



JOB POSTING
Staff Attorney
Consumer 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. Legal Aid Chicago was founded on the philosophy that all individuals are entitled to quality civil legal representation, regardless of their income. We work to ensure that poverty is not an impediment to justice by dismantling the legal barriers that perpetuate inequality. Legal Aid Chicago staff live our mission through our core values of equity, excellence, inclusion, kindness, and respect.

Position: Legal Aid Chicago seeks one full-time staff attorney in our Consumer Practice Group (CPG). The attorney will primarily serve clients with federal income tax disputes through our Low Income Taxpayer Clinic. The attorney will also maintain a small number of cases involving homeowners facing the loss of their homes, debtors seeking bankruptcy protection under chapter 7 or 13, and consumers dealing with predatory lending, debt collection, fraud, insurance coverage, and public utilities.

Responsibilities:

- Provide extended representation, including advocacy and litigation, in the areas CPG handles in bankruptcy, state, and federal courts
- Provide advice to low-income taxpayers, advocacy with the IRS, and representation in tax court
- Interview eligible clients on a wide range of consumer issues and provide advice and brief services in appropriate cases
- Participate in complex litigation or advocacy to address systemic issues
- Work collaboratively with Legal Aid Chicago staff, students and volunteers to provide comprehensive legal services
- Conduct community education and outreach and build relationships with community partners in poverty fighting efforts
- Participate in training to agencies, advocates, clients, or community groups about legal services and rights impacting low income persons and other vulnerable persons
- Participate in other activities related to poverty law including publication, permissible legislative and administrative advocacy, media relations, and fundraising as needed
- Maintain case files and accurate timekeeping in electronic case management system
- Assist with grant reporting, as appropriate and applicable
- Handle other duties as determined by the Supervisory Attorneys and the Director.

Qualifications:

Applicants must have a J.D. degree and be licensed to practice law in Illinois, or licensed in another state and able to waive into the Illinois bar. The successful applicant will be collegial, well-organized, and demonstrate a commitment to and experience with our client communities and/or people living in poverty, and applicants are encouraged to share that experience in their cover letter. Applicants must have excellent communication skills and the ability to work well under pressure. Litigation experience is preferred; consumer litigation experience is highly preferred. Spanish fluency is also a plus.

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

To apply: Send resume, cover letter, writing sample, and the names and contact information of two professional references, to resume@legalaidchicago.org. Put the phrase “Consumer Staff Attorney – Legal Aid Chicago” in the subject line of the email. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, and the positions will remain open until filled.

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.