



Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan

2025 Summer Intern Program Overview

Why intern for PAAM?

- ✓ Interns gain experience in the practice of law and oral advocacy by working in prosecutors' offices.
- ✓ Interns handle in-court assignments typically handled by assistant prosecutors.
- ✓ Interns see the inner workings of the criminal justice system.
- ✓ Interns receive a salary of \$8,800.00 for 11 weeks of work.

Why is PAAM interested in you?

- ✓ PAAM seeks to promote prosecution as a career opportunity by giving interns real world experience in the profession.
- ✓ PAAM interns provide additional summer assistance for prosecutors' offices.

Who should apply?

- ✓ Law students looking to gain actual courtroom and legal experience.
- ✓ Law students who will have completed 40 credit hours of law school by May 9, 2025.
- ✓ Michigan residents or students who intend to practice in Michigan upon graduation.

***** Application deadline is September 25, 2024, for direct applicants.
Those interviewing through OCI must comply with school deadlines.*****

THE PROSECUTION INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

This program offers students a unique opportunity to gain courtroom experience. Pursuant to Michigan Court Rule 8.120, students are given authority to appear and represent the People of the State of Michigan in court proceedings. Though intern duties vary depending on the needs of each prosecutor's office, PAAM interns typically engage in activities such as plea negotiations, bench trials, formal hearings, and case review. Some appear at various family court proceedings. PAAM interns may also have the opportunity to prepare and conduct one or more jury trials during the summer. This experience is geared toward students interested in trial practice and assignments are similar to those given to new assistant prosecutors.

There are typically 15-20 internships available each summer at various locations across the state. **Increased flexibility regarding geographic location improves the odds of being selected for an internship. Applicants should identify only counties they would be willing to work in for the entire period of the internship.** Students should have completed their second year of law school prior to the start of the internship in May 2025. It is expected that interviews will be conducted in the fall of 2024 with placement notifications as soon as possible thereafter.

Internships last 11 weeks and interns are paid a salary of \$8,800.00, based upon a 40-hour workweek at a rate of \$20.00 per hour. **Intern positions are at-will and each intern serves at the pleasure of the host county prosecutor.** The Prosecuting Attorneys Coordinating Council (PACC) administers the program. PACC is a state agency responsible for providing training, informational services, and technical assistance to Michigan's 83 county prosecutors and their staff. PACC's executive staff will interview students and recommend intern candidates to each host county prosecutor. Each host prosecutor will make a final hiring decision after consideration of all the referral and the application materials. Additional interviews might be requested. PACC and host prosecutors will determine which applicants will be accepted for placement.

Interns selected for the program are required to attend a one-week training and orientation prior to starting the internship. The training will be held in the Lansing area in May 2025. This training, also attended by new assistant prosecutors, will orient interns to the duties and responsibilities of prosecutors and provide an intensive overview of legal subjects and trial advocacy. Interns will not receive pay during the training period, however, the training costs including most meals and materials are covered. Interns living more than 50 miles from the area of the training will be provided lodging at no cost.

This information is also available on our website: <http://www.michiganprosecutor.org/>

Intern Qualifications

To be considered for an intern position, a candidate must have the following *minimum qualifications*:

1. The applicant must have completed at least 40 credit hours of law school and be a student in good standing as of May 9, 2025.
2. The applicant must have at least one semester (or term) of law school remaining after completion of the internship.
3. The applicant must be a Michigan resident or evidence an intent to practice in Michigan upon graduation.
4. The applicant must have an articulable interest in the criminal justice system, specifically the field of prosecution.
5. Preference is given to candidates who have completed all the following courses by May 2025: criminal law, criminal procedure, evidence.
6. **An applicant who accepts placement as an intern is expected to complete the 11-week internship.**

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Applicants attending law schools in Michigan in which PAAM participates in on-campus interviews must submit their applications through that process. Applicants attending schools at which PAAM does not participate in on-campus interviews should submit their applications to Jim Benison, the PACC Training Attorney and Internship Coordinator, at benisonj@michigan.gov.

Required pre-interview materials include a cover letter, resume, PAAM's pre-interview survey, transcripts, and a writing sample.

THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN 2025 SUMMER INTERN PROGRAM

PRE-INTERVIEW SURVEY

Name/Address _____

Date _____

Law School _____

Estimated credit hours completed by
5/9/2025: _____

Present Grade Point Average or Class Standing: _____

Please indicate if you will have completed following courses:

- _____ Evidence
- _____ Criminal Law
- _____ Criminal Procedure
- _____ Trial Practice

Have you ever been convicted of a criminal offense? _____ Yes _____ No

If so, please list the crime(s) you were convicted of, including the date and location of each conviction: _____

How did you learn of the program? _____

Have you discussed our program with past interns? _____ Yes _____ No

If you are a Michigan resident, please list your home county: _____

If you currently reside in Michigan, please list the county where you reside: _____

The counties listed below were willing to host PAAM interns in the past. (See the attached map for county location.) Please note however, there is *no guarantee* that these counties will host interns for the summer of 2025 or that you will be selected for your preferred counties. Every county in the state is eligible to participate in this intern program, so there might be new counties that will participate in 2025. (A final list of participating counties will be provided at the time of interview.)

- Benzie
- Berrien
- Calhoun

- Cheboygan
- Clare
- Clinton
- Delta
- Eaton
- Genesee
- Grand Traverse
- Ingham
- Iosco
- Isabella
- Kalamazoo
- Lenawee
- Livingston
- Midland
- Montcalm
- Oakland
- Ottawa
- Sanilac
- St. Joseph

Please indicate below which Michigan counties we may consider placing you in for the summer of 2025:

_____ Commuting distance from my present residence only.

_____ Commuting distance from my home county only.

_____ Anywhere in Michigan (the host prosecuting attorney will generally help you locate appropriate housing).

_____ Only the counties listed below.

Please list in order of preference the counties you would be willing to work in. Keep in mind that increased flexibility regarding geographic location improves the odds of being selected for an internship.

If you have any additional comments on placement, or your availability for the program, please note them here:

MICHIGAN COUNTIES



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Please provide a statement of your interest in the criminal justice system and public prosecution as an employment opportunity. Why do you wish to be considered for this internship?

Signature: _____