

Corcoran French has a rich history serving clients across Canterbury and the West Coast for over 125 years.

This summer is your opportunity to be a part of that history.

Corcoran French is the perfect launchpad for your legal career!

We are known for our exceptional legal services, we offer a dynamic environment where you can truly make your mark. It's important to us to create an environment where you can thrive and where you are celebrated for being you.

We're passionate about professional development, providing countless opportunities for growth and advancement.

You'll be part of a supportive team that values your contributions and encourages you to reach your full potential.

Why us?

Corcoran French is a great place to practice law.

Not only are we invested in your long term professional development, we also truly care about your aspirations, what is important to you, and what drives you to be the best version of you.

At the heart of our culture, is our people. At Corcoran French, we ensure that we truly understand you.

Our culture is what sets us apart from other firms. It's exceptional and we work hard to maintain it.

We also believe that by working with us you will enjoy a broader range of work. Getting to experience four areas of law, while only being a Summer Clerk, is an experience you don't get offered everyday.



Grace Aislalie

Summer Clerk 2023/2024
Law Clerk 2025
Solicitor 2026

'From the moment I accepted a place with Corcoran French I felt welcomed and supported by the firm. The team provided me with plenty of opportunities to get to know my colleagues in supportive environments so that when my clerkship started I was already comfortable with who I was working with. This continued throughout my clerkship, with opportunities to go to different firm events and join the social netball team.

The Summer Clerk Programme that Corcoran French offers is very unique due to how it exposes you to several different teams and areas of law. This is something that I benefited from. I have always found it difficult to decide exactly what I would like to do in the future, so to be able to experience several different kinds of practice has been invaluable.'



Lucy Roberts

Summer Clerk 2022/2023
Law Clerk 2024
Solicitor 2024

'My Summer Clerk experience at Corcoran French can only be described as top tier. From day one I felt both supported and welcomed into the team. A unique feature of the Corcoran French programme is the mentor system. During each rotation I was paired with a junior lawyer, enabling me to feel well supported. Additionally, I was able to see and experience what a typical day is like for a junior lawyer. The mentor system provided me with the confidence required to work with staff at all levels of the firm.'



Summer Clerkship

Christchurch
Kaipoi
Greymouth

info@cflaw.co.nz
cflaw.co.nz



CORCORAN FRENCH

About the programme:

1 What area of law will I work in?

You will work across all of our teams during your summer with Corcoran French. In no particular order your time will be divided into four blocks:

Christchurch Commercial. During this time you will receive exposure to the day to day running of our commercial law team which could involve property, contract law, trusts or estate work.

Litigation. You may attend court with our litigators (it depends on scheduled court appearances) and get real litigation experience.

Kaiapoi Commercial & Estates. Based in our Kaiapoi office, you'll do similar work to what you will have done with our Christchurch commercial team. You'll also spend time working in our Kaiapoi estates team.

Family. You'll receive exposure to the range of family law matters that the team deal with, including relationship property, care of children, family violence, family court and dissolutions.

Greymouth. You'll have the option to be based out of our Greymouth office, if that is something you would prefer or if you are originally from the West Coast. Our Greymouth office is general practice, however, you will still experience the same four areas of law.

2 Will I have client contact?

Absolutely. We think it is important for you to have client contact and wherever there is an appropriate opportunity you will be included. This will be alongside one of our experienced lawyers.

3 What hours will I work?

You will work a standard full-time working week. Our expectation is that you will have a strong work/life balance while working at Corcoran French. You will work hard in office but we don't expect you to be working late into the night.

4 Will I be paid?

Yes! You will be paid a market wage. You will also be paid during our close down period over Christmas.

5 Who is Corcoran French looking for?

We are looking for somebody who is committed to the values of our firm and the work we do. Check out our website for more details about us and the areas of law we practice.

6 Who will look after me during my summer clerkship?

We have buddies in each of our teams who will look after you on a daily basis. Your buddy will act as your mentor while in their team and they will be able to answer all the questions that you have and give you guidance day to day. Our buddies are young lawyers who are relatable, and who remember their summer clerk days clearly!

7 What dates will my summer clerkship begin and end?

We are flexible about this and can work around you. We anticipate mid-November to mid-February with around three weeks off during the Christmas break. We'll finalise these dates closer to the time and we'll even pay you during the Christmas break so that you can relax and enjoy your summer holiday!

9 What is the application process?

Our applications open on Monday 2nd March 2026 and close at 5pm on Friday 27th March 2026. We plan to interview in late April, early May and offers will be made shortly after.

10 How do I apply?

Email your CV, academic transcript and cover letter in one single PDF to:

Jo Yusaf - People, Brand & Administration Manager
jo@cflaw.co.nz

If you have any queries at all, get in touch with Jo.



Zia Garcia

Summer Clerk 2021/2022
Law Clerk 2022/2023
Solicitor 2024/2025
Senior Solicitor 2025

'As someone who has had the pleasure of completing two summer clerkships with Corcoran French, it has been the most rewarding experience. Following my graduation, I have had the opportunity to transition into a permanent position and have been supported the whole way through my journey.

Corcoran French was very understanding and accommodating when I was completing my final year of study whilst working part-time in the office. The support provided to me as I navigated graduating and being admitted was immense and continues to be something that has made my start to the legal profession such a positive experience. Everyday I feel more and more at home with the team and being involved in many team bonding activities outside of the office has allowed my relationships to grow even further. I am extremely grateful for the opportunities that have come my way since starting in 2021 and I could not be more proud to be working for Corcoran French.'



Catherine Thwaites

Summer Clerk 2024/2025
Law Clerk 2026

'From day one, I felt part of the team and was offered challenging and meaningful work. Corcoran French provided many opportunities to develop my legal skills through hands-on, practical experience. The clerkship programme and supportive mentor system made it clear how committed the firm is to investing professional development and providing the support and resources for clerks to excel in their careers.

Outside of work, Corcoran French offered endless opportunities to build relationships with other members of the firm which made me feel welcomed and supported. The firm's people, culture, and values are inspiring and create a vibrant, inclusive environment, something I am incredibly grateful to be a part of.'