Merchant & Gould – TCDIP 1L Summer Associate

Merchant & Gould is proud to participate in the Twin Cities Diversity in Practice (TCDIP) 1L Clerkship and the 2027 Summer Associate Program.

For decades, our Summer Associate Program has served as a primary pathway for law students to begin their careers at Merchant & Gould. This **10-week program** welcomes talented first-year law students from all backgrounds and provides a challenging, engaging, and rewarding experience that offers meaningful exposure to the practice of intellectual property law.

Program Overview

Our Summer Associates work closely with experienced attorneys on substantive legal assignments that reflect the responsibilities of first-year associates. The program is designed to provide hands-on experience, professional development, and opportunities to build relationships across the firm.

We believe that gaining exposure to both patent prosecution and intellectual property litigation is an important part of the summer experience. Summer Associates are encouraged to explore both practice areas to develop a broader understanding of IP law and identify their professional interests.

Throughout the 10-week program, participants receive ongoing feedback, with formal evaluations conducted at the program's midpoint and conclusion. All Summer Associates are considered for full-time associate positions following the program.

Training & Professional Development

Our weekly In-House Training Program introduces Summer Associates to a broad range of intellectual property practice areas and provides opportunities to develop practical legal skills. Participants are also invited to attend monthly practice group meetings and attorney training seminars to further their understanding of the firm's work, clients, and culture.

Firm Culture & Summer Activities

At Merchant & Gould, we value collaboration, mentorship, and building meaningful professional relationships. Throughout the summer, we host a variety of social events, from organized firm gatherings to casual outings, giving Summer Associates opportunities to connect with attorneys and colleagues in a welcoming and supportive environment.

Office Location

This opportunity is available in our **Minneapolis office**.

Internal Only - not intended for external sharing

Preferred Qualifications

- Undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, life sciences, or a related technical field
- Advanced degree or relevant industry experience preferred
- A scientific or technical background is not required for candidates interested in litigation
- Academic standing in the top 25% of undergraduate and law school classes preferred

Compensation

$3,600 per week

Application Materials:

Please submit a cover letter, resume, undergraduate and law school transcripts, and a writing sample through the Merchant & Gould Career Page.

Equal Employment Opportunity

Merchant & Gould provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants and strictly prohibits discrimination and harassment of any kind based on race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, disability, genetics, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state, or local laws.

This policy applies to all aspects of employment, including recruiting, hiring, promotion, compensation, training, and other terms and conditions of employment.

We welcome and encourage candidates with disabilities to apply. If you require accommodation during the application or recruiting process, please contact our Human Resources Department at humanresources@merchantgould.com or 1-612-332-5300.

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