

POSITION AVAILABLE
EXPERIENCED IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY (New Britain or Bridgeport)

CLS has an opening in its Immigration Unit for a temporary staff attorney (12 months, with the potential for more) with at least five (5) years of current legal experience in immigration law for its New Britain or Bridgeport office. Spanish fluency is strongly preferred.

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 court and/or administrative hearing appearances across the state.
- conduct community outreaches remotely and in-person and coordinate with other agencies working with our clients
- help identify larger trends and issues for our clients, and work to develop strategies to respond to those trends and issues.

START DATE: As Soon As Possible

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Deep and demonstrated commitment to advocacy on behalf of low-income 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 a variety of 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 immediately; and
- Knowledge and experience practicing before the federal immigration court, USCIS, and Connecticut courts.

COMPENSATION: Salary depends on experience; excellent vacation/leave, health, and other benefits.

Connecticut Legal Services is an equal opportunity employer and contractor.

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APPLICATION: Applicants should send a cover letter clearly describing their qualifications, resume, 3-7-page original writing sample, and the names and contact information for three references to applications@ctlegal.org.

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 over 70 in seven offices across Connecticut, CLS fights for equal justice and improved life opportunities for more than 12,000 people every year.