



Kino Border Initiative
Iniciativa Kino para la Frontera

Binational Summer Internship Position 2018

About the Kino Border Initiative

The Kino Border Initiative (KBI) is a binational, Catholic and Jesuit organization founded in 2008 and located in Nogales, Arizona and Nogales, Sonora. It focuses its work on humanitarian assistance, education, research, and advocacy to promote humane, just, and workable migration policy. Humanitarian services include an aid center for recently deported migrants and migrants in transit in Nogales, Sonora and a women's and children's shelter.

About the Florence Project

The Florence Project is a nonprofit legal service organization that provides free legal services to men, women and children detained in Arizona by the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Although the government assists indigent criminal defendants and civil litigants through public defenders and legal aid attorneys, it does not provide attorneys for people facing deportation charges. As a result, many people go unrepresented due to poverty. The Florence Project strives to address this inequity locally and nationally.

Binational Internship

The Florence Project and Kino Border Initiative (KBI) are seeking one law student intern to work with asylum seekers in Nogales, Sonora, Mexico and detention facilities in Florence and Eloy, Arizona. The intern will be under the direct supervision of the Florence Project and work closely with KBI.

This is a unique opportunity to work with asylum seekers, from all over the world, starting in Nogales, Mexico, where migrant men, women and children arrive to receive humanitarian assistance from KBI. Interns will have an opportunity to collaborate on advocacy efforts to protect and improve due process in the asylum process. This may include documenting and/or filing complaints in cases in which individuals were wrongfully removed from the U.S. despite expressing fear to Customs and Border Protection. Duties may also include assisting in preparing summaries of observations or reaching out to partner organizations in an effort to analyze border-wide trends on wrongful removals, prosecutions of asylum seekers, or other violations of due process.

Asylum seekers are regularly detained for months and sometimes years in prison-like conditions waiting for a decision on their asylum case. Interns will work directly with detained asylum seekers in immigration proceedings. They will work directly with clients, conduct intake interviews, assist with applications for relief, and draft legal filings for use in Immigration Court and at the Board of Immigration Appeals. Depending on court timing, law student interns may also have the opportunity to represent individuals in hearings before an Immigration Judge under the supervision of the KBI-FIRRP Legal Fellow.

We encourage applicants to review our programs and visit our websites at www.firrp.org and www.kinoborderinitiative.org.

Requirements:

This position is based out of FIRRP's Tucson office.

Fluency in Spanish, a valid passport or permit to travel back and forth between Mexico and the U.S., driver's license, and reliable transportation are required. Please note the intern is not required to take a car into Nogales, Mexico, but is required to drive between Nogales, Tucson, Eloy, and Florence, Arizona.

We are seeking law students who have a demonstrated commitment to immigration issues and public interest law and who enjoy working in a collaborative, high volume work environment. Applicants must be able to work independently and be able to take on significant responsibility. Prior advocacy or academic experience in immigration law, excellent writing and interpersonal skills, and experience working with people from different cultures are strongly valued. First year students are welcomed to apply.

Application Process

Candidates will be considered on an ongoing basis. To apply, email a letter of interest, resume, and writing sample to jobs@firrp.org, with "Summer 2018 Legal Intern + Binational-KBI" in the subject line. Please specify if you have an internship preference or if you have no preference). Applicants will be interviewed by telephone, or in person if possible. *The Florence Project values diversity in the workplace and strongly encourages applications from people of color, LGBTQ individuals, persons with disabilities and members of under-represented communities.*