
Internship with the UNHCR Office for Switzerland and Liechtenstein in Bern

Throughout the year the UNHCR Office for Switzerland and Liechtenstein (OSL) offers internships with the legal/protection unit (in Bern and Geneva) as well as the public relations unit (in Bern). The internships normally last between three and six months.

OSL acts as a country office for Switzerland and Liechtenstein. We work closely with the Swiss authorities, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and other relevant actors in Switzerland and Liechtenstein for the protection of asylum seekers, refugees and stateless people. We also seek to support governments to find durable solutions for refugees. The Office is currently based in Geneva, but will move to Berne on 1 October 2019. The Office will, though, maintain a limited presence in Geneva for certain protection activities.

Our interns are part of a small but dynamic team and benefit from individual supervision. They are involved in day to day tasks, but are also entrusted with specific longer and shorter term projects. It is important for us that interns profit from the given tasks and learn more about UNHCR's mandate and activities.

Legal / Protection Internship, located in Bern

Selection Criteria

In order to be considered eligible for an internship, the following criteria must be fulfilled:

- Be a recent graduate or current student in a graduate/undergraduate school programme from a university or higher education facility accredited by UNESCO.
- Have completed at least two years of undergraduate studies in a field of law, political science or related studies and a particular interest in refugee protection and human rights. Persons at an advanced stage of their studies may apply provided they bring along other relevant experience.
- Have an excellent knowledge of German, French, and English.
- Have research experience.
- Have strong drafting skills.
- Practical experience with Swiss asylum and international refugee law would be an asset.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Conduct legal and factual research and collect information on a wide range of protection topics and on countries of origin;
- Analyse the situation of asylum seekers, refugees and stateless persons in Switzerland and Liechtenstein;
- Support the drafting of reports, briefing notes and background papers on matters relevant to UNHCR protection activities in Switzerland and Liechtenstein;
- Provide support in organizing trainings and workshops;
- Translate documents and correspondence;
- Perform other tasks as required.

Allowance

The internship is non-remunerated. However, interns who do not receive financial support from an outside party will receive a Food and Local Transportation allowance (FLTA) to partially help to cover the living costs. The maximum amount of allowance is 1000 CHF. In cases where a sponsored intern receives funding (less than the amount of allowance described above) from the sponsoring institution or another sponsor, UNHCR will pay the difference between this amount and the above allowance, if any. Interns are expected to make their own arrangements for travel, visa, accommodation and living expenses during the internship period.

Application

Please send your application consisting of a cover letter and a CV, and indicating your availability to: [trummer\[at\]unhcr.org](mailto:trummer[at]unhcr.org).

We look forward to your application!