

POSITION AVAILABLE BENEFITS ATTORNEY OPENING

CLS seeks to fill an attorney position with initial assignment in Public Benefits (Bridgeport Office).

CLS seeks applicants who will use their legal training to improve the lives of low-income people and further CLS' holistic and client-centered work. CLS lawyers represent families and individuals in administrative hearings, and in state and federal courts, as well as (in various settings) advocating for changes in laws and systems to benefit low-income communities. CLS encourages lawyers addressing complex or systemic client issues to work in teams, which may include other legal services lawyers and/or other local community agencies.

Attorneys are expected to:

- Maintain an active caseload of representation and advice cases, including regular remote or in-person court appearances and administrative hearings appearances
- Conduct community outreach remotely and in-person, and coordinate with other social service agencies working with our clients
- Help identify larger trends and issues for our clients, while working with the CLS Housing Unit to develop strategies to respond to those trends and issues

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Deep and demonstrated commitment to advocacy on behalf of low-income, vulnerable, and marginalized communities, and to CLS' mission, vision, goals, and values;
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills, including the ability to write persuasively and clearly and the ability to communicate effectively with diverse populations;
- Demonstrated ability both to collaborate closely with colleagues and to work independently when necessary;
- Creativity and flexibility in solving problems and meeting challenges;
- Connecticut bar admission or passed the Connecticut bar exam and willing to be sworn in
- Knowledge and experience in Connecticut court practice and;
- Social Security law experience strongly

COMPENSATION: Salary \$57,348-112,696, depending on experience; excellent vacation/leave, health, and other benefits.

Connecticut Legal Services is an equal opportunity employer and contractor. We proudly value diversity and encourage candidates of all backgrounds to apply.

START DATE

As soon as possible

APPLICATION

Candidates are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. Applicants should send a cover letter clearly describing their qualifications, a resume, a brief original writing sample, and the names and contact information for three references to applications@ctlegal.org. CLS invites all applicants to include in their cover letter a statement about how their unique background and/or experiences might contribute to the diversity, cultural vitality, and perspective of our staff and legal services practice.

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and will be accepted until the position is filled. In order to expedite the internal sorting and reviewing process, please type your name (Last, First) and "Attorney Application" as the only contents in the subject line of your e-mail.

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

CLS is Connecticut's largest non-profit law firm, providing free legal help to low-income people in areas including housing, consumer, elder, family law, public benefits, education, immigration, employment, and disability. With a staff of approximately 70 in seven offices across Connecticut, CLS fights for equal justice and improved life opportunities for more than 12,000 people every year.

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