Office of Clinical and Pro Bono Programs

SPO OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENT PRACTICE 2024-2025

SPO	Description	Skills	Time Commitment	Application Process	Info Session/Open House	Training Date
HLS Advocates for Human Rights clinics.law.harvard.edu/advocates/ advocates@law.harvard.edu Co-Presidents: Giovanna Garcia ggarcia@jd25.law.harvard.edu Talish Babaian tbabaian@jd25.law.harvard.edu	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; seeks to build a community of human rights-dedicated students and practitioners. This semester, Advocates has projects on Accountability for Tech Companies related to alleged war crimes in Palestine, Clearance of Landmines in Yemen, LGBT and Gender rights in Africa, Examining Crimes Against Humanity in Mexico, and more.	 Analyzing facts Brief writing Legal Research 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, while project leaders can expect to spend 4-7 hours per week.	Apply at https://harvard.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV eRp1l1Pzwodv5RA by Sunday, September 15 at 11:59pm.	Info Session: Tuesday, September 10, 12:30pm in WCC 2004	TBD
Harvard Defenders clinics.law.harvard.edu/defenders/ President: Alexia Roberts hdefenderspresident@gmail.com Executive Director: Abbie Hinchman defexecutivedirector@gmail.com	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 Legal research Oral advocacy Representing clients in court Trial practice 	Minimum: 1 case per semester and 2 hours per week - 1 hour for intake and 1 hour for a team meeting.	Apply at https://bit.ly/defendersF24 by Wednesday, September 11 at 11:59pm. Early applications strongly encouraged.	Open House: Monday, September 9, 12:30 pm in 1607 Massachusetts Ave on the 2nd floor (between Stoked and the Coop)	Information will be provided directly to the new members.
Harvard Law Entrepreneurship Project (HLEP) clinics.law.harvard.edu/hlep/ Co-Presidents: Bobby Stroup rstroup@jd25.law.harvard.edu Joey Ravenna jravenna@jd25.law.harvard.edu	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 Harvard/MIT Startup Pitch Weekend September 21–22. New & Returning Member Application Form Due by Sunday, September 15 at 11:59pm EST: https://forms.gle/6x9tgbhP9vrCo8Ds9	Newsletter: Students can sign up for mailing list to learn about upcoming events here: hlep.org	Fall Project Cycle Training Dates: September 16 and 17, at lunch.
HLS Immigration Project (HIP) clinics.law.harvard.edu/hip/ hip@mail.law.harvard.edu Co-Presidents: Ben Guzman mguzman@jd26.law.harvard.edu Cindy Wang Cwang@jd26.law.harvard.edu	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. 1Ls can apply to be members of any of the three main projects.	Apply at https://forms.gle/VYtNXQefHLvqPuMk7. Applications will be due by midnight of Friday, September 13.	Info Session: Monday, September 9, 12:20pm in WCC 3018. Lunch will be served! Students can come to hear from each of the teams about what kind of work they will be working on this year!	Fall Training: There will be a mandatory evening training the week of September 23.
Harvard Mediation Program (HMP) clinics.law.harvard.edu/hmp/ hmprecruitingdirectors@gmail.com Co-Presidents: Andrew Kim ykim@jd26.law.harvard.edu Laura Saliy lsaliy@jd25.law.harvard.edu	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.	by midnight of Thursday, September 12	ADR Night: TBD	Fall Training; September 21-22 and October 5-6

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.

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HLS Mississippi Delta Project clinics.law.harvard.edu/deltaproject/ Chair: Olivia Lofton olofton@jd25.law.harvard.edu	Provides pro bono legal assistance and policy support for mission-driven organizations in Mississippi. Students work with on-the-ground partners on projects advancing food justice, environmental justice, economic justice, and health justice.	 Analyzing facts Counseling clients/organizational partners Collaboration/teamwork Contract drafting Grassroots advocacy Investigation/factual research Legal and policy research Legislation Policy recommendations 	1-3 hours/week, with some variability depending on project.	Please complete the sign-up form here: https://forms.gle/C3r5rVn1Y8FYAb7t9 . Form submissions are due by Friday, September 13 th .	Info Session: Thursday, September 12 at 12:30pm. Location TBD	MDP All Team Kickoff Meeting: TBD
Clinics.law.harvard.edu/negotiators/negotiators.hls@gmail.com Co-Presidents: Zachari Curtis zcurtis@jd26.law.harvard.edu Nefertari Elshiek nelshiekh@jd26.law.harvard.edu	Students explore the world of alternative dispute resolution and receive great training and practice in interpersonal negotiation. Opportunities include regular simulations where students can practice their negotiation skills and get feedback on improvement; client projects to gain practical experience; and the potential to engage with the greater ADR community both on and off campus.	 Counseling clients Collaboration/teamwork Direct client advising Grassroots advocacy Interviewing clients Interviewing witnesses Investigation/factual research Negotiation Policy 	Average 1-3 hours/week Varies by commitment options and client project.		ADR Night: Tuesday September 10	Fall Basic Training: TBA; Training is required
Harvard Prison Legal Assistance Project (PLAP) clinics.law.harvard.edu/plap/ Co-Executive Directors: plapdirectors@gmail.com	Provides free representation to incarcerated people at disciplinary, parole, and other administrative hearings in Massachusetts state prisons. Students assist incarcerated individuals with prison-related problems (medical, civil rights, and property) by responding to letters and calls during weekly office hours. Students may also work on impact litigation and prison policy initiatives, organize campus events related to mass incarceration and prison reform, or assist clients with commutation petitions. PLAP works to serve incarcerated people across Massachusetts through client-centered, compassionate, and zealous advocacy.	 Analyzing facts Collaboration/teamwork Direct client advising and services Discovery Grassroots advocacy Interviewing witnesses Interviewing & counseling clients Investigation/factual 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)	Sign Up: tinyurl.com/plap2024 New Member Commitment Deadline: Sunday, September 15 at 11:59pm Returning Member Commitment Deadline: Friday, September 6 at 11:59pm	Open House: Friday, September 13, 12pm- 2pm in the PLAP Office (in the clinical wing on the 5th floor of WCC)	For new members: Must attend one of two training sessions during lunchtime on either Wednesday, September 25 or Thursday, September 26. Contact the Executive Directors if you have a conflict. For returning members: A refresher training will be conducted by your office hour supervisor during the first week of office hours.
Project No One Leaves (PNOL) clinics.law.harvard.edu/nol/ Chair: Benjamin Sephton bsephton@jd25.law.harvard.edu	Works with City Life-Vida Urbana, a grassroots organizing group in Boston, to support and defend communities facing gentrification, eviction, foreclosure, and deportation. PNOL canvasses at-risk neighborhoods to inform residents of their basic legal rights and direct them to legal resources and community support.	 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.		
Recording Artists Project (RAP) recordingartistsproject.com/ rap@law.harvard.edu Co-Presidents: sferrer@jd25.law.harvard.edu lpride@jd25.law.harvard.edu	Offers its clients pro bono counsel in such matters as copyright and trademark registration, sample clearances, and the negotiation and drafting of contracts related to music production, management, performance, licensing, and merchandising.	 Analyzing facts Collaboration/teamwork Contract Drafting Direct client advising & services Doctrinal legal research & writing Interviewing & counseling clients Investigation/factual research Negotiation 	Average 1-3 hours/week	No application is required.	Subscribe to RAP's newsletter for information about RAP's on-campus events, signing up for pro bono teams, and more: https://recordingartistsproject.us14.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=98189cbd 612accb6e4d3c1070&id=912c39513 a	September 15 We will offer one Zoom training in the fall. Training is mandatory for all students, even those who will only participate in the spring. The session will be recorded, so if you cannot attend on September 15, you can watch the recording!
Tenant Advocacy Project (TAP) tap.law.harvard.edu Co-Presidents: Luke Pittman lpitttman@jd26.law.harvard.edu Liana Wang lwang@jd26.law.harvard.edu	Provides representation, assistance, and advice to public housing tenants, section 8 voucher recipients, and those seeking subsidized housing in the greater Boston area. Offers a unique opportunity to lead your own case. Works with our clients on a wide range of issues, including eviction, subsidy termination, recertification, waitlist and transfer denial, and reasonable accommodations.	 Collaboration/teamwork Direct client advising & services Interviewing & counseling clients Interviewing witnesses Investigation/factual research Legal research and writing Oral advocacy Negotiation Representing clients in administrative hearings 	1 case/year (15-20 hours/case); small team meetings (30-45 minutes every two weeks); occasional client screening calls	An application is required. Applications open on Monday, September 9 and close Thursday, September 19 https://docs.google.com/document/d/1wZj T 0YyRCXsBwqoBbS3 nzgUDWw agR/edit? usp=sharing&ouid=10186009405112008532 2&rtpof=true&sd=true	TAP will be hosting 2 Info Sessions. TAP will provide lunch, talk about the wor we do, and answer any questions prospective members may have. Tuesday, September 10, 12:15pm in WCC 1015. Monday, September 16 location TBA	training and orientation session on Saturday, September 28 , 4-8pm in WCC 3018.