



Paralegal Intern Job Description – Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service

Make a difference and get practical legal experience!

Founded in 1981, Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service (MVLS) is the oldest and largest pro bono legal services organization in Maryland. The mission of MVLS is to connect Marylanders facing financial hardships with volunteer lawyers, tax professionals, and community partners to deliver free civil legal assistance because there should be justice for all, not just for those who can afford it. Experienced volunteer attorneys are drawn from every sector of Maryland's legal community and include partners in the large law firms, solo practitioners, corporate counsel and government attorneys. These attorneys provide representation to MVLS clients in a variety of legal areas including family, housing, consumer, estate planning and administration, tax controversy and criminal record relief.

MVLS core values are: teamwork, passion for MVLS's mission, commitment to clients, volunteers, and community partners, initiative and commitment to eliminate systemic barriers to justice based on race and economic disparities. MVLS is committed to fostering an inclusive culture in the workplace. Our work to end barriers to justice starts with increasing the racial diversity of our staff, board and interns to better reflect the communities we serve.

Responsibilities

The intern will be working to improve our pro bono programs by providing vital assistance with case management, client relations and direct client assistance. All intern duties will be supervised by an MVLS staff attorney and paralegals. Responsibilities include:

- Review applications for legal assistance from low-income clients with a wide range of civil legal issues and provide assistance with case processing.
- Conduct phone intake with clients to identify potential legal issues and to obtain necessary information.

- Make direct contact with our volunteer attorneys to assist with the assignment and closing of cases.
- Accompany MVLS staff attorneys in court (varies based on semester and scheduled court hearings).
- Participate in the drafting of legal research and creation of self-help materials for self-represented litigants, and additional resource information.

Qualifications

Students pursuing a paralegal certification is a plus. An interest in public interest law is a plus.

Compensation

This is an unpaid internship.

Work Schedule

Fall/Spring internships. The intern is required to volunteer at least 10 hours a week. The work schedule is negotiable but must be during normal business hours which are Monday through Friday, 9AM to 5PM.

Summer internships. Full time – Monday through Friday, 9 am to 5 pm.

Application

Please send a resume and cover letter to: Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service 201 North Charles Street, Suite 1400 Baltimore, MD. 21201 Attn: Internship Application Or via email to switri@mvlslaw.org. Please address MVLS's core values in your cover letter.