest law and a deep interest in pursuing a public interest career; strong academic credentials; excellent research, writing and oral communication skills; keen interpersonal skills; and the ability to work both independently and collaboratively as part of a team. Accepted candidates must make a 10-week commitment at a minimum of 20 hours per week. Up to four internship positions are available. Start dates will be staggered to align with the start of each candidate's academic calendar. This program is primarily in-office. While this is an unpaid internship, participants can gain valuable direct legal experience.

Application Process:

To apply, please email a resume and a cover letter stating your interest and qualifications to Andrew Rabinowitz, Director, Tenant Justice Program at arabinowitz@risingforjustice.org. Please include "Tenant Justice Program 2026 Legal Internship" in the subject line of the email. Finalists will be asked to submit writing samples and references.

Application Deadline:

Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis.