

Host Site: DNA Peoples Legal Services, Inc

Topic of Project: Tribal Law

Location: Window Rock, AZ

Project location may be in any Navajo Nation office, and the host site will work with Fellows to determine which office would be most appropriate. To ensure safety during the coronavirus pandemic, which has disproportionately impacted the Navajo Nation, the host site will consider and may require Fellows to work remotely.

Description of Fellow Project:

DNA Peoples Legal Services, Inc. (DNA)'s Navajo & Tribal Law - Student Summer Immersion program offers the opportunity for students to work alongside and under the supervision of Navajo licensed attorneys to provide outreach, community legal education, and a full spectrum of legal assistance. Legal assistance provided is determined by, and focused on, the legal needs presented by residents in the Navajo communities. By providing services, and living in the community, Fellows learn first-hand about legal issues that commonly impact our Navajo clients, legal remedies we pursue to address these issues, and some unique challenges to serving our tribal communities. DNA intentionally offers a broad-focus Fellowship to provide the student with an experience that realistically represents the work we do, and what it is like to work as an attorney at DNA. The Fellowship requires the student to participate fully in regular office activities, including intake, applicant interviews, case acceptance meetings, data collection and timekeeping, legal research, community outreach, document preparation, and court appearances. With this breadth of integration, Fellows gain knowledge of Navajo law plus a very realistic understanding of the daily professional life of a DNA attorney.

Applicant Qualifications:

DNA can provide housing assistance for potential Fellows.