

**Application Requirements and Selection Standards for the
University of Maryland Carey School of Law-
Inter-American Court of Human Rights
Externship**

The University of Maryland Carey School of Law has entered a covenant with the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in San José, Costa Rica (the “ICHR Program”) for law students interested in international human rights. Students will be eligible to receive academic credit for the externship. The School of Law may recommend up to three students to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (the “ICHR”) for one of the highly competitive positions; however, the ICHR makes the final selection of students to participant in the ICHR Program.

Application Requirements

All University of Maryland law students who have completed one year of study and are in good standing may apply for the ICHR Program. Applicants must have good oral and written skills in English and Spanish, as Spanish is the principle language used at the Court. In addition, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights requires a minimum three (3) month commitment from the student. Students are encouraged to apply for opportunities at the Court in the fall and spring semesters, but students may also apply for the summer term. Students interested in applying for the ICHR Program must submit an application to Crystal Edwards (Suite 260) by **February 1** for the summer and the fall semester; and **October 1** for the spring semester.

The application must contain:

1. A completed Application Form for Participation by School of Law students in the ICHR Program including the name of a reference from a member of the faculty of the law school. The application form is available at the International and Comparative Law Program website (<http://www.law.umaryland.edu/specialty/international/externships.asp>);
2. A copy of the completed ICHR application (available at the Inter-American Court of Human Rights website - <http://www.corteidh.or.cr/pasantias.cfm>)*;
3. A University of Maryland School of Law transcript/grade report;
4. A current resume; and
5. A statement of up to 500 words describing your educational objectives and reasons for wanting to participate in the ICHR Program.

*Information and materials are available in both Spanish and English on the Court’s website: <http://www.corteidh.or.cr/index.cfm>.

Selection Standards

Each semester select members of the International Law Program Committee (the “Committee”) responsible for overseeing the ICHR Program will select up to three (3) students from the pool of eligible applicants to participate in the ICHR program. If selected by the Committee, the School of Law will provide a letter of recommendation to include with the student’s application to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. **Applicants must also demonstrate to the Committee that they have a sufficient command of the Spanish language to participate fully and successfully in a social, professional and academic environment in the Spanish language.** The Committee will exercise its discretion to select the overall best academic and ambassadorial representative of the School of Law based upon each applicant’s academic and other record at the law school, the strength of the personal statement, and any information from the faculty reference. After selection by the Committee, the selected student(s) will have the responsibility to complete and forward in a timely manner to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights all required application materials for consideration by the Court. Participation in the ICHR Program does not exempt students from any requirements for the J.D. degree at the School of Law.

Additional Information

The Inter-American Court of Human Rights application (<http://www.corteidh.or.cr/pasantias.cfm>) asks whether the applicant is from an institution that has a covenant with the Court. Selected students should list Professor Peter Danchin, University of Maryland School of Law as the contact person from the School of Law.