

The National Indian Gaming Commission's Office of General Counsel is seeking applicants for a volunteer virtual internship for the summer of 2021.

### **About the NIGC and the Office of General Counsel**

The National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) was established in 1988 by the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. IGRA was enacted to support tribal economic development, self-sufficiency, and strong tribal governments through the creation of a regulatory framework for the operation of gaming on Indian lands. It aims to shield Indian gaming from corruption, to ensure gaming is conducted fairly and honestly, and to ensure that tribes are the primary beneficiaries of the gaming operation. The NIGC was created to address these Congressional concerns and to protect gaming as a vehicle for generating tribal revenue.

The Office of General Counsel (OGC) provides legal advice and counsel to the NIGC on all matters relating to IGRA and compliance with all other applicable laws and regulations. OGC reviews tribal gaming ordinances and proposed management contracts, and provides legal advisory opinions on the classification of games played in tribal gaming facilities, Indian land issues, contract issues, and general legal questions. OGC also plays a significant role in all NIGC enforcement actions and appeals.

### **About the Internship**

OGC is committed to the professional development of new attorneys in the field of federal Indian law. Under the supervision of OGC attorneys, interns may assist with a variety of matters, including legal research and writing for legal advisory opinions and other memoranda; reviewing tribal gaming ordinances, proposed management contracts, and other tribal submissions; and providing legal support in enforcement actions and appeals. The intern will be assigned at least one major research and writing project. The selected applicant will be expected to participate for a minimum of 10 weeks, 30 hours per week. The volunteer internship is unpaid and will be conducted virtually using video-conferencing and collaboration software platforms. Depending on school requirements, the internship may be converted to an externship for course credit.

### **How to Apply**

OGC internships are highly competitive. Interns are selected on the basis of their overall application. Due to the nature of OGC's practice, experience or demonstrated interest in Indian law or a background in Indian affairs or gaming is highly desirable.

Applicants must submit the following materials:

- Cover letter stating desired start and end date;
- Resume;
- Copy of most recent law school transcript;
- Legal writing sample (no more than 7 pages in length, double-spaced).

Applications may be sent via email (preferred) to Shakira Ferguson at [shakira\\_ferguson@nigc.gov](mailto:shakira_ferguson@nigc.gov) or by U.S. mail to:

NIGC Internship Program  
Attn: Shakira Ferguson  
1849 C Street, NW  
Mailstop # 1621  
Washington, DC 20240

The deadline for summer 2021 internship applications is **January 22, 2021 at 11:59 p.m.** Incomplete applications will not be considered. For an application to be considered complete, the cover letter, resume, transcript, and legal writing sample must be received via email or U.S. mail by the deadline. Please email Shakira Ferguson at [shakira\\_ferguson@nigc.gov](mailto:shakira_ferguson@nigc.gov) if you have any questions.

Internship depends upon satisfactory completion of a background check through the United States Office of Personnel Management. If selected for the position, applicants should be prepared to return background materials and fingerprints promptly.

### **Equal Employment Opportunity**

The NIGC does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, membership in an employee organization, or other non-merit factor.

### **Reasonable Accommodations**

The NIGC provides reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities, where appropriate. Applicants needing a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process should contact the NIGC before the application deadline expires. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.