

LEAF is hiring a 2022 Summer Law Student!

John S. Poyen Intern (University of Calgary)

The Women's Legal Education and Action Fund (LEAF) is a national non-profit organization with a long history of advancing the equality rights of all women, girls, and people who experience gender-based discrimination through litigation, law reform, and education. Our National Office is based in downtown Toronto, Ontario.

Position Overview

LEAF is hiring a law student to support the organization's work from May to August 2022 (16 weeks in total). This student will hold the John S. Poyen Internship, which is open to first- and second-year law students at the University of Calgary.

The position will provide a qualified student with the opportunity to gain first-hand experience in feminist legal advocacy, receive valuable on-the-job training, and learn more about advancing substantive gender equality rights through litigation, law reform, and education.

The student will work with LEAF's legal team and also provide support to the Project Director of LEAF's Reproductive Justice Project.

If the public health situation permits, the student will have the option of either working out of LEAF's National Office in Toronto, or working remotely. Otherwise, the position will be carried out remotely.

Duties and Responsibilities

- The student will be involved in LEAF's litigation and law reform work.
- The student will be actively involved in legal and academic research, case monitoring, and preparing legal memos and advocacy statements.
- If opportunity permits, the student may be involved in drafting court documents including facta, and may have the opportunity to attend court with LEAF's legal team.
- The student will assist with administrative legal tasks, including preparing meeting minutes and communicating LEAF's legal work to the public.

Qualifications & Experience

- The student must be a first- or second-year law student enrolled at the University of Calgary
- Strong legal research and writing skills
- Prior knowledge of constitutional law and feminist legal theory is desirable

- Time-management and organizational skills
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Self-motivated individual who works well with others
- Good written and oral language skills
- Demonstrated knowledge of LEAF's mandate and legal activities
- Demonstrated commitment to feminism and social justice
- Proficiency in both English and French is an asset

Compensation

The John S. Poyen Internship is a \$15,000 scholarship funded through the University of Calgary Faculty of Law, through a gift from the family of John S. Poyen. The scholarship will be paid in four installments to the student over the course of the internship by the University of Calgary, Faculty of Law.

Application Process

LEAF encourages applications from candidates who reflect the diversity of our communities. We strongly encourage applicants who self-identify as belonging to BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour), newcomer, gender-diverse, and other equity-deserving groups to apply.

LEAF welcomes and encourages applications from people with disabilities for all available positions. Where possible, accommodations will be made available upon request for candidates taking part in all aspects of the selection process.

Applications will be accepted by email only. In the subject line of your email application, reference "LEAF Summer Law Student – John S. Poyen Internship" and your name. Send applications to hiringleague@leaf.ca.

Please submit the following as a single PDF attachment:

- Your cover letter
- Your curriculum vitae
- A list of up to three academic and/or employment references (contact name, phone number, and email address)
- A list of the courses in which you are currently enrolled
- Your law school transcript (or for first year students, your mid-term grades)

In your cover letter, please ensure that you explain why you would like to work at LEAF in particular, and why you are qualified for the position as tied to the duties, responsibilities, qualifications, and experience listed above.



Please do not submit multiple applications or send additional documents.

Applications for this position will be accepted until 11:59 pm EST on January 28, 2022.
Applicants selected for interviews will be notified on or before February 18, 2022.

Interviews will be held during the week of February 22-25, 2022.

We thank all applicants for their interest, but only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.