

Judicial Clerkships

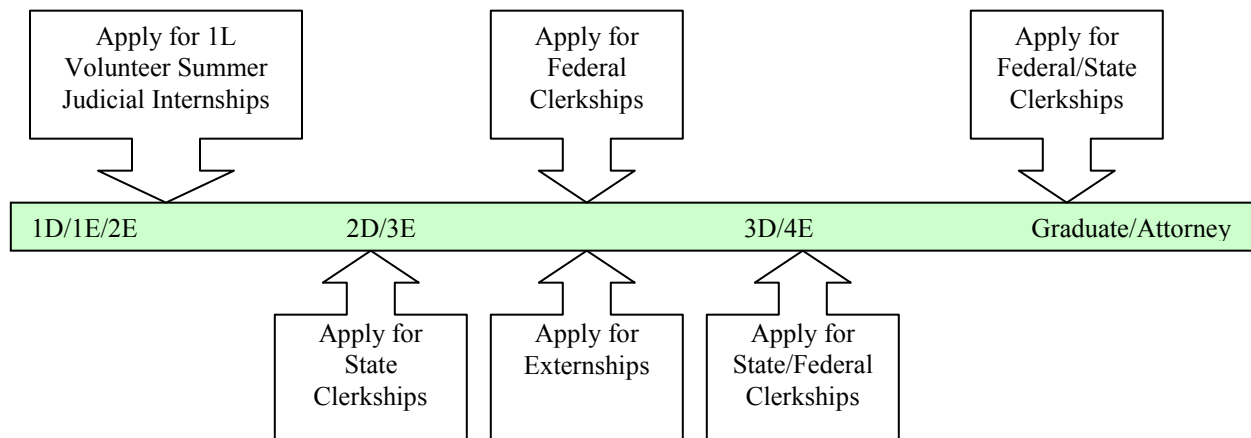
Why Clerk?

Judicial clerkships offer new graduates the opportunity to work closely with a judge for one or two years, gaining unparalleled insight into the judicial process and broad exposure to various areas of the law. Judicial clerkships are valuable credentials and offer a unique opportunity to experience the judicial process firsthand as well as to enhance the value of your resume and to increase your career opportunities. Many lawyers view clerkships as the most prestigious and distinguished way to begin a legal career, and most employers highly value the learning experience judicial clerkships provide.

Clerkships are available in both the federal and state courts and at both the trial and appellate court level. Judicial clerkships at any level court can open up a wide variety of career opportunities, both in the private and public sectors. Judicial clerks also have a very high level of job satisfaction: when asked whether they would clerk again, a remarkable 97 percent of clerks said they would. (*Courting the Clerkship: Perspectives on the Opportunities and Obstacles for Judicial Clerkships*, (NALP/ABA 2000.)

The McGeorge faculty and the Career Development Office encourage students to pursue post-graduate clerkships. The CDO will review resumes and cover letters, help you identify judges who are accepting applications, and transmit your faculty reference letters and other application materials.

Judicial Clerkships Timeline



- Apply for Volunteer Summer Judicial Internships during your 1L/1E/2E year in December and early January.
- Apply for Externships during the second semester of your 2D/3E year.
- Start applying for State Clerkships during the second semester of your 2D/3E year.
- Start applying for Federal Clerkships during the summer before your 3D/4E year.
- Apply for both Federal and State Clerkships during your 3D/4E year, after graduation, and as a licensed attorney.