JOB POSTING
Staff Attorney – Education Law
Children & Families Practice Group
(Internal and External)

For over 50 years, Legal Aid Chicago has provided free civil legal assistance to people living in poverty in metropolitan Chicago. Each year our attorneys, volunteers, and staff help resolve civil legal problems, including domestic violence, consumer fraud, and unfair evictions.

Position: Legal Aid Chicago is seeking a staff attorney on the education law team in the Children and Families Practice Group at Legal Aid Chicago. This is a new position under the Disrupting the School-to-Prison Pipeline Project. The staff attorney will increase the agency’s capacity to serve youth in school expulsion and juvenile expungement proceedings by engaging and supporting pro bono attorneys. The start date for this position is October 12, 2020.

Responsibilities:
- Provide comprehensive legal representation to clients in education law matters including administrative school expulsion hearings under the Illinois School Code and juvenile expungement proceedings in state court;
- Recruit, train, and support the Project’s volunteer attorneys in providing representation in both school expulsion and juvenile expungement proceedings;
- Collaborate with other advocacy groups on systemic issues relevant to the Project;
- Increase community awareness of students’ education rights through involvement in community legal education and outreach;
- Other duties in support of the Project as assigned.

Qualifications: Applicants must have a J.D. degree and be licensed to practice law in Illinois, eligible to waive into the Illinois bar, or sitting for the October 2020 Illinois bar. They should have a demonstrated commitment to social justice. The ideal candidate will have at least 2 years of attorney experience. Experience in education law preferred. Must have strong oral and written communication skills, highly developed organizational skills, and great client counseling skills. Must have a valid driver’s license and be willing to travel frequently throughout Cook County. Experience coordinating volunteers, co-counseling cases, working with youth, and organizing and implementing trainings, preferred. Confidence in speaking to groups of professionals necessary. Experience working with people living in poverty and with youth clients strongly preferred.

Salary: Commensurate with experience. Legal Aid Chicago offers a comprehensive benefits package, including 100% employer-paid health plan options, employer-provided group life and long-term disability insurance, low-cost fitness center access, generous paid time off, and much more.

To Apply: Send your cover letter, resume, and the contact information of two professional references to: resume@legalaidchicago.org. Please place “CFPG Education Law Staff Attorney” in the subject line of your e-mail. While applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, candidates are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. No phone or agency calls, please.

Legal Aid Chicago is firmly committed to creating a diverse workplace and is proud to provide equal employment opportunities to all applicants and therefore does not discriminate on the basis of creed, color, national origin, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, age religion, marital or parental status, alienage, disability, political affiliation or belief, military or military discharge status, or ex-offender status. Applicants who have experiences with our client communities are encouraged to apply.