

## J.D. Public Service Graduation Requirement

The UW Law Public Service Graduation Requirement has three main goals:

- 1) To educate students about an attorney's ethical responsibility to provide pro bono legal assistance, particularly to those who would not otherwise have access to the legal system;
- 2) To foster in students a lifelong commitment to public service by providing the opportunity and training vital to the development of such a commitment; and
- 3) To develop students' lawyering skills by providing them with work experience under the supervision of a judge, attorney, or otherwise qualified individual.

J.D. students must perform at least *50 hours of public service legal work*, during their second and third year of law school, in a pre-approved course, program, or pro bono project, under the supervision of a judge, attorney, or otherwise qualified individual. It is preferred that students fulfill this requirement by providing legal assistance to individuals who would otherwise be without access to such assistance. Students may also fulfill this requirement by participating in other law-related public service activities as described below. In the context of private law firms and other for-profit employers, only pro bono work for which the client is not charged a fee will qualify as eligible public service legal work.

Public service legal work completed prior to February 14, 2024 must have been “uncompensated” (i.e., without receiving direct pay from an employer or third-party funding from a grant or fellowship) to be eligible to be applied towards this requirement. Any work completed after February 14, 2024 is not subject to this restriction so long as the work otherwise meets the definition of “public service legal work” and satisfies the other criteria outlined in this form.

### **For purposes of satisfying this requirement, “public service legal work” is defined as:**

1. Providing legal services to:
  - a. Persons of limited means; or
  - b. Charitable, religious, civil, community, governmental and educational organizations in matters which are designed primarily to address the needs of persons of limited means; or
2. Providing law-related public service by:
  - a. Helping groups or organizations seeking to secure or protect civil rights, civil liberties, or public rights;
  - b. Helping charitable, religious, civic, community, governmental, and educational organizations not able to afford legal representation;
  - c. Participating in activities providing information about justice, the law or the legal system to those who might not otherwise have such information; or
  - d. Engaging in activities to enhance the capacity of the law and legal institutions to do justice.

### **The public service requirement can be fulfilled in any of the following ways (see documentation requirements on the back side of this form):**

1. By satisfactorily completing one of the following approved courses (no documentation required beyond enrollment and course completion):
  - a. Clinics
  - b. Public Interest Externships (B530, B535, B538, B539, B560)
  - c. Street Law (B514)
  - d. Moderate Means Program Practicum (E552)
  - e. Rural Alaska Tax Program (T506)
2. By participating in a UW Law-based public service program:
  - a. Moderate Means Program (outside of enrollment in course E552)
3. By participating in a pre-approved student-led pro bono project (see listing on back of sheet)
4. By participating in a community-based pro bono project (see requirements on back of sheet)

## Documenting Fulfillment of the Public Service Requirement

1. If you fulfill your public service requirement through a clinic, public interest externship, or by enrolling in Street Law, Moderate Means Program Practicum, or Rural Alaska Tax Program, the public service hours will be automatically tracked and verified by Academic Services and **NO DOCUMENTATION IS REQUIRED.**
2. If you fulfill your public service requirement through any other method, please complete and sign the following form, obtain your supervisor's signature, and seek approval from the Gates Public Service Law Program. *This form must be signed by Gates PSL (on the bottom line) and submitted to the Academic Services Office before the end of classes for your graduating quarter.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ UW ID# \_\_\_\_\_ Expected Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I attest that I completed at least 50 hours of law related public service legal work through one or more of the following programs:

### **UW Law-based public service program:**

- Moderate Means Program (outside of enrollment in course E552)

Hours Completed \_\_\_\_\_ Supervisor Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### **Student-led pro bono projects:**

- Student Advocates for Immigrant Justice Pro Bono Projects

Hours Completed \_\_\_\_\_ Supervisor Signature \_\_\_\_\_

- Incarcerated Mothers Advocacy Project

Hours Completed \_\_\_\_\_ Supervisor Signature \_\_\_\_\_

- Street Youth Legal Advocates of WA & Record Sealing Clinic

Hours Completed \_\_\_\_\_ Supervisor Signature \_\_\_\_\_

- CHRJ Asylum Application Assistance Project (aka "App Help")

Hours Completed \_\_\_\_\_ Supervisor Signature \_\_\_\_\_

- Environmental Law Society Pro Bono Research Projects

Hours Completed \_\_\_\_\_ Supervisor Signature \_\_\_\_\_

- Day-long Washington Vets Wills Clinic

Hours Completed \_\_\_\_\_ Supervisor Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### **Community-based pro bono project:**

*\*Please note that all community-based pro bono projects used to satisfy the PSL requirement must meet the definition of "public service legal work" provided on the front page and be pre-approved by a staff member of the Gates Public Service Law Program (located in Suite 346 or contact by email at [gatespsl@uw.edu](mailto:gatespsl@uw.edu)).*

Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor email address and phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief description of work: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Hours Completed: \_\_\_\_\_ Supervisor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Sign-off by Director or Asst. Director of Gates PSL Program :** \_\_\_\_\_