

**POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT
SUPERVISING ATTORNEY, SCHOOLS TEAM**

Job Type: Full Time Exempt

Full Time Equivalent: 1.0 (40 hours/week), Exempt

Reports to: Protection & Advocacy Managing Attorney

Rate: \$60,000-\$68,000 DOE

Location: Madison or Milwaukee. Hybrid remote work (partial at-home and in-office) arrangement offered.

Application Instructions: Submit resume **and** cover letter, detailing your qualifications and experience as they relate to the minimum and preferred qualifications.

For priority consideration apply online at <http://www.disabilityrightswi.org/careers>

Application deadline: May 24,2022. Position will remain open until filled.

Alternate formats of this Position Announcement are available upon request. Materials may be submitted in alternate formats if necessary.

What is DRW?

Disability Rights Wisconsin is the state's Protection and Advocacy system, charged with protecting the rights of individuals with disabilities and keeping them free from abuse and neglect. Employing a variety of means, our advocates and attorneys use individual casework and systems advocacy to achieve positive changes in the lives of people with disabilities and their families. We are seeking employees who value this work. In turn we treat our employees well, offering a supportive environment, talented colleagues, excellent benefits, and generous leave.

DRW arose out of a disability civil rights movement demanding that the abuse of people with disabilities end and that people with disabilities be included in life, school, workplaces, and communities. Our core values include Diversity, Dignity, Independence, Accessibility, Inclusion, Human Rights, and Liberation.

A diversity-based approach to disability rights recognizes the intersectional nature of oppression experienced by people with disabilities from underprivileged and underserved communities. We strive to create a welcoming and inclusive environment at DRW. We work to specifically address disability-related injustices at the intersections of disability and race, disability and gender, disability, and gender-based violence, and more.

Job Summary:

The Supervising Attorney will provide team leadership and coordination for the Schools Team, to include grant reporting, supervision, and advocacy quality assurance; will engage in legal, individual, and systemic advocacy; and provide outreach and training on behalf of students with disabilities.

The Supervising Attorney is responsible for providing individual advocacy and direct legal representation on special education issues, including the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and participating in litigation, systems change initiatives, and outreach and training. The Supervising Attorney is also responsible for providing supervision to the Schools Staff Attorney and Special Education Advocacy Specialists and maintaining content area expertise in special education law and practice.

Key Responsibilities**1. Individual Case Legal Practice 40%**

- Provide effective legal representation in a timely manner on behalf of students with disabilities in special education and related matters.
- Provide timely information, referrals, and legal advice to your assigned clients.
- Accurately complete intake forms and keep organized and up to date case files.
- Provide attorney backup and consultation on cases handled by Schools Staff Attorney, Special Education Advocacy Specialists, and law clerks.
- Engage in mediation, due process hearings, administrative complaints and occasionally litigation with possibility for impact litigation with other attorneys.

2. Supervision and Management 40%

- Provide supervision to Schools Staff Attorney and Special Education Advocacy Specialists.
- Provide leadership to Special Education team on identifying new issues and annual planning in participation with others.
- Coordinate P&A grants as assigned to Schools Team, including completing annual application and reporting forms and oversight of grant budget.

3. Systems Advocacy 10%

- Lead Schools Team in DRW systems change initiatives that impact students with disabilities.
- Represent DRW on coalitions, and committees, that address advocacy issues, and/or the legal and special education rights of people with disabilities.
- DRW's primary content area expert in special education law and practice.

4. Outreach and Training 10%

- Participate in outreach strategies, including efforts focused on specific culturally diverse and disability groups.
- Respond to individual training and media requests regarding special education issues, develop educational and training materials including social media.

Qualifications

Required:

- Law degree and member of (or eligible for admission to) Wisconsin Bar within 6 months after being hired.
- Three years' experience in matters under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.
- Demonstrated commitment to social justice and/or disability rights.
- Experience handling individual client cases, including keeping organized and up to date case files
- Experience supervising others.
- Good oral and written communication skills and experience working independently and as part of a team
- Familiarity with state and federal laws on special education, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- Some Statewide travel required.
- Experience/direct contact with persons of culturally diverse background.

Preferred:

- Experience with the Wisconsin Special Education Mediation System and the Special Education Due Process system.
- Experience/direct contact with people with disabilities.
- Experience providing legal backup or advice.
- Experience supervising attorneys, paralegals, advocates, or law clerks.
- Experience in non-litigative approaches to systems change (e.g., legislative advocacy, grassroots organizing, and policy analysis).
- Experience providing training or public speaking to a variety of groups.

disabilityrights

WISCONSIN

Protection and advocacy for people with disabilities.

Benefits

Disability Rights Wisconsin places a high value on the well-being of our staff. We offer the following benefits for permanent employees working at least 20 hours per week: health, vision, dental, and life insurance; short- and long-term disability; 401(k) retirement savings plan with employer contribution, and flex spending plan. Paid time off includes generous holiday, vacation, personal and medical leave, as well as time for volunteering and voting.

A COVID-19 vaccine mandate is in place for all employees. A copy of the policy can be requested by emailing hr@drwi.org

EEO/AA | We're an equal opportunity employer. All applicants will be considered for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, veteran, or disability status.