



**THE
SQUARE
CIRCLE
CLINIC**

NALSAR UNIVERSITY OF LAW, HYDERABAD
The Square Circle Clinic

CALL FOR INTERNS

April 27, 2026

The Square Circle Clinic (formerly Project 39A) is a criminal justice initiative at NALSAR University of Law, with offices in New Delhi, Hyderabad, Pune, and Nagpur. The Clinic engages in both *pro bono* criminal defence, especially for death row prisoners, and interdisciplinary research and public engagement on key criminal justice issues, including mental health, forensic science, legal aid, criminalisation of poverty, prevention of torture, wrongful convictions, and science and technology.

The Fair Trial Programme, an initiative of the Clinic, seeks to provide quality legal representation to undertrial prisoners in Yerwada and Nagpur Central Prisons in collaboration with the state legal aid machinery. Through its interventions, the Programme also engages with empirical data to develop resources that aim to drive systemic improvements in legal aid within the criminal defence system.

Through this call for interns, the Clinic aims to develop a robust and rewarding internship programme that provides meaningful exposure to criminal justice issues in India. Towards that aim, we are pleased to introduce our internship policy, under which we seek to accept interns on a rolling basis.

We are keen to have interns in the following areas of our work:

1. **Litigation** - Our Delhi office works to ensure competent *pro bono* legal representation for prisoners sentenced to death across India, irrespective of the offence. Our offices in Pune and Nagpur provide trial-level *pro bono* legal representation to undertrial prisoners in Yerwada and Nagpur Central Prisons.
2. **Mitigation Investigation** - As part of our capital defense work, we undertake comprehensive mitigation investigations. Our mitigation team develops in-depth life histories of prisoners sentenced to death and prepares detailed mitigation reports for submission before courts during sentencing hearings.
3. **Research Interventions** - Our research places significant emphasis on fieldwork and empirical analysis, and engages with a range of issues, including:
 - a. Forensic science
 - b. Science & technology in criminal justice
 - c. Wrongful convictions



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- d. Criminalisation and punishment
 - e. Legal aid in the criminal justice system
 - f. Mental health and criminal justice
 - g. Administration of the death penalty
4. **Strategic Communication** - This work involves developing public communication strategies on critical issues within the criminal justice system in India, including engagement with diverse storytelling approaches across mediums, as well as contributing to the organisation's social media strategy.

Eligibility: The internship is open to students enrolled in recognised undergraduate or postgraduate programmes in law, humanities, social sciences, psychology, psychiatry, or media and communications. Those enrolled in other programmes may apply but preference will be given to students enrolled in programmes listed above. The internship programme is open to students enrolled in recognised programmes both in India and abroad.

Responsibilities: Candidates will be asked to undertake tasks that may involve assisting with litigation activities, research projects or public outreach initiatives. While the organisation shall attempt to account for the interests expressed by the interns, it reserves the right to allocate tasks as it deems fit for its requirements. All members of The Square Circle Clinic undertake administrative duties therefore, interns will also be expected to assist in administrative matters. Interns will be required to observe the working hours of The Square Circle Clinic (10 am to 6 pm) and work from its offices only.

Duration: Internships are full-time and for a period of a minimum of 4 weeks to a maximum of 12 weeks. Candidates must indicate the exact months in their application.

While applications for part-time interns are considered, there is a strong preference in favour of full-time interns. Part-time interns, if selected, are required to intern for a minimum of 12 weeks.

Location: Interns shall be based out of our offices in New Delhi, Pune or Nagpur.

Please note that while we also have an office in Hyderabad, it houses only our administrative and finance teams; therefore, no internship positions are available in Hyderabad.

Stipend: Full-time interns will be paid a stipend of Rs 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only) for every four weeks of internship. Part-time interns will be paid a stipend of Rs. 5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand Only) for every four weeks of internship.



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Application Process: Applications will be accepted only through the online application form available at the link provided below. Applicants will be required to upload their resumé and a statement of purpose explaining their interest in representing prisoners sentenced to death, as well as the contribution they envision making through this position. The statement of purpose must not exceed 750 words. Applicants are also required to submit a writing sample on any issue related to the criminal justice system. The submission may address a legal question or adopt an interdisciplinary approach, and must not exceed 1000 words.

Applications and documents must be submitted only through this link:

For the internship position in Delhi - Please Apply [here](#).

For the internship position in Nagpur and Pune - Please Apply [here](#).

NOTE:

1. Due to the volume of applications, we are unable to provide individual responses. Only successful applicants will be contacted. If you do not hear from us 4 weeks before the proposed start date, you should assume that your application has been unsuccessful.
2. Applicants are required to apply two months prior to the first of the proposed month of internship.
3. The Square Circle Clinic reserves the right not to fill internship positions.
4. Except for work-related travel during the internship, The Square Circle Clinic cannot support travel and accommodation expenses.
5. The Square Circle Clinic works on behalf of all prisoners sentenced to death, regardless of the offence involved.
6. This internship programme is supported by grants received by The Square Circle Clinic.
7. In-person internships are strongly preferred, and remote internship requests are accepted only in extraordinary circumstances.
8. For any query, please write to us at squarecircleinternships@nalsar.ac.in. However, please note that we cannot provide application status updates.