

Spring Break Pro Bono Trips 2026



Trips



1) Immigration Services to, San Diego, CA
@ Jewish Family Service
w/HIP

2) Hurricane Relief to Asheville, North Carolina
@Legal Aid North Carolina

3) MS Delta Project to Jackson, MS
@ACLU of Mississippi

+ Local Boston-area pro bono projects (Boston and Cambridge, MA)

Jewish Family Service



Jewish Family Service



- ▶ Student volunteers will work on asylum or Special Immigrant Juvenile status, preparing application materials, and/or, where needed, interviewing clients and attending immigration proceedings.
- ▶ Students will learn about immigration statuses, put language skills to use, engage in client meetings and interviews, and draft legal documents within the particulars of practicing in a border zone.

Jewish Family Service

- ▶ Not required, but preference for speakers of other languages: Arabic, Haitian Creole, Dari, Pashton, Portuguese, Spanish, and Russian.
- ▶ Trainings prior to departure
- ▶ Passports required if visiting Mexico
- ▶ More at <https://www.jfssd.org>

Jewish Family Service



- ▶ Six- eight students
- ▶ Two Rental cars
- ▶ Airbnb in San Diego, own bed but may share a room
- ▶ Saturday March 14- Saturday March 21

Legal Aid of North Carolina



Legal Aid of North Carolina



- ▶ Coordinating Hurricane Helene recovery and planning
- ▶ Legal research, client intake, and assisting with legal clinics.
- ▶ Vital documents replacement; estate planning document replacement or creating new wills and advanced directives.
- ▶ Heirs property
- ▶ Appeals of FEMA and other benefits

Legal Aid of North Carolina

- ▶ Four students
- ▶ Rental cars
- ▶ Hotels – 2 to a room
- ▶ Saturday, March 14- Saturday, March 21
- ▶ Based in Asheville, travel to Sylva
- ▶ Likely fly into Charlotte or Asheville
- ▶ More at <https://legalaidnc.org/tropical-storm-helene-disaster-assistance/>

MS Delta Project with ACLU



MS Delta Project with ACLU

- ▶ Based in Jackson, MS and events around the state
- ▶ Expand capacity of ACLU of Mississippi
<https://www.aclu-ms.org/>
- ▶ Know Your Rights events on how to navigate the legal and government rights and resources available, focus on voting rights
- ▶ Visit the Mississippi State Capitol with the ACLU of Mississippi to meet with legislators

MS Delta Project with ACLU

- ▶ Focus on policy issues facing rural America such as the ballot initiative, Medicaid Expansion and healthcare access, rural hospital closures, healthcare coverage
- ▶ Trained by the ACLU of Mississippi and assist organizers field questions from the public
- ▶ Learn about service provision in rural communities, interdisciplinary partnerships, equitable access to government services, and community development work with civil rights organizations and community-based organizations.
- ▶ Learn about the history of Mississippi and cultural significance of the Mississippi Delta Region, legacy of slavery and sharecropping, and ongoing health and economic disparities.

MS Delta Project with ACLU

- ▶ Four students
- ▶ One rental car
- ▶ Hotel in Jackson, two to a room
- ▶ Sunday March 15 – Friday, March 20

Boston/Cambridge

- ▶ Projects and host organizations to be finalized. Open to proposals. Past projects with local legal services and remote.
- ▶ No overnight or long-distance travel required
- ▶ As many students as can be accommodated will be selected.
- ▶ Applications open end of January/early February

Legal Work

- ▶ All legal work is eligible for HLS pro bono credit
- ▶ Travel and training time not for pro bono credit (likely not reach 50 hours)
- ▶ Must work all days required by specific trip

Student Costs

Students will pay for their own:

- food
- transportation to and from Boston airport
- baggage fees
- entertainment

Funding

- ▶ OCP can book on standard group flight
- ▶ Need volunteers to rent car and be reimbursed for car and gas (full amount) after
- ▶ Hotels/Air BnBs paid in advance by HLS

Application

- ▶ Must submit application with resume by **11:59 pm on Tuesday, November 18** (on OCP website)
- ▶ Decisions announced by **Wednesday, November 26**
- ▶ Selected students must commit by **Tuesday, December 2**
- ▶ Decisions based on a final composition of students representing a range of class years, perspectives, skills, or experience relevant to project
- ▶ Anticipating more applications than slots

Student Requirements:

- ▶ Attend group meeting(s) before trip, usually February and early March
- ▶ Reading material and training before trip
- ▶ Written evaluation upon your return
- ▶ Travel grant paperwork
- ▶ HLS Pro Bono paperwork

Keep In Mind

- ▶ You must be flexible
- ▶ You are going to help
- ▶ Volunteers needed to rent cars (preferably over 25) and pay gas and parking, etc. on credit card and be reimbursed

Questions?

<https://hls.harvard.edu/pro-bono/spring-break/>

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