



**SOUTH ASIAN AMERICAN
JUSTICE COLLABORATIVE**

SAAJCO 2026 Summer Legal Internship Program

The **South Asian American Justice Collaborative (SAAJCO)** is an emerging national nonprofit dedicated to fighting for the civil and human rights of the South Asian diaspora. SAAJCO invites applications for its **Summer 2026 Legal Internship Program**.

About SAAJCO's Work:

- *Impact Litigation Program:* In the past year, SAAJCO has been engaged in impact litigation to protect the rights of our South Asian immigrant communities including:
 - Class action lawsuit challenging H1-B exorbitant visa fee;
 - South Asian centered-amicus brief on birthright citizenship in the Supreme Court;
 - USCIS benefits litigation challenging USCIS policies affecting critical benefits, particularly for immigrants from countries subject to the travel ban.
- *Habeas Corpus Rapid Response litigation:* SAAJCO is in the process of building a habeas corpus practice to represent South Asian detained individuals in need of representation.
- *Collaborative Framework:* All of our impact litigation work requires close coordination with attorneys at other civil rights and social justice organizations and/or private counsel at law firms.

Summer Internship Program:

Interns will contribute to SAAJCO's Impact litigation program, conducting legal research and writing and participating in meetings with stakeholders. SAAJCO will endeavor to facilitate educational opportunities with interns from legal defense funds and civil rights organizations.

Qualifications:

- Current law students (1L or 2L) or recent law school graduates with a demonstrated interest in public interest, social justice, civil rights, or immigration law.
- Strong legal research, writing and advocacy skills. Proficiency with Lexis and/or Westlaw required.
- Interest in working on individual representation of detained individuals in federal court.
- Familiarity with South Asian communities and related legal challenges is a plus.

Program Details:

Dates: May 27 – August 5, 2026 (10 weeks, full-time). Flexible scheduling may be accommodated.

Compensation: This is an unpaid internship. SAAJCO encourages interns to seek external funding from their law schools or other programs. Interns may also explore earning academic credit, subject to their law school's approval.

Location: Virtual; Hybrid (in-office/remote) for law students based in DC who will work directly with the Legal Director

To Apply: Please email a **cover letter, resume, and a short writing sample** to contact@saajco.org with the subject line "**Summer 2026 Legal Internship Application.**" Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. *SAAJCO is an equal opportunity employer.*