



# Yurok Tribe Office of the Tribal Attorney

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## Summer 2024 Law Clerkship



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The Yurok Tribe is the most populous tribe in California with over 6,400 members. Yurok people are known as great fishers, eelers, basket weavers, canoe makers, dancers, healers, and strong medicine people. The Yurok Constitution charges the Tribal Council with upholding the sovereignty of the Tribe, preserving Yurok culture, providing for tribal member wellbeing, and protecting natural resources within the Yurok Reservation and beyond.

The Office of the Tribal Attorney (OTA) provides legal counsel to the Yurok Tribal Council and the over thirty departments and programs of the tribal government, covering topics as varied as emergency and social services, natural resources, education, economic development, transportation, and fisheries. OTA represents the Tribe during litigation in tribal, state, and federal court to assert and defend tribal interests, advises the Tribe's engagement with local, state, and federal agencies, other tribes, and outside entities, and drafts tribal ordinances, amendments, and policies at the direction of the Tribal Council.

Our summer clerkship program provides a unique opportunity to work closely with Yurok Tribal Council and tribal departments. Our clerks experience the diversity of legal work that makes tribal in-house counsel both challenging and rewarding, including writing internal legal memoranda, drafting ordinances, and conducting policy analysis.

The summer clerkship is a **minimum eight-week** commitment and is unpaid. Applicants are encouraged to seek financial support through applicable public interest programs or scholarships. The Office of the Tribal Attorney is happy to work with students who are seeking school credit for their work. Summer clerks will work in-person at the Klamath Main Tribal Office located at 190 Klamath Blvd, Klamath, CA 95548. Remote positions may be considered.

Minimum Qualifications	Highly Competitive Qualifications
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Currently enrolled in an ABA-accredited law school.</li><li>• Excellent research and writing abilities.</li><li>• Disclosure of any disciplinary action taken or pending by any undergraduate or graduate school.</li><li>• Disclosure of felony or misdemeanor charges or convictions and, if applicable, the name and address of the court(s) involved.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Previous coursework in federal Indian law, tribal law, administrative law, natural resources law, or environmental law.</li><li>• Previous employment in a tribal government or organization working with tribal communities.</li><li>• Familiarity with tribal communities and cultures.</li></ul>

A complete application must include the following application materials, in order and combined in a single PDF:

- Cover letter explaining your interest in this position.
- Resumé.
- Law school transcript, including a list of courses in which you are currently enrolled.
- Legal writing sample, 5–10 pages in length, reflecting little to no editing from another person, including a cover page describing the purpose for which the writing sample was prepared and the degree to which it was edited by someone else.
- A list of 2–3 references, including at least one previous supervisor or law professor.

To apply, email a complete application to [otalawclerk@yuroktribe.nsn.us](mailto:otalawclerk@yuroktribe.nsn.us). Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis.

For more information about the Yurok Tribe, visit <https://www.yuroktribe.org/>.