Southern Arizona Legal Aid Volunteer Lawyers Program
School of Government and Public Policy, CRIMINAL JUSTICE, PMPC & LAW Students

**General Description:** SALA is a non-profit 501(c)(3) public interest law firm, established in 1951, which provides free, civil legal aid to low-income individuals and families in nine of Arizona’s 15 counties and in 11 of Arizona’s 21 Native American Communities. Since 1951, SALA has been a trusted resource and an effective voice for low-income people in southern and southeastern Arizona. Our mandate is to deliver high quality civil legal aid to low-income people who face financial or other barriers which prevent access to justice. Priority areas are: Family Law, Consumer Protection, Housing Rights, Government Benefits, Employment, Education, Senior’s Rights, Immigration, Small Non-Profit Organizations, Tribal-Indian Law, Outreach and Education.

**Internship Available:**
- Summer – Yes
- Fall – Yes
- Spring – Yes

**Deadlines:** please apply by the end of the second week of the semester to ensure that you have the full semester to complete your credit hours if you are planning to receive credit. We may be able to accommodate students who apply later in the semester, but plan on attending at least one to two clinics a week for approximately ten weeks to get the 50 hours needed for credit.

**Internship Description:** Unpaid

Interns have two different options. 1) Students can volunteer for any particular clinic they are interested in during the semester for no credit at their leisure. 2) Students who choose to earn one credit will complete 50 hours in our clinics with volunteer lawyers (and doing some research/drafting, as needed or wanted). Duties are attending clinics, aiding Volunteer Lawyers in the delivery of legal advice or brief legal services to clients, interviewing clients, and assisting clients with legal forms. Students will be directly supervised by the Volunteer Lawyer Project Director, Kristin Fitzharris, but have the unique experience of meeting and working with many lawyers experienced in all areas of law.

**Purpose of the Internship:** Students will have the opportunity to experience the law as it affects people in the community, gaining real-life experience with the practice of law. One-on-one experience with clients will contribute to a student’s client interviewing skills but also hopefully will give them an understanding of how non-lawyers see court cases affecting their lives. With this program, students will experience wide range of clients and civil legal issues and see a variety of practice styles from diverse Volunteer Lawyers.

**To Apply:** Please forward a cover letter and your resume along with a 1-2 page writing sample mguzman@sazlegalaid.org. Feel free to call Maggie Guzman, at (520) 623-9465 x 4172 for any questions. If you wish to volunteer for another unit of SALA, such as the Domestic Relations Unit, please email or call Julia M. Santander at JSantander@sazlegalaid.org, (520) 623-9465 x 4125, or the Consumer Law and Housing Department (areas of law are Social Security, public benefits, Housing, Consumer Law, Bankruptcy, and Home Loan Modification), please email your resume to Matt Waterman at mwaterman@sazlegalaid.org.

**Expected Contact:** I will call you or email you within three days of your application to discuss your participation in the program.

**Contact Person:** Kristin Fitzharris; KFitzharris@sazlegalaid.org

**Agency/Organization Website link:**
- [https://www.sazlegalaid.org/services](https://www.sazlegalaid.org/services)
- [https://www.sazlegalaid.org/get-involved/law-students](https://www.sazlegalaid.org/get-involved/law-students)