2023-2024 6AC Legal Fellow

Job Posting & Position Description

Organization

The Sixth Amendment Center (6AC) is a national non-partisan, non-profit organization that seeks to ensure that no person faces potential time in jail or prison without first having the aid of a lawyer with the time, ability and resources to present an effective defense, as required by the United States Constitution.

Inclusion

6AC’s commitment to core principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion is central to our mission, impact, and success. We believe that a board and staff composed of varied perspectives generates better ideas and strategies to solve the complex problems our nation’s criminal legal system faces. We encourage candidates from wide-ranging backgrounds, perspectives, and lived experiences to apply.

Location & travel

This is a work-from-home position with flexible schedule possibilities. Travel up to 30% may be required to the extent that it is permitted by existing public health requirements and guidelines.

Position summary

6AC is a great organization for a graduating 3L law student anywhere in the country who is interested in criminal justice policy reform. 6AC’s Legal Fellow will work closely with 6AC staff on evaluations and reform projects, including:
Observe courtroom proceedings and interview criminal justice stakeholders, such as judges, prosecutors, public defenders, probation officers and law enforcement in jurisdictions throughout the country.

Receive recognition in nationally published reports by 6AC.

Investigate and report on state and local governments’ compliance with right to counsel case law.

Track news, legislation, and case law pertaining to the right to counsel in all 50 states.

Conduct legal research and writing on cutting-edge issues pertaining to the right to counsel.

Attend national conferences, events, and trainings on the Sixth Amendment right to counsel.

This is not a project-based fellowship position. Rather, this is similar to a one-year staff position where the Legal Fellow is fully incorporated into 6AC’s work. This position must be partially or fully funded through a program at the applicant’s law school.

Minimum qualifications

* Candidates must meet the minimum qualifications to be considered for this role.

  - Demonstrated commitment to criminal justice reform, indigent defense, and social and racial equity
  - Desire to ensure the Sixth Amendment guarantee of the right to counsel is provided to all adults and children who do not have the money to secure an attorney on their own
  - Juris Doctor degree from an ABA accredited law school by the date of hire
  - Residency in the United States

Preferred qualifications

  - Valid driver’s license
  - Experience in direct services to indigent clients, including through law clinics, externships, and internships
  - Experience collaborating with diverse populations
  - Excellent legal research and writing skills
  - Proficiency in Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, PowerPoint, and legal research tools (such as Westlaw and LexisNexis)
Salary & benefits

This is a one-year fellowship position. Salary and benefits will, in part, depend on the grant provided by the applicant’s law school program. Benefits from 6AC may include health and supplemental coverage, with flexible schedule possibilities. This is a grant-funded position.

As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, 6AC fellows may qualify for the federal public service loan forgiveness program.

How to apply

Please submit to Aditi Goel (aditi.goel@6ac.org) and Nancy Bennett (nancy.bennett@6ac.org) (1) a resume, (2) a cover letter that includes a description of your interest in the position and the law school funding program and requirements and (3) an official or unofficial law school transcript.

All inquiries can be made to Aditi Goel and Nancy Bennett. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

FLSA status

This position is exempt.