




Frank
Bold
Legal
Internship

At law firms, courts, and public offices, at ministries, businesses, and the Office of the Public Defender of Rights, as well as at non-profits including Frank Bold itself—in all of these places you can find alumni of the Frank Bold legal internship program.

Since 1995 we've been providing law students with an opportunity to experience how using the law can change the world for the better.

"I've always been interested in things around me, but the internship has opened my eyes even more."
Vojtěch Dědek,
Frank Bold intern since 2014





“With each new group of interns, there are always new ideas to work with. We look for inspiration abroad. We seek new partnerships. Frank Bold itself keeps changing, and so do our work and activities. We thus face a constant challenge: how to best involve our interns and pass on as much as possible to them in the process—so that they gain relevant experience and may then benefit from the internship in their own legal practice. I’m very happy that our alumni tend to keep in touch, engage in our pro bono activities, meet with us and each other, and share their knowledge and experience.”



Jana Kravčíková

Head of the Legal Internship Program

“I started off my career at Frank Bold as a volunteer myself, as did many of my current teammates. I can affirm that a direct encounter with legal practice leads to a deeper understanding of law during one’s studies. The key element in our internship program, however, is that the students not only gain knowledge and practical experience, but also carry out work that’s beneficial for society.”



Pavel Franc

CEO of Frank Bold

The Internship You Shape Yourself

During a Frank Bold internship, you'll get a chance to join in a wealth of activities under the supervision of experienced lawyers and mentors. You might...

- Help active citizens protect the environment and press for corruption-free administration.
- Help a client to solve a tricky legal issue.
- Research and review legislation, case law, and published articles.
- Design a legal strategy for a specific case.
- Draw up a lawsuit, appeal, cassation complaint, or other legal document.
- Explain a legal issue in layman's terms.
- Attend a town council meeting.
- Communicate with public officials.
- Request information under the Freedom of Information Act.
- Inspect a case file.
- Write a legal manual for an online counselling center.
- Prepare and facilitate a law workshop for your colleagues, students, or other active citizens.
- Get involved in a public campaign advocating social change.



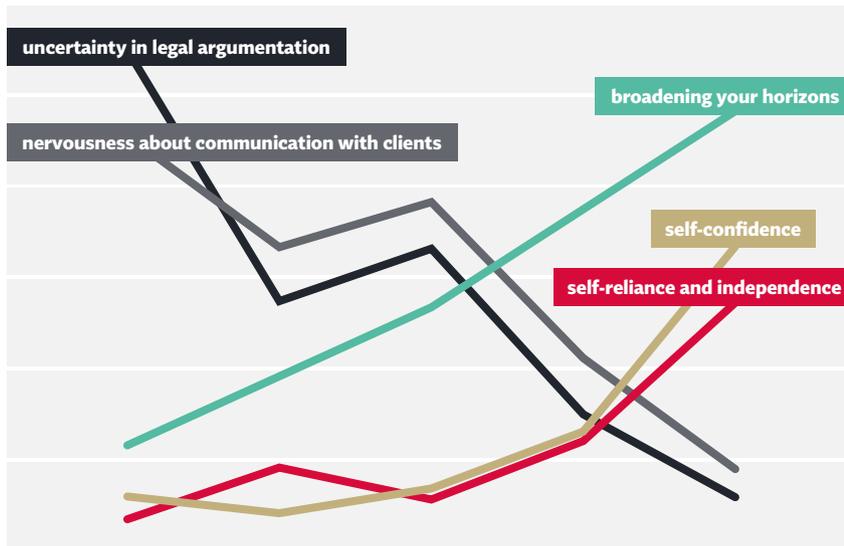
An intensive two-day initial training will prepare you for the many situations that may arise when communicating with a client.



At meetings of active citizens, you'll have an opportunity to hone your organizational skills and to meet the people whom you're helping together with Frank Bold.

You'll Hear Your Independence Growing

You'll gain knowledge and experience in environmental law, construction law, local-administration law, energy law, civil law, and commercial law, as well as numerous other hard and soft skills.



“In fact, I’m at my current job thanks to my Frank Bold internship, because that was where I first realized how interesting construction law can be. I didn’t have that feeling at school—quite the contrary. And the gradually growing self-reliance I developed during the internship—that was just fantastic!”

Martin Studnička

2013 Frank Bold intern, lawyer at the Office of the Public Defender of Rights

“I learned many practical things, like how to approach legal cases effectively and formulate my answers as clearly and concisely as possible.”

Martin Vejtasa

2015 Frank Bold intern

You'll Be Aiding...

- citizens who are changing their communities and the world for the better
- social and technological innovations that help to address social challenges
- companies of the future as they develop their visions, values, and social responsibility
- the fight for less corruption and more transparency in public administration



Thanks to Miroslav Seiner and We Protect the Trees, dozens of healthy trees in Pardubice that originally were to be felled are still standing strong.

“Our intern Petra helped us to prepare a lawsuit in a dispute with the Building Authority, which had refused to inform us about land-use proceedings in which environmental protection could be violated. The Authority prevented us from joining these proceedings. The lawsuit was successful, the court decided in our favor.”

Ladislava Filipová

Stop tunelům [Stop Tunneling]

“When we started the fight to protect a growth of old but valuable riverside trees, our intern Filip’s help was invaluable. We’re no beginners, but we were lost in a tangle of arguments in the documents presented. An appeal that Filip prepared succeeded, bringing salvation for the habitat of a critically endangered beetle species, and a lesson for officials: that they cannot do whatever they please.”

Miroslav Seiner

Chráníme stromy [We Protect the Trees]

“Our intern Michaela helped us file an objection on systemic bias in the land-use proceedings for an urban bypass. The mayor was intimidating participants in the proceedings by claiming he would publish their personal data. The submission Michaela prepared was professionally and linguistically superb, and made the city representatives start behaving more appropriately.”

Michal Kudrnáč

Sbor dobrovolných občanů
[Citizen Volunteer Committee]

You Can Become a Frank Bold Intern if...

- You can spend at least one year at Frank Bold, working at least 20 hours a month.
 - You want a real internship, not just a certificate.
 - You want to make the world a better place—by defending the environment, promoting transparency in public administration, helping active citizens, and fighting corruption.
 - You appreciate constructive criticism, feedback, and mentoring by experienced lawyers.
 - You are able to work in a team where we share both successes and mistakes, and respect our agreed-on rules.
 - You want to and can work towards publicly beneficial goals for free.
 - You are willing to adapt your internship to suit your skills and abilities.
- You are proactive and work with dedication.
 - You focus on solutions, not problems—you are results-oriented.

“Law students have been involved in Frank Bold’s activities since 1995. This cooperation is based on a constant foundation: the interns as partners; an emphasis on their professional growth; and direct contact with legal cases. Our offices, the law, cases, and the types of questions we receive from clients have changed. What never wavers is the energy and motivation with which interns, and those who take care of them at Frank Bold, approach their work.”



Donika Zúbková

Coordinator of the Internship Program

“In hindsight, the main benefit of my internship was that from the very beginning, despite being in the early stages of my studies, I was handling cases from areas I had virtually no experience with at the time. It was a huge challenge for me. Today in my practice, when I encounter an area I’m not well versed in, I apply the same determination as back then and, in fact, proceed exactly as I learned at Frank Bold.”

Veronika Hejnová

2010 Frank Bold intern, lawyer

“My internship at Frank Bold is adding a new, realer dimension to my studies. I see how the law is meaningful and can be used to help.”

Kristýna Kodetová

2015 Frank Bold intern

Apply for an Internship

You must have completed at least your first year of law school. It doesn't matter which one—much of the internship can be carried out long-distance.

The recruitment process, including an assessment center, takes place every spring and autumn.

- Contact us at koordinator@frankbold.org.
- We'll let you know how and when to apply.
- Join us on Facebook.

“Students who do the internship—and therefore not only understand the legal issues we deal with but also share our values and vision—provide an invaluable aid for our law firm. Their commitment and enthusiasm, and their willingness to learn and help with meaningful things, are an important bonus in my work.”



Pavel Černý

Partner and lawyer,
Frank Bold Advokáti



Kateřina Šimáčková debated with current and former interns at this November 2015 Frank Bold Alumni meeting.

We partner with the staff at law schools in Brno, Prague, and Olomouc.

“I highly support internships by law students at non-governmental organizations, because they frame students’ notions of social responsibility and their future professional values. Our students have had the good fortune to receive a first-rate education, and thus should do their duty to help those who have not. Practical experience from the non-profit sector further strengthens students’ empathy towards the vulnerable, and motivates them to study harder as they recognize that their knowledge can be valuable in real cases. In the process, they often realize that there are practical gaps in their knowledge.

When educating future lawyers, it is important to bolster ethics and pass on values to students. Only then can the law properly play its role in a democratic legal state. When today’s student interns are practicing law, I believe they will still remember their experience at non-profit organizations where they protected the rights of those in need.”

JUDr. Kateřina Šimáčková, Ph.D.

Professor at the Masaryk University Faculty of Law, judge at the Constitutional Court

“We have excellent cooperation with Frank Bold, as is confirmed among other things by our students’ sustained interest in Frank Bold internships. Students educated mainly in defending clients’ private interests suddenly get an opportunity to work in an environment where the main aim is solving matters of public interest; that is good, because it gives them the freedom to choose their future specialization.

Under the guidance of an experienced lawyer (mentor), students are introduced to Frank Bold and its activities, and they work on “live” cases of administrative and judicial proceedings. In this way, they not only deepen their theoretical knowledge but also apply it in practice. Hopefully this will help them to understand the role and importance of environmental lawyers.”

doc. JUDr. Vojtěch Stejskal, Ph.D.

Professor at the Charles University Faculty of Law

“For me, an internship at Frank Bold is mainly about the opportunity to further develop an interest in public affairs. There are not many internships that provide a chance to apply the law while actively participating in specific local cases—and to do that alongside a team of people who have a say in the public space. In addition, many employers know and appreciate that Frank Bold interns don’t just end up filing forms and making coffee.”

Michal Bouška

2013 Frank Bold intern, articling attorney-at-law



“An internship at Frank Bold means having an important place where values and their practical application really matter. It’s a place where professionalism, humanity, and a vision meet.”

Petra Marie Giňová,
2015 Frank Bold intern,
lawyer at Frank Bold

“As confirmed by my students, a Frank Bold legal internship is one of the most valuable kinds of experience law students can get during their studies. Knowledge and practical experience with environmental law is currently a huge competitive advantage, not only for those who are interested in environmental protection, but also for those who would like to practice for example commercial law. Almost every law-school graduate knows civil, criminal, and commercial law. However, not everyone just entering their career can boast practical knowledge of environmental or construction law—which allows them to offer qualified legal advice to investors. An internship at Frank Bold is also valuable because you get a chance to work on real cases using your own creativity and initiative. And yet meanwhile you always have someone to turn to for help or advice. For Frank Bold’s lawyers, it is a pleasure to work with students; there’s a lot of emphasis on professional mentorship of the interns. And what’s more, an internship at Frank Bold is worth it even for just the feeling that you are part of a team of lawyers who know how to use the law to change the world.”

JUDr. Veronika Tomoszková, Ph.D.

Professor at the Palacký University Faculty of Law

The C. H. Beck publishing house provides our interns with free access to the Beck-online legal information system.

“At Publishers C. H. Beck, we like to support meaningful projects in a way that actually helps. We are therefore pleased that our Beck-online service can support young lawyers whose aid then goes where it is needed.”

Ondřej Nejezchleb

Beck-online

Each Year of Frank Bold Internships Means...

15+

interns

5,880

hours of experience

40+

local cases
with active citizens

300+

pro bono
consultations
for active citizens

40+

motions written

350+

hours manning
the phone at our
counselling center

140

online manuals
updated

120+

case law summaries

5+

educational events
and legal workshops
for the public

**100 hours
of mentoring
and training
for each intern:**

- a two-day intensive initial training
- know-how and experience sharing
- case supervision by experienced lawyers
- individual mentoring
- a reflective journal

 **Frank Bold** combines theory with experience, deepening understanding of the law. It is a partner for active citizens, responsible companies, and open cities and municipalities.



Mgr. Jana Kravčíková

Head of the Frank Bold
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More information on the internship

www.frankbold.org/pravni-staz

Follow us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/frankboldlive

An intern's first day

Watch a video by our interns:
www.frankbold.org/video

Frank Bold is a consortium of Frank Bold Society, a non-governmental and non-profit organization, and Frank Bold Advokáti, a law firm. The law firm is the first certified B Corporation® in the Czech Republic. It supports the publicly beneficial objectives of Frank Bold Society. Frank Bold strives to combine the best of both business and non-profit approaches so as to solve social and environmental problems and promote the vision of a free and responsible society.

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