



A Guide for Law Students to the Corporate Scholars Program Summer 2026 Legal Internships

If you're a law student searching for real-world legal experience - the ACC National Capital Region (ACC NCR) Corporate Scholars Program might be exactly what you need. Over the past 22 years, ACC NCR has placed 200+ law students in paid internships at local legal departments. Alums now work in-house, at law firms, and in government and business.

Who Can Apply?

To be eligible, you need to be enrolled at one of the following law schools:

- American University,
- Catholic University,
- George Mason University,
- George Washington University,
- Georgetown University,
- Howard University,
- University of the District of Columbia,
- University of Baltimore,
- University of Maryland,
- University of Richmond,
- University of Virginia, and
- College of William & Mary.

Full-timers need to be heading into 2L or 3L-year next fall; part-timers can be entering 2L, 3L, or 4L. If you're pursuing a dual-degree, it's best to double-check your eligibility with the contacts listed at the end.

What Kind of Student Is This For?

The program is looking for self-motivated students from diverse backgrounds. Diversity is understood broadly: whether you're the first in your family to pursue professional studies, come from an underrepresented community, or just want to experience in-house legal work, you're encouraged to apply. Strong grades, writing abilities, and a mature, professional attitude definitely help.

Where Will I Work?

Hosts are a mix of organizations - public and private, for-profit and nonprofit, big teams and law departments with just one or two attorneys. These internships are spread around D.C., Virginia, and parts of Maryland. You'll need to commit to an uninterrupted 10-week internship during the summer (no splitting time with other jobs), since the whole idea is to get as much experience as possible in a real in-house legal department environment.

What Kind of Legal Work Will I Do?

Expect to get hands-on experience - actual work that can become part of your portfolio or writing

sample. You'll see how legal and business advice intersect, and you'll learn what it's really like to be an in-house counsel.

How Do I Apply?

Applications are online (https://webportalapp.com/sp/accncr_scholars_application_2026) and due by 11:59 p.m. on Friday, January 9, 2026. After you submit, an independent consultant reviews all applications and forwards recommendations for interviews to the ACC NCR Corporate Scholars leaders. Interviews will be held on Saturday, February 21 (over Zoom). If you're selected, you'll be matched with a host.

How Are Matches Made?

You'll let the coordinators know your location and practice area preferences, as well as rank a list of potential internship hosts. The coordinators also hear from potential hosts about what they're looking for and work to find the best fit for everyone. Location is important too—they try to make sure your commute is reasonable.

Can I Meet My Host Before Committing?

Yes! You'll meet your host before your internship is officially set. If there are any concerns, you or the organization can talk to the coordinators to figure things out.

What If I Need to Withdraw?

Once you accept an offer to be a Corporate Scholar, you're expected to follow through and commit. Remember, spots are limited and competitive—so if you say yes, you should withdraw other summer job applications for the same period. You can only withdraw later under serious circumstances, like a family emergency.

When Does the Internship Start? How Long Is It?

Internships should start no later than June 2, 2026, but you'll coordinate the exact date with your host. The program lasts 10 weeks, and you're expected to work those 10 weeks uninterrupted.

Will I Get Paid?

Absolutely! Corporate Scholars will be paid \$12,000 for the summer. Your pay will be distributed throughout the 10 weeks (minus taxes and deductions) according to the host's usual payroll.

Can the Internship Be Extended?

Your host can choose to offer you a fall internship if things go well, but the extra period wouldn't be funded or overseen by ACC National Capital Region.

This program is an incredible way to get real, in-house legal experience, expand your network, and get paid for your work. If you have questions or want to check details, reach out to the contacts listed at the end of the original FAQ.

Who Should I Contact If I Have Questions?

- Diane Ennist, Corporate Scholars Program Co-Chair, dme2@comcast.net

- Daniel Enos, Corporate Scholars Program Co-Chair, daniel.r.enos@gmail.com
- Richard Spitalnik, Corporate Scholars Program Co-Chair, Richard.Spitalnik@cbre.com
- Nathaly Lescano-Maravi, ACC NCR Manager of DEI Programs and Initiatives, (571) 488-8261, Nathaly.Lescano-ncr@accglobal.com