



PIRC
Pennsylvania Immigration
Resource Center

LAW STUDENT INTERN REMOVAL DEFENSE PROGRAMS

Educating, advocating, ensuring access to justice.

“PIRC saves lives. And does so over and over...The lives saved by PIRC include adults and children who face torture in their homelands, victims of sexual abuse and assault, and those fleeing unimaginable violence.”
– Shoba Sivaprasad Wadhia, Director for Penn State Law Center for Immigrants’ Rights Clinic

- Organization Description:** The Pennsylvania Immigration Resource Center provides access to justice for vulnerable immigrants through legal services, education, and advocacy. PIRC delivers support and services to all communities across PA and is committed to a workplace that reflects the diversity of those we serve. All applicants, interns, volunteers, and employees of different backgrounds and perspectives regardless of race, religion, age, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic disposition, neurodiversity, disability, or any other quality that makes them exceptional are valued and treated as equals.
- Position Description:** Under attorney or legal advocate supervision, an intern for Removal Defense programs will participate in the preparation of applications for Cancellation of Removal, Adjustment of Status, Asylum, Withholding of Removal or Convention Against Torture protections (including evidence gathering, briefing, affidavit writing, and document preparation). The purpose of this position is to better understand how to ensure access to justice for vulnerable immigrants in detention. Interns work closely with the detention team to evaluate potential forms of relief available to pro se detainees for direct representation by PIRC or for pro bono referrals. Interns will also conduct intakes for those detained by DHS and respond to requests for legal assistance.
- Compensation:** Unpaid. PIRC is committed to assisting interns in securing outside funding and/or providing flexibility to those with financial responsibilities.
- Qualifications:**
- Law student with an interest in a career related to public interest law and immigration.
 - Superior organizational and time management skills.
 - Solid communication skills. Bilingual proficiencies a plus.
 - Experience communicating with people from different racial, ethnic, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds.
 - Must successfully obtain child abuse and criminal background clearances.
- Learning Outcomes:**
- Working with immigrants facing detention or deportation.
 - Observing or participating in immigration court hearings.
 - Flexing communication style with people from diverse racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds.
 - Understanding the referral resources and social services available to vulnerable immigrants.
 - Experience in legal research and writing.
 - Working independently and taking initiative.
 - Working effectively as a team member by accompanying PIRC staff to liaison meetings with Department of Homeland Security, Immigration Court, and coalition meetings with non-profit partners.
- Location:** Remote with offices in York, Pittsburgh, and Allentown.
- To Apply:** Please send a cover letter, resume, writing sample, and three references to Whitney Phelps at rbrunsink@pirclaw.org.