

Job Title: Summer Associate - Center for Public Research & Leadership (CPRL)

The [Columbia Center for Public Research and Leadership](#) (CPRL), is now accepting applications for a **LIMITED NUMBER OF PAID SUMMER 2023 INTERNSHIPS AND RESEARCH ASSISTANT POSITIONS FOR STUDENTS INTERESTED IN US PUBLIC EDUCATION REFORM.**

Summer Associates will serve as legal and strategy consultants on projects for client organizations that are working to make substantial structural changes that improve the quality of public education in the US, in particular for under-served populations. Summer Associates will work to define the client's project and develop background knowledge; design strategies to conduct due diligence and collect qualitative and/or quantitative information; draft findings, recommendations, proposals, and/or reports with the CPRL team and iterate with the client; and present and disseminate final deliverables to client points and leaders. Past interns have worked with the Camden, Cleveland, New York City, Newark, and Washington, DC public school systems, state departments of education, education-focused philanthropies, charter-management organizations, and other education-focused nonprofits across the US and in Brazil.

**ALL INTERESTED APPLICANTS MUST APPLY BY WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH AT 5PM EST.** As applications are received, we will schedule interviews and make decisions on a rolling basis.

Preference will be given to students who are interested in enrolling next fall or spring in CPRL's intensive upper-level seminar and practicum in **EDUCATION SECTOR SEMINAR AND PRACTICUM**. That course focuses on the governance, legal, managerial, leadership, policy and practical implications of structural changes taking place in US P K- 12 public education today and engages teams of students, guided by experienced engagement managers, in consulting projects for change-minded public education organizations.

[See more about the course here.](#)

If you are interested in a summer internship, please complete this form and upload your application materials (detailed below) to the [Application Form](#) by **Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 5 PM.**

**PLEASE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:**

- Your CV or resume
- An unofficial graduate transcript
- Your written responses to the following prompts:

**PROMPT A.** In 500 words or less, please explain what attracts you to this course and what skills, experiences, interests, and aspirations you bring to it.

**PROMPT B.** Consider the following scenario. A medium-sized urban school district has decided to create a new electronic system to track student academic results and provide teachers a snapshot of student performance that includes an analysis of student strengths and challenges.

The district has engaged CPRL to make recommendations for the design (i.e. key features) and implementation (roll-out and use) of the system.

In CPRL's kick-off call with the client point, the district's Executive Director of Strategy and Innovation, the team learned a few critical pieces of information:

- The district's board and superintendent are invested in this strategy and have allocated significant board meeting discussion time to it. There is also sufficient funding allocated to the project in the district's budget.
- Alongside CPRL's work, the district will be conducting an RFP for a technology organization to customize a platform to the district's needs. The client plans to have this organization use CPRL's design recommendations.
- The district's teachers generally have limited access to and training in the use of computer-based platforms.

In 250 words or less, answer the following questions in the narrative, bullet, outline, or another form:

1. What key steps might your team take over the course of the project to provide the requested recommendations for the design and implementation of the system?
2. The school district has asked your project team to address all important educational, legal, operational, change management, and policy considerations likely to arise in developing the new data system. Name 1-3 challenges the district and/or your team might encounter over the course of the project and suggest steps your team might take to address them.