Office of Clinical and Pro Bono Programs
SPO OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENT PRACTICE 2023-2024

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| HLS Advocates for Human Rights | implements student-led and student-developed projects assisting NGOs and lawyers around the world, hosts human rights-related events, actively supports social justice/human rights initiatives on campus, and seeks to build a community of human rights dedicated students on practitioners. This semester, Advocates has projects on philanthropic colonialism in Palestine, climate justice before the United Nations, the right to education in Haiti, war crimes in Armenia, torture and migration in Greece and on topics related to LGBTQ+ rights and the war in Ukraine. | • Analyzing facts  
• Brief writing  
• Collaboration/teamwork  
• Doctrinal legal research & writing  
• Grassroots advocacy  
• Interviewing clients  
• Investigation/factual research  
• Policy | Varies by project and involvement. Members on projects can expect to spend 2-5 hours per week, project leaders can expect to spend 4-7 hours per week. | Application Deadline: Monday, September 18th | Info session: Wednesday, September 13, 12:15-1:15 pm  
WCC 3018 | Tuesday, September 26th from 6:00-8:00 pm |
| Harvard Defenders | represents low-income clients in Massachusetts criminal show-cause hearings before clerk magistrates and in CORI sealing matters, works in partnership with outside organizations, and provides referrals to other legal services. Harvard Defenders seeks to reduce the harm of the criminal legal system on community members through client-centered, compassionate, and persuasive legal practice. | • Analyzing facts  
• Collaboration/teamwork  
• Direct client advising & services  
• Interviewing & counseling clients  
• Interviewing witnesses  
• Investigation/factual research  
• Oral advocacy  
• Representing clients in court  
• Trial practice | Minimum: 1 case per semester  
(5-10 hours per case on average)  
2 hours per week - 1 hour for intake (answering phones and completing office duties) and 1 hour for a team meeting. | Application Deadline: Wednesday, September 13th  
| Harvard Law Entrepreneurship Project (HELP) | provides pro bono legal research and analysis to entrepreneurs at Harvard and MIT by matching entrepreneurs with teams of HLS students and a practicing attorney from the leading startup law firms. Teams work together to answer legal questions over six to eight weeks. Legal questions can cover a broad range of substantive subjects depending on the startup’s needs; participating entrepreneurs receive a report summarizing the team’s findings. | • Collaboration/teamwork  
• Analyzing facts  
• Direct client advising & services  
• Doctrinal legal research  
• Interviewing & counseling clients  
• Investigation/factual research  
• Transactional research  
• Writing legal memo for client | About 10 hours over a six-to-eight-week advising period for team members. Team leaders could see an additional 5 hours. | Students attend the Fall Client Pitch, on Saturday September 16.  
New Member Application Form Due Sunday, September 17:  
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdILZKOHG0H9mhpL0qpec7VxuoMxulS1yS6TlpTWjCYe488jqDViewForm | Newsletter: Students can sign up for mailing list to learn about upcoming events here: Help.org | Fall Project Cycle Training Dates:  
Monday, September 18th from 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm, WCC 1015  
OR  
Tuesday, September 19th from 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm, WCC 1015 (Attend one) |
| HLS Immigration Project (HIP) | provides community outreach, education and advocacy, and pro bono legal representation to immigrants and asylum-seekers through three main projects: Client Engagement Services (CES), International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP), and Policy. | • Analyzing facts  
• Counseling clients  
• Collaboration/teamwork  
• Community education  
• Direct client advising & services  
• Doctrinal legal research & writing  
• Grassroots advocacy  
• Interviewing clients  
• Investigation/factual research  
• Policy | Varies by project and week, but commitment ranges from 2-6 hours per week. Policy and IRAP projects will be more self-paced during the week while CES projects will be at set times during certain weeks subject to client availability.  
11s can apply to be members of any of the three main projects. | Application Deadline: Friday, September 15th  
https://forms.gle/1sucwdaNasuwAK4f6 | Welcome Picnic:  
Monday, September 11 from 12:30-1:30, Cambridge Common Park | TBD |

Visit our website: https://hls.harvard.edu/pro-bono/spo/  
Read student stories from SPOs on our blog: https://clinics.law.harvard.edu/  
Schedule an appointment with an OCP advisor to learn more about clinics and SPOs.
Mediation is a form of dispute resolution that allows individuals or organizations involved in a dispute to work together towards resolving their differences. Students in HMP complete basic training to become certified mediators, which equips them with the skills they need to effectively mediate disputes and allows them to mediate in Massachusetts small claims courts. Members then mediate small claims court cases, harassment prevention orders, tenant-to-tenant disputes, or other ad hoc cases. Students also provide trainings to HLS students and local community members.

- Analyzing Facts
- Collaboration/teamwork
- Direct client services
- Interviewing clients
- Negotiation and mediation
- Oral presentation

HMP requires attendance in at least 2 mediation sessions during the semester that you train. Mediations typically last 1–2 hours, sometimes up to 3 hours. HMP believes that mediator learning extends well beyond basic training and hopes that trained mediators will continue to stay involved. Trained mediators also complete one session of participant coaching in a subsequent Basic Training.

A two-semester minimum commitment is expected.

Application Deadline: Tuesday, September 12

Our application can be accessed on our website here: 
https://clinics.law.harvard.edu/hmp/training/

ADR Night: Tuesday, Sept 12, 7:00-8:30 pm
Pound 513

Fall Training: September 23rd and 24th
September 30th and October 1st

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| HLS Mississippi Delta Project | • Analyzing facts  
• Counseling clients/organizational partners  
• Collaboration/teamwork  
• Contract drafting  
• Grassroots advocacy  
• Investigation/litigation research  
• Legal and policy research  
• Legislation  
• Policy recommendations | 1-4 hours/week, with some variability depending on project. | Please sign up for our email list [here](https://lists.law.harvard.edu/mailman/listinfo/hlsnegotiators). We will send out an application later in September, and MDP projects will begin in October. We review applications to place applicants on project teams, and we encourage anyone interested to apply. | Interests new students can email our co-chairs with any questions. | MDP All Team Kickoff Meeting: TBD (tentative of September or early October) |
| HLS Negotiators | • Counseling clients  
• Collaboration/teamwork  
• Direct client advising  
• Grassroots advocacy  
• Interviewing witnesses  
• Investigation/litigation research  
• Negotiation  
• Policy | Average 1-3 hours/week  
Varies by commitment options and client project. | No application required. Simply sign up to attend our three-hour basic training via the Negotiator’s email [blnegotiators@gmail.com](mailto:blnegotiators@gmail.com). Negotiators will also be accepting sign-ups at the Student Activities Fair | Interests new students can email our Executive Directors with questions | ADP Night: Tuesday, Sept 12, 7:00-8:30 pm  
Pound 513  
Fall Basic Training: TBD |
| Harvard Prison Legal Assistance Project (PLAP) | • Analyzing facts  
• Collaboration/teamwork  
• Direct client advising and services  
• Discovery  
• Grassroots advocacy  
• Interviewing witnesses  
• Investigation/litigation research  
• Oral arguments  
• Policy work  
• Representing clients in hearings  
• Trial practice | 2 hours per week on office hours;  
1 case per school year (10-20 hours per case) | Commitment Deadline: Sunday, Sept. 10 for returning members;  
Sunday, Sept. 17 for new members  
New members can sign up at this link: [https://forms.gle/pvftJxkFrA4ca4Bvf](https://forms.gle/pvftJxkFrA4ca4Bvf) | Interests new students can email our Executive Directors with questions | Sept. 11 or 12 for returning members;  
Sept. 18 or 19 for new members |
| Project No One Leaves (PNOL) | • Analyzing facts  
• Client counseling  
• Community education  
• Direct client services  
• Grassroots advocacy | No specific commitment. Weekly canvasses are optional, on Saturdays from 10am-1pm. Anyone is welcome to attend a canvass. | No application is required to canvass. To join our Board, please email adelong@jd24.law.harvard.edu. | Please join us for an Info Lunch on Friday, September 15 at 12:30 on the 1st floor of 23 Everett ST! We will be sharing info about our canvasses and hearing from housing justice organizers at City Life Vida Urbana. RSVP here: [https://forms.gle/6KscaElIvM6Zpsk9](https://forms.gle/6KscaElIvM6Zpsk9) | |
| Recording Artists Project (RAP) | • Analyzing facts  
• Collaboration/teamwork  
• Contract Drafting  
• Direct client advising and services  
• Doctrinal legal research & writing  
• Interviewing & counseling clients  
• Investigation/litigation research  
• Negotiation | Average 1-3 hours/week | TBD | TBD | TBD |
| Tenant Advocacy Project (TAP) | • Collaboration/teamwork  
• Direct client advising & services  
• Interviewing & counseling clients  
• Interviewing witnesses  
• Investigation/litigation research  
• Legal research and writing  
• Oral advocacy  
• Negotiation  
• Representing clients in administrative hearings  
• Trial practice | 1 case/semester (15-20 hours/case);  
small team meetings (30-45 minutes every two weeks); occasional client screening calls | Application Deadline: Thursday, September 21 at 11:59 PM | In-Person Info Session:  
Wednesday, September 13 at 12:30 PM at  
WCC 3019 (lunch Provided) | Training: Saturday, September 30 (time/location TBD)*  
*accommodations can be made for students who are unable to join training due to other commitments |

*Note: All projects are passionate about access to legal services and representation for those in need. They are committed to providing meaningful opportunities for law students to engage in social justice work.*