Judicial Clerkships

The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals is the State's highest court for criminal cases. Each Judge on the Court hires one law clerk for a one-year term that begins on September 1. Applications are open to all law students who will have completed their legal studies by the beginning of the clerkship, as well as licensed attorneys.

Law clerks are responsible for conducting legal research, reviewing applications for writs of habeas corpus, reviewing petitions for discretionary review, preparing for oral argument, and drafting opinions. Strong preference is given to candidates with an interest in criminal and appellate law who have demonstrated an ability to research and write effectively.

To apply, email a cover letter, résumé, law-school transcript, writing sample, and up to three letters of recommendation in separate PDF attachments to each Judge you wish to apply to, using the following email addresses: SchenckApps@txcourts.gov; RichardsonApps@txcourts.gov; YearyApps@txcourts.gov; NewellApps@txcourts.gov; WelkerApps@txcourts.gov; Mellapps@txcourts.gov; FinleyApps@txcourts.gov; ParkerApps@txcourts.gov; Mellapps@txcourts.gov; FinleyApps@txcourts.gov; ParkerApps@txcourts.gov; Mellapps@txcourts.gov; <a hre

The subject line of your email must include your name, "Law Clerk Application," and the clerkship year for which you are applying.

There are no application deadlines. Each judge hires on his or her own timetable. We do not respond to questions about the status of an application or whether a particular judge has completed hiring.

The Court of Criminal Appeals is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of a person's race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age (40 or older), disability or genetic information. The annual salary for a law clerk is approximately \$74,502.