



Massachusetts Access to Counsel Initiative (MACI) Legal Internship

MIRA is the largest coalition in New England promoting the rights and integration of immigrants and refugees. With offices in Massachusetts and New Hampshire, we advance this mission through education and training, leadership development, institutional organizing, strategic communications, policy analysis and advocacy.

The [Massachusetts Access to Counsel Initiative](#) (MACI) is a joint effort between MIRA Coalition, the Committee for Public Counsel Services (CPCS), and a statewide network of immigration services organizations. The mission of the MACI program is to increase access to legal representation for immigrants fighting removal from the United States and to build capacity within the legal community for this work through the recruitment and development of new attorneys. Since the MACI program launched in late 2025, we have provided direct legal representation to over 500 eligible immigrants and refugees in Massachusetts, consistent with the legislative mandate. As MACI network administrator, MIRA operates the centralized intake and referral system and supports the selected subcontractor sites (MACI Network Sites) in delivering high-quality legal services to people who live, work or go to school in Massachusetts. MACI embraces the tenets of universal representation to provide zealous, holistic, and client centered representation regardless of the perceived merits of a case. It is based on the belief that every person facing deportation is entitled to excellent legal representation regardless of ability to pay for a private attorney, background, or palatability of the case.

Scope of Work

MIRA seeks law student interns who are passionate and committed to community, racial equity, and justice. MACI Legal Interns will work closely with and support the MACI team composed of the Legal Director, Senior Staff Attorneys and Intake Coordinators. Specifically, the MACI legal team manages the referral system; provides training, technical assistance and support to the MACI Network attorneys; and offers training and guidance to people on the MACI wait list and community partners.

Legal intern priorities may include:

- Supporting MACI's intake line by conducting screening and follow-up calls;
- Conducting legal research and prepare substantive and procedural guidance documents and template filings for MACI Network Attorneys;
- Synthesizing practice pointers on emerging legal issues relevant to immigration removal defense, including changes to federal, state and local law and policy;
- Assisting in the preparation of community-based presentation and resources as well as attorney trainings and training materials; and
- Participating in MACI meetings and case crunch calls.

Qualifications, Time Commitment & Funding

MIRA invites rising 2Ls and 3Ls with a demonstrated interest in immigrants' rights or immigration law to apply. We are seeking interns who are comfortable working with sensitive subject matters and have a collaborative approach and openness to feedback. Bilingual candidates, especially in **Spanish, Portuguese and Haitian Creole**, are particularly encouraged to apply.

Interns are asked to commit to work a minimum of 15 hours per week. The start date is negotiable. The ideal candidate would be available for 8-12 weeks. The internship is preferred hybrid, with in-person attendance at MIRA Coalition's Boston office one day a week.

The internship is unpaid. Ideally, interns can secure external funding or intern on a for-credit basis including work-study programs and public interest fellowships. MIRA is also committed to providing any necessary information required to receive credit or funding. Potential sources include:

- [The Massachusetts Bar Foundation Legal Intern Fellowship Program](#)
- [Equal Justice America Law Student Fellowships](#)

To apply, send a résumé and cover letter to MACI Senior Staff Attorney Sara Mahoney, smahoney@miracoalition.org. Only applications with both a résumé and a cover letter will be reviewed. Please write "MACI Legal Internship Fall 2026" in the subject line of your email.