

# Denver Law's Child Advocacy Externship Program – Fall 2024

This program trains law students on the underlying legal issues involving children, youth, and their families so students are prepared to advocate on behalf of children in Colorado's courts. It also develops a robust and supportive community of students and supervisors engaged in children's legal work. It includes an externship and a 2-credit specialty seminar.

**Info session: Feb. 21 at 12pm, Room 190/Zoom**

**Application deadline: March 11.**

**Interviews: March 12-April 9. Offers Made: April 10-12. Placements Confirmed: April 19.**

## The following placements are part of the program for Fall 2024:

- **Colorado Juvenile Defender Center**: Engage in juvenile defense, civil rights work, and education law. Rising 2Ls/3Ls.
- **Colorado Office of the Child's Representative**: State agency charged with improving best interest representation for Colorado's children. Rising 2Ls/3Ls.
- **Colorado State Public Defender-Juvenile Unit, Brighton Regional Office**: Represents indigent individuals charged with crimes. Assist on detention hearings, research, motions/trials, and appellate writing. Rising 2Ls/3Ls.
- **Colorado State Public Defender-Juvenile Unit, Denver Regional Office**: Represents indigent individuals charged with crimes. Assist on detention hearings, research, motions/trials, and appellate writing. Rising 2Ls/3Ls.
- **Elie Zwiebel, LLC**: Solo practitioner focused on juvenile civil rights including education Law, juvenile criminal legal system, and the intersection of the two. Rising 2Ls/3Ls.
- **Denver Juvenile Court (Judge Clark)**: Judicial externship focused solely on juvenile issues. Rising 2Ls/3Ls.
- **Koy Dingboom Oates**: Externship at small firm with attorneys who acts as guardian ad litem. Rising 2Ls/3Ls.
- **Jefferson County Juvenile Court (Judge Van Gilder)**: Judicial externship focused on juvenile issues. Rising 2Ls/3Ls.
- **Jefferson County Public Schools, Office of General Counsel**: Externship in the school district focused on the best interest of children, including special education, student safety, and Title IX work. Rising 2Ls/3Ls.
- **National Association of Counsel for Children**: Nonprofit in which students do legal/policy research. Rising 2Ls/3Ls.
- **Office of the Respondent Parents Counsel**: State agency charged with protecting the fundamental right to parent by providing effective legal advocates for indigent parents in child welfare proceedings. Rising 2Ls/3Ls.
- **Stinson Law Office**: Private juvenile defense firm with direct file or transfer cases where youth may be prosecuted as adults. 95% indigent clients. Research, drafting memos/motions; investigation; and observation. Rising 2Ls/3Ls.

## Special 2-Credit In-Class Seminar

If you secure an externship, you also take part in a special seminar taught by juvenile civil rights lawyer Elie Zwiebel. The seminar focuses on the substantive law behind legal advocacy for children and youth. It explores a range of related topics from juvenile delinquency law, education law, immigration law, and other intersections of youth and the legal system. This course recognizes that youth need solid legal representation, regardless of the case type. It is taught from a practical perspective and you get to both develop your legal skills and engage in theoretical debates.

## Application/Registration Information

Submit application packet to [externships@law.du.edu](mailto:externships@law.du.edu) no later than **\*March 11.\*** Include, in a single pdf labeled with your name the following: resume, writing sample, and one cover letter addressed to the child advocacy program. Do not mention different organizations in the letter as this will be sent to all placements you are applying to. In the email, list your top 3 placements as well as other placements you are open to externing. Upload a [signed acceptance form](#) to CORE when placement secured, and waitlist for the seminar, Child Advocacy Practicum. We remove you from the waitlist and register you for field credits once we get the acceptance form. Enroll in fall courses and then drop if needed, once you secure the externship. **QUESTIONS? Contact Prof. Alexi Freeman – [afreeman@law.du.edu](mailto:afreeman@law.du.edu).**