

Summer clerkship

Where law *unlocks* potential

About this programme

Our three-month, in-person paid summer clerkship will show you what we do, how we work and the impact we make in New Zealand and around the world.

Programme details

Explore the intersection between law and business. Develop the foundation of skills you need for a global legal career. You'll do all this, and more, on our summer clerkship in one of our New Zealand offices: Auckland or Wellington.

This isn't just a chance to shadow our lawyers. You'll play a real role in our teams and take on responsibility from day one. Whether attending court hearings, working with clients, or developing your professional network, you'll experience the cutting edge of the legal sector. You'll discover how law can unlock potential – around the world and in your own career. That includes seeing how a purpose-led organisation makes a difference through pro bono work and sustainability commitments.

The summer clerkship is your chance to see if law is a career you can thrive in. Working across our practice groups and sectors, you'll be giving your career the best platform by developing the knowledge, skills, and behaviours that will support your professional growth.

During the summer clerkship, you will:

- Experience the complexities of our work and discover how you can make a real impact. You'll see how we think across borders to find creative solutions for our clients;
- Join a forward-looking, friendly team while collaborating with colleagues around the world;

- Develop your knowledge and skills through structured learning and development opportunities;
- Be supported by a strong network of supervisors and buddies who will help you build confidence and identify your personal and professional goals;
- Be part of an early careers community, full of talented colleagues who'll become part of your network;
- Explore opportunities beyond your role, including legal tech, sustainability, and pro bono work, to gain an authentic insight into life at DLA Piper; and
- Enjoy a supportive working environment where your wellbeing is a priority, and your workload is managed so you can always deliver your best.

You'll have the freedom to discover your own path and make an extraordinary impact beyond the borders of traditional law. Tomorrow's legal industry can't hire yesterday's skills. Unlock your potential and start building a different kind of legal career.

Show us your strengths in action. Once you've completed your summer clerkship, you could be offered a law clerk position.

What do we look for?

We're looking for people from a diverse range of backgrounds who have the potential to thrive at our firm.

To succeed on our early careers programmes, you don't need any specific legal experience or education, but you will:

- Have an interest in corporate and commercial law and business;
- Have a forward-thinking and entrepreneurial mindset and be excited about doing things differently in the legal industry;
- Be self-motivated, with a strong desire to achieve your personal and professional goals;
- Thrive in collaborative environments, naturally building relationships with others;
- Possess a growth mindset, seeing setbacks as opportunities for learning and development;
- Adapt easily to ever-changing environments; and
- Take ownership of tasks, think critically, and solve problems creatively.

Am I eligible?

- You'll be a current student in your penultimate year of undergraduate study.
- You should only complete one application i.e. summer clerkship OR law clerkship. Please reach out to nzcareers@dlapiper.com if you are unsure which clerkship to apply for.
- You'll have the right to work in New Zealand full time for the duration of the programme. We are unable to sponsor visas for the summer clerkship.

dlapiper.com