



610 S. Ardmore Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90005, Tel: (213) 385-2977, Fax: (213) 385-9089, Website: www.publiccounsel.org

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Education Rights Attorney Statewide Education Rights Project

ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND

Public Counsel is the largest *pro bono* public interest law firm in the country. Founded in 1970, it is dedicated to advancing equal justice under law and addressing economic, racial, and other inequities by delivering free legal and social services to the most vulnerable members of our community. Public Counsel operates eight legal projects: Children's Rights, Community Development, Consumer Rights, Homelessness Prevention, Immigrants' Rights, Veterans' Rights, the Audrey Irmis Project for Women & Girls' Rights, and our impact litigation project, Opportunity Under Law. Public Counsel has a full-time staff of over 120. We seek to have a racially inclusive staff.

Attorneys working in the Statewide Education Rights Project transform local reforms into statewide education solutions and are part of our larger Children's Rights Project. Our statewide team uses legislative and policy advocacy, education, direct representation and impact litigation to create equitable educational opportunities for all students in California. Our focus areas include:

- Advocating for effective, research-based reforms to end the school to prison pipeline;
- Guiding foster youth to success through legislative reform and ensuring that policy reflects best practices for supporting their success;
- Reforming education conditions for youth who are incarcerated;
- Ending racial and other discrimination in school policies and practices; and
- Expanding educational opportunities for all students.

JOB SUMMARY

Public Counsel is currently seeking an attorney for our Statewide Education Rights Project. Applicant must be willing and able to work within and build diverse coalitions, analyze data, draft policy documents, survey instruments, reports and community tools, identify systemic problems and solutions, and work well independently and collaboratively. The attorney will help lead the project's effort to augment effective tools available on our Fix School Discipline website and

provide trainings across the state at conferences and to community partners. The attorney will also help facilitate statewide advocacy and legislative efforts to support positive discipline policies in California. Some travel is required for legislative efforts and to effectively collaborate with the communities that will be the primary focus of the work.

ESSENTIAL JOB SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED

- Juris Doctor degree and California bar admission
- Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively within diverse coalitions
- Excellent oral and written communication skills (Spanish-language fluency preferred)
- Creative problem-solving skills
- Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to work well with teams
- Ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously and effectively prioritize workload
- Five years of practice experience preferred, with emphasis on community policy and/or legislative experience strongly desired
- Preference for candidates who have an understanding of California's education, dependency, and juvenile justice systems.
- A commitment to economic and racial justice
- Comfort working with low-income, racially diverse clients
- Applicants with prior community organizing experience are encouraged to apply.

START DATE AND COMPENSATION

This position is available immediately. The Statewide Education Rights Project Staff Attorney is a full-time, exempt position. Salary is commensurate with abilities and experience. Excellent benefits.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Continuous until position is filled.

TO APPLY

Please send a cover letter and resume (as PDF documents if sent via email) to:

Ruth Cusick, Senior Supervising Attorney

Statewide Education Rights Project

Public Counsel

610 South Ardmore Avenue

Los Angeles, California 90005

Fax: 213/385-9089

Email: serpjob@publiccounsel.org

No phone calls please.

Public Counsel is an Equal Opportunity Employer

All qualified applicants shall receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, ethnic group identification, ancestry, sex, age, marital status, political affiliation, condition of physical or mental disability, gender identity or sexual orientation, in accordance with requirements of Federal and State laws.

All qualified applicants with criminal histories will be considered in a manner consistent with the requirements of the Los Angeles Fair Chance Initiative for Hiring.