

Summer Associate, Center for Public Research & Leadership (CPRL)

Hybrid and remote opportunities available

[CPRL](#) is now accepting applications for a limited number of paid Summer Associate 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 developing background knowledge; designing strategies to conduct due diligence and collect qualitative and/or quantitative information; drafting findings, recommendations, proposals, and/or reports with the CPRL team and iterating with the client; and presenting and disseminating final deliverables to client points and leaders. Past associates 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. Summer Associates are assigned to one or two projects with 4-5 other associates, led by a [CPRL Project Director](#).

Preference will be given to students who are interested in enrolling next fall or spring in CPRL's intensive upper-level, intensive seminar and practicum in Structural Change in Education Policy, a course that focuses on the governance, legal, managerial, leadership, policy and practical implications of structural changes taking place in US PK- 12 public education today and engages teams of students, guided by experienced engagement managers, in consulting projects for change-minded public education organizations.

Read more [about the course on our website](#) and indicate your interest in the application.

Application Deadline: March 7th, 2025 at 5pm ET

As part of this [application](#), you will be asked to submit four supplemental documents as PDFs:

1. A resume or CV
2. An unofficial graduate school transcript (if you are in your first semester, please submit the unofficial transcript showing your course list, without grades)
3. A written response to the following 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.
4. A work sample and optional short description:
 - a. Please submit an existing work product you created recently that best represents the skills and strengths you would bring to our program. This can be a project, report, presentation, memo, paper, lesson plan, or any other artifact that you believe best exemplifies your capabilities. We understand that many work products may contain confidential or proprietary information and will be redacted accordingly before submission.
 - b. Feel free to include with the work product an optional description of the product - why you chose it, who the audience was, whether it was edited and/or includes contributions from anyone else (e.g., team members, advisors, etc.), and if so, the extent of their contribution, or any other relevant information for understanding your submission.

Questions? Email cpri@law.columbia.edu