

DCCA Senior Judge Clerkships

The senior judges of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals accept law clerkship applications from law students who have completed two years of study at an accredited law school as well as from law school graduates interested in enhancing their legal experience by participating in an appellate court clerkship. Senior judges serve on divisions of the court with associate judges to decide a broad spectrum of cases before the District of Columbia Court of Appeals. Up to five law clerks are hired each term to assist the various judges in the performance of their duties and responsibilities to the court.

The duties of the senior judge law clerk include: conducting legal research; drafting bench memos; drafting opinions and orders; verifying citations; communicating with the Clerk of the Court regarding case management; working closely with other law clerks to assist the senior judges; and any other administrative duties necessary for the efficient administration of the senior judges' chambers.

Ideal candidates for this position should have excellent law school grades, demonstrated experience and skill in legal research and writing, and a commitment to serving the community. The senior judges seek candidates from diverse backgrounds.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Applicants should submit a cover letter, resume, law school transcript, a writing sample, and three letters of reference for the 2026-2027 term by June 1, 2026. If four semesters of grades are not available at the time of the application, applicants must provide an updated transcript to the senior judges on or before June 1st of their final year of law school. Applicant materials may be submitted to:

seniorjudgeclerkship@dcapeals.gov

or

District of Columbia Court of Appeals
Historic Courthouse
430 E Street, NW, Suite 325
Washington, DC 20001