

**Law Student Opportunities**  
**Public Rights Division**  
**Consumer Law Section**  
**Los Angeles**



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The Consumer Law Section of the California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General, is seeking a volunteer law student intern for the fall of 2006 in Los Angeles.

The Consumer Law Section works to protect consumers statewide against deceptive and unfair business practices and misleading advertising. Attorneys in the Consumer Law Section work with investigators and legal assistants to develop evidence of wrongful practices, and then file civil actions to enjoin the misconduct, to recover restitution for the consumer victims, and to obtain payment of civil penalties. The Section also participates in drafting consumer protection legislation at both the state and federal levels. Because of the broad scope of the consumer protection laws, the Section is involved in a wide variety of areas, including: predatory lending; immigration consultant fraud; payday loan abuses; federal banking preemption; identity theft; privacy; auto fraud; telemarketing fraud; and vocational school fraud.

The intern will be trained to assist attorneys in the area of vocational school fraud. Such fraud often consists of the deceptive practices targeted at low-income people seeking a better life for themselves and their families: (1) false guarantees of job placement and high salaries upon graduation; (2) providing instructors that are inexperienced, fail to show up for class, simply read from a textbook, or spend all class time socializing rather than teaching; (3) providing outdated or broken equipment; and (4) guaranteeing the transferability of credits, although such credits are not usually accepted by other schools. Students who become victims of such fraud often cannot get the promised high-paying jobs and are saddled with enormous amounts of student loan debt.

The Consumer Law Section's work has not only led to judgments against several of these fraudulent schools but has also led to the enactment of comprehensive California legislation to protect students from these scams. The statute which protects Californians from vocational school fraud is set to expire as of January 1, 2008. The intern will help attorneys prevent the repeal of this statute by: (1) performing factual research on the scope of vocational school fraud; (2) drafting memoranda on the necessity of extending the current regulatory framework; (3) reviewing and comparing draft legislation; and (4) preparing for legislative workgroup and stakeholder meetings. In addition, he/she will assist attorneys with ongoing vocational school investigations. This will involve legal research, pleading preparation, and witness interviews.

**How to Apply:**

For consideration, please e-mail or fax a resume with a cover letter and a writing sample no later than **September 8, 2006** to:

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