Compliance Legal Internship Program

U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission - Division of Market Oversight

The Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) is a federal agency. We protect market users and their funds, consumers, and the public from fraud, manipulation, and abusive practices related to derivatives and other products that are subject to the Commodity Exchange Act (CEA) and the CFTC’s implementing regulations. These products include futures, options, and swaps. Attorneys in the Division of Market Oversight (DMO) assist the CFTC in its oversight of trade execution facilities (swap execution facilities (SEFs), designated contract markets (DCMs), and foreign boards of trade (FBOTs)) as well as swap data repositories (SDRs), including reviewing registration applications of new entities and ensuring compliance with applicable requirements by those entities after their registration. In the course of administering the CFTC’s derivatives regulatory scheme, DMO is regularly involved in addressing many complex, interesting, and high-profile issues affecting domestic and international financial markets.

This position is an unpaid legal internship for summer 2021. Interns learn and gain hands-on experience while helping DMO attorneys address important CFTC legal matters. Assignments may include drafting new or revised regulations, deciding acceptable practices, crafting no-action letters and policy statements, reviewing filings by registered entities, as well as extensive legal research and analysis of market-related issues and trends affecting the CFTC’s oversight programs for registered entities. The intern may also have the opportunity to participate in internal and external meetings and training programs with CFTC staff and industry leaders in the markets we oversee.

Criteria for the Legal Interns:

DMO is offering full time internship opportunities for current Juris Doctor (JD) students who have completed at least one year of study at an accredited law school, or current LLM students. The CFTC is an equal opportunity employer.

Student must have the following:

1. Top one-third of law school class or
2. Outstanding undergraduate record (e.g., graduation with honors; election to academic honor society; significant relevant academic work, extracurricular activities, or employment, etc.)

Any of the following qualifications are beneficial:

1. Law review or journal membership;
2. Previous legal internship/clerkship;
3. Moot court, mock trial, trial team, or Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) membership;
4. Participation in clinical programs or internships/externships;
5. Graduate degree in finance, economics, accounting or other relevant business specialty;
6. Under-graduate major in finance, economics, accounting or other relevant business specialty; or
7. Experience in derivatives, investment banking, commercial banking, trading, or taxation.

**How to Apply**

Please send the following application materials to DMOInternshipProgram@CFTC.gov with the subject “Compliance Summer 2021 Internship – Last Name, First Name”:

- Cover letter
- Resume;
- Recent legal writing sample; and
- Unofficial school transcript.

Please submit application materials by April 5, 2021. Applications will be considered on a rolling basis.