



117 South First Street • Montevideo, MN 56265

Legal intern

Part-time/full-time positions

CURE is a rurally based nonprofit dedicated to protecting and restoring resilient communities and landscapes by harnessing the power of the people who care about them. We work on a variety of issues facing rural Minnesotans, from water quality to clean energy. Most recently, CURE has been the leading voice in Minnesota against proposed CO₂ pipeline development that will harm rural communities without social benefit, has been instrumental in policy development around data centers, and has opposed the private equity takeover of our energy system. CURE is also growing its existing expertise in public lands and forestry and in partnering with Tribal Nation governments and Indigenous communities. CURE regularly submits comments and argues before the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and engages in administrative law proceedings at many Minnesota state agencies.

Law students interning with CURE will undertake legal research and writing, engaging with local, state, and federal policy. Interns will have the opportunity to gain exposure to state administrative processes at agencies like the PUC and the Pollution Control Agency through collaborative legal research and drafting. Interns will also prepare formal public records requests and assist in reviewing records produced. During Minnesota's legislative session (normally in the winter and spring) interns may have the opportunity to research novel issues, review proposed bill language, and attend (virtually or in person) hearings.

This internship will be fully remote, with regular check-ins with CURE's Legal Director and Director of Government Relations and Policy. For those located near the Twin Cities, there may be the opportunity to appear in person at public meetings or agency hearings. CURE's compensated interns must reside in Minnesota during the internship for tax purposes and to improve the opportunities for collaborative work.

LGBTQ, women, Indigenous, and people of color candidates are strongly encouraged to apply. For questions about the position or how to apply, please contact HUDSON@curemn.org.

Key Responsibilities:

- Legal research in online and physical resources.
- Drafting memos on policy or legal issues to a variety of audiences.
- Drafting requests for public records from state and federal agencies.
- Drafting comments on state and federal agency rulemaking, or other open dockets.
- Interacting with administrative agency staff to obtain information or present CURE's position.

Qualifications:

- Currently enrolled as a law student (JD or LL.M.) and in good academic standing.
- Knowledge and interest in environmental and justice issues. Coursework in environmental or administrative law preferred.
- Possess critical thinking skills with a healthy curiosity.
- Desire to work with rural communities and Indigenous peoples in their efforts to protect their environments and actively participate in our shared democratic future.
- Minnesota resident (if working for compensation rather than purely volunteer).

Legal Intern Skills:

Legal interns should have a strong foundation in legal research and writing, working collaboratively, and completing tasks in a remote work setting. In addition, key skills that legal interns should possess and develop include:

- Analytical: be able to analyze complex legal issues and communicate findings clearly and concisely.
- Communication: be able to communicate effectively with staff, other legal professionals, and our constituents, both orally and in writing.
- Interpersonal: be able to work well in a team and establish positive relationships with the CURE staff and our partners.
- Diligence: proofread written work for errors, legal drafting requires attention to detail.
- Time management: handle time effectively and organize multiple tasks and deadlines.

Supervisors: Hudson Kingston, Legal Director, and Sarah Mooradian, Gov't Relations & Policy Director.

Time Commitment:

- Fall/spring, during semester: Interns are asked to work in 3 – 4 hour blocks. Interns are asked to work between 6 – 10 hours per week.
- Summer: interns typically work full-time (32 – 40 hours per week) and often commit to a total amount of work (e.g. 400 hours).

Outcomes/Goals of Internship:

- Learn about current environmental issues of importance to the state, region, and world.
- Study the practice of law under the supervision of licensed attorneys.
- Gain a greater understanding of the internal workings of a non-profit organization.
- Refine legal research, writing, argument, and other core skills.

Compensation:

Interns may be paid \$18 per hour or can seek work-study credits through their institution with support from CURE. If students need to accrue volunteer hours, CURE also accepts volunteer assistance as in-kind donations. Minnesota residence is required for compensated internships.

Work Environment:

The Intern will work primarily remotely with an occasional opportunity to travel for hearings and other meetings related to CURE's work. CURE is committed to equity and justice. We seek and support diversity of experience and perspectives among our team and are committed to building a workspace where all individuals who share these values can thrive.

How to Apply:

Send cover letter, resume, and legal writing sample to HUDSON@curemn.org and SARAH@curemn.org with the subject line of your email indicating whether you are applying for summer/fall/spring and whether for part-time or full-time opportunities. If you are interested in this opportunity but are unsure if your experience is sufficient, we encourage you to apply. We would appreciate the opportunity to consider your application and how your talents and experience can bring value to this role.