Organization Overview: Colorado Legal Services (CLS) is Colorado’s statewide nonprofit legal aid program, with thirteen offices providing civil legal assistance to low-income Coloradans throughout the state. CLS provides free legal assistance in a broad variety of legal areas, including family law, public benefits, eviction defense, consumer protection, services to survivors of serious crime and human trafficking, and many others. You may learn more about CLS on the website at http://www.coloradolegalservices.org/.

CLS has strengthened lives, assisted families, and supported communities—one person at a time for over 90 years. We are committed to providing high-quality, free legal advice and representation to eligible individuals throughout Colorado. We have a long history of successful impact and advocacy. CLS strives to bring about substantive, transformational change in the lives of those we serve.

The La Junta office of Colorado Legal Services provides client-centered and trauma-informed advice and representation to low-income people in a variety of legal areas impacting basic personal needs in a resource-disadvantaged community including housing, consumer, family, and public benefits law. The service area of the La Junta office of CLS is a large one, covering the 10 counties of Southeastern Colorado.

Position Summary: Law student interns in the CLS La Junta office begin working with clients on the very first day and can expect to feel essential to our small, two-person office. Individual duties will be assigned based on experience level, but all interns work together with the CLS LJ team to complete applicant interviews, research case histories, draft pleadings, and participate in hearings before courts or administrative agencies. Interns are encouraged to work independently with the support of the local office and statewide program. In addition to client-centered experiences, CLS LJ interns participate in community outreach activities to learn more about the needs of our clients against the backdrop of day-to-day life as part of our income-eligible community.

Qualifications: Legal professional with strong commitment to legal issues affecting low-income people and the needs of a resource-challenged environment. The position requires excellent interpersonal skills and a commitment to service in addition to
an interest in research, writing and interviewing. Candidate should be confident and able to work both independently and as part of a team. Spanish-speaking ability is a plus.

*Compensation:* $6000 stipend for 10 weeks full-time (375 hours). In addition, the position is open to receiving other work study funds that are student generated. Students may apply for course credit through their Externship Program.

*Location:* La Junta, Colorado in the La Junta office of Colorado Legal Services.

*How to Apply:* The La Junta office requires a resume as well as a cover letter outlining qualifications and why the intern is specifically interested in interning for the La Junta office of Colorado Legal Services. To ensure consideration, the cover letter must make reference to the specific location of the La Junta office as a small office in a rural, underserved environment. Please send to eharris@colegalserv.org.