

*"My internship was truly
a defining point in my life."*

Through it, I decided to become a lawyer. I'm in college now, but I've continued working at my internship site for the past three years, now as their file clerk. My internship gave me exposure to the legal field as well as valuable professional skills. If it were not for Project SELF, I'm not sure whether I would have found my path towards this career."

~ Project SELF Intern



Project SELF

Summer Employment in Law Firms

Since 1995, Project SELF has offered summer internships at local law firms, and other related businesses, to qualifying high school seniors from Santa Ana. Each internship lasts for eight weeks, during which interns are paid for their work. Participating law firms and businesses pay the interns' wages. Internships are made possible through our longstanding collaboration with the Association of Legal Administrators–Orange County Chapter.

Through Project SELF, the legal community is making a significant impact on the lives of Santa Ana youth. Interns are introduced to a professional working experience while enhancing their knowledge, skills, and self-esteem.



**Project
Youth**



1605 E. 17th Street
Santa Ana, 92705
www.projectyouthocbf.org
(714) 480-1925

our internships

Interns set their schedule with their employer and typically work 20-30 hours/week. Internships include these exciting opportunities:

- Access to paid, professional work environments.
- Career exploration within the legal field.
- Meaningful relationships with professional mentors reinforcing the ethics of hard work, responsibility, and task completion.
- Hands-on training in the areas of resume development, professional conduct and dress, interviewing, basic office skills, and business communications.
- The Mid-Summer Education Day, a one-day event where interns tour the Court of Appeals; attend mock traffic courts, drug courts, and a felony trial; and explore scholarship and employment opportunities.
- Recognition dinner at the conclusion of the eight-week internship, to recognize the interns' accomplishments.

"Our firm is committed to giving back to the community."

Every year we are impressed by the Project SELF applicants. Our interns this year helped tackle many tasks that had been left on hold too long. They helped our office tremendously and made a lasting impression with our records department, office services, and reception as well as the attorneys and legal staff. Having a Project SELF intern was a fun and gratifying experience. "

~ 2022 Project SELF Administrator

our impact

60 interns served annually

79% of our interns improved their clerical skills

94% improved their computer skills

94% increased their awareness of professional career paths

81% plan to keep in touch with their administrator/mentor

100% report that their internship provided them with a caring mentor

Project SELF is free of charge and made possible through financial support from donors who believe in and invest in our mission. When you give to Project Youth OC, your donation helps local youth to achieve their potential, empower people of all ages to lead healthier lives, and strengthen the bonds of family and community in Orange County.

