



Columbia Legal Services advocates for people who face injustice and poverty. We seek to achieve social and economic justice for all, using policy reform, litigation, and innovative partnerships to reveal and end actions that harm the communities we serve.

columbiainstitute.org

Employment Opportunity

**Staff Attorney
Wenatchee, WA**

Program Description

For many years, Columbia Legal Services has represented some of the most marginalized people in our community. We use every legal tool available on their behalf. Our role to serve people and use advocacy that might otherwise not be available makes our work an integral part of the Washington Alliance for Equal Justice. As a proud member of the Alliance, our vision of justice is that when people have the necessary tools and opportunity to achieve social and economic justice, a more equitable and inclusive society is possible. Every day, our legal teams engage in large-scale litigation, policy reform, and innovative partnerships intended to make a lasting difference so that all people can be meaningful members of their communities. We share a deep commitment to serve and advocate alongside our clients as we seek justice together. The ideal candidate for any position at Columbia Legal Services will be able to articulate their role in the achievement of that vision.

Position

Columbia Legal Services seeks a full-time Staff Attorney who will work out of our Wenatchee office.

Responsibilities

- Our advocacy is conducted by four project teams. This position will focus on cases assigned to our Basic Human Needs Project, which safeguards access to health care, safe housing, food, financial assistance, and other basic rights for low-income people, using a full range of advocacy including complex litigation and appeals, and policy advocacy. The attorney must:
- Be available to travel occasionally around the state, and may spend some time in Olympia during the legislative session.
- Work with teams of attorneys on complex litigation, including class actions.

- Identify practices and laws that adversely affect the rights and diminish the benefits for low income populations.
- Coordinate with other advocacy groups and legal service organizations and the private bar to identify opportunities and execute strategies to advance the law for low income populations.

Qualifications

Applicants must be members of the Washington State Bar or seek admission as soon as possible after employment. Characteristics preferred for this position:

- Experience in complex litigation or appeals a plus.
- Excellent research, writing, negotiation, and analytical skills.
- Ability and willingness to work well with a team, including meeting deadlines.
- Willingness to travel and to work flexible hours.
- Demonstrated initiative and creativity.
- Ability to manage a variety of cases and projects going on simultaneously.
- Cultural competence and experience working with low-income client communities.
- Ability to effectively and passionately communicate with story-telling how justice will improve our clients' lives.
- Bilingual in Spanish.

Compensation Package

CLS offers a competitive compensation package including generous paid time off and healthcare benefits. Salary is commensurate with experience.

Applications

Position is open until filled. Please note that due to the volume of applications received, CLS is unable to respond to every application. We will contact you if we decide to pursue your application. No phone calls please. To apply, submit your cover letter, resume, a short writing sample, and three references to:

Trisa Kern, Director of Program Administration
Columbia Legal Services
101 Yesler Way, Suite 300
Seattle, WA 98104
jobs@columbialegal.org

Program Policy

Columbia Legal Services is committed to a policy of pluralism and equal opportunity in an environment free of barriers and discriminatory practices for its client communities, Board and staff. Pluralism refers to the active promotion of mutual respect, acceptance, teamwork and productivity among people who are diverse in work background, experience, education, race, color, national origin, sex, age, religious preference, marital status, sexual orientation, sensory, mental and physical abilities, veteran status, or any other perceived differences. The resulting diversity is both a source of program strength and a matter of fundamental human fairness.