



## 2013 Summer Associate Program

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The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland (Legal Aid) is looking for 12 - 15 dedicated, hard-working, and public-interest minded students to work in Legal Aid's four Northeast Ohio offices for our 2013 summer associate program. Legal Aid summer associates commit to working at least 11 weeks. Legal Aid is a non-profit law firm focused on areas of consumer rights, disability, domestic violence, education, employment, family law, foreclosure, health, housing, immigration, public benefits, and tax.

Summer associates work in different areas of the law but all receive the opportunity to learn how to be excellent poverty lawyers. Generally, summer associates will interview clients, draft court pleadings, research relevant legal issues, attend and assist with court hearings and trials, and gather and analyze evidence. In addition, Legal Aid summer associates will participate in weekly trainings on substantive areas of poverty law and observe oral arguments in the 8th District Court of Appeals, meeting afterward with the judges involved. Brown bag lunches with current Legal Aid lawyers and community members including judges, politicians, and leaders of local non-profit agencies are also held on a weekly basis.

**Student Qualifications:** Legal Aid summer associate applicants should have completed their first or second year of law school prior to the summer of 2013. Special consideration is given to students with a demonstrated commitment to serving disadvantaged people and communities. If your resume does not reflect a commitment to public service due to personal financial constraints, please provide an explanation in your cover letter. Law students who speak Spanish are strongly encouraged to apply.

**Funding:** Due to limited financial resources, Legal Aid is unable to pay summer associates. However, traditionally summer associates are able to find outside funding, and applicants are encouraged to apply for summer funding through the following sources:

- Summer grants/fellowships through your law school
- Equal Justice Works, Summer Corps Program: Awards \$1,000 educational grants which can be applied to educational debt or future education costs. These are awarded on a first come, first served basis so be sure to apply the minute the application is available on line at [www.equaljusticeworks.org](http://www.equaljusticeworks.org).
- Equal Justice America: Visit [www.equaljusticeamerica.org](http://www.equaljusticeamerica.org) for 2013 award information and application details.
- Work Study Funding: Some universities offer work study funding for summer positions. Please check with your law school financial aid office for particulars at your school.

These are just a few of the many funding possibilities. For more funding opportunities, visit the "Financing a Career or Summer Job" page under "Career Central" at [www.pslawnet.org](http://www.pslawnet.org). Please indicate in your cover letter what funding sources you will be applying for, if any.

**Course Credit/Externship Credit:** Legal Aid often supervises students working for externship or other credit. Please indicate in your cover letter if you are working with your law school to receive course credit for this position.

**Application Procedure:** Qualifying students should forward a cover letter listing their top two (2) location preferences, a resume, a writing sample, and a list of three (3) references to Kate Ingersoll, Executive Assistant at [kingersoll@lasclev.org](mailto:kingersoll@lasclev.org) listing "Summer Associate 2013" in the subject line of the email. Please see page of this job posting for a listing of office locations. **Application materials must be submitted by Friday, February 8, 2013.** Applications will only be accepted via e-mail. You will receive a confirmation email that your application materials have been received shortly after we receive your application.

*Legal Aid is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate because of age, race, sex, religion, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, or mental or physical disability.*

**Important Dates:**

February 8, 2013	Application Deadline
February 11 – 28, 2013	Interviews*
March 4 – March 8, 2013	Offers Extended**
March 18, 2013	2013 Summer Associates Announced
May 15, 2013	Orientation/Start of 2013 Summer Associate Program

\* Telephone interviews will be conducted with applicants who are not able to participate in an in-person interview.

\*\*If offered a position, you must accept/decline within 72 hours.

**About Us:** Ranked as one of the Plain Dealer's Top Workplaces in 2011, Legal Aid's mission is to secure justice and resolve fundamental problems for those who are low income and vulnerable by providing high quality legal services and working for systemic solutions. Founded in 1905, Legal Aid is the fifth oldest legal aid organization in the United States. Legal Aid's 53 staff attorneys, 90 staff members, and 1,400 volunteer lawyers ensure access to justice for low income people. For more information please visit [www.lasclev.org](http://www.lasclev.org).

**Why Northeast Ohio:** Northeast Ohio has a rich history of diverse cultures. It is home to the nationally renowned Cleveland Orchestra; the Cleveland Museum of Art; the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame; the Cleveland Browns, Indians, and Cavaliers; an award-winning Metroparks system; vineyards; Lake Erie; and many other arts, recreation, and cultural attractions. Northeast Ohio also has a low cost of living. For more information on living and working in Northeast Ohio please visit [Cleveland+](#).

# LEGAL AID LOCATIONS 2013

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Legal Aid provides free legal services on civil matters in the following counties:

**Ashtabula County**

121 East Walnut St.  
Jefferson, OH 44047

**Cuyahoga County**

1223 West Sixth Street  
Cleveland, OH 44113

**Lake and Geauga Counties**

8 North State St., Suite 300  
Painesville, OH 44077

**Lorain County**

1530 West River Road North, Suite 301  
Elyria, OH 44035

**Please list your top two (2) location preferences in your cover letter.**