



**EDUCATION LAW CENTER
FULL-TIME ATTORNEY POSITION DESCRIPTION**

[Education Law Center](#) (ELC) seeks a full-time attorney to join ELC's legal, research and communications team working across the country to enforce the education rights of public school students under state and federal law.

The main focus of the position will be building an active docket of litigation and policy reform to oppose the proliferation of voucher programs and protect against the diversion of public funds to private education uses. The attorney will work in partnership with the Southern Poverty Law Center and other civil rights organizations to challenge proposed and enacted voucher laws and implementation of voucher programs.

The attorney will have the opportunity to participate in ELC's small but active docket of school finance and other public education equity litigation undertaken with private law firms pro bono and local counsel. ELC has used this "team" approach to successfully challenge an unlimited voucher program in Nevada and in several other cases.

As a member of ELC's legal team, the attorney will also assist in ELC's ongoing initiative to support an extensive network of civil rights, public interest and private law firm litigators enforcing systemic violations of public education rights in the states. The attorney will be responsible for expanding the network to include attorneys working on voucher litigation, including engaging pro bono participation from private law firms.

Founded in 1973, ELC serves as the leading voice for New Jersey's public school children and has become one of the most effective advocates for equal educational opportunity and education justice in the United States. ELC is widely recognized as the nation's "legal defense fund for education rights" for achieving groundbreaking court rulings on behalf of at-risk and vulnerable students. ELC also promotes educational equity through coalition building, litigation support, policy development, communications, and action-focused research in states nationwide and at the federal level.

Job Responsibilities

The specific duties include but are not limited to:

- tracking and reviewing legislation and federal enactments seeking to establish or expand voucher programs in the states;
- developing and undertaking litigation to challenge voucher programs under state and federal law and providing technical legal assistance to advocates in other states;
- preparing amicus briefs in pending voucher litigation;
- coordinating ELC's collaboration to oppose vouchers with Southern Poverty Law Center and other civil rights partner organizations;

- drafting tools for legislative advocacy and producing news articles, policy briefs and reports on legal and policy issues related to vouchers;
- outreach and network building among lawyers and advocates opposed to vouchers;
- providing technical assistance and information to other advocacy organizations as part of ELC's national litigators support network;
- participating in other ELC-led equity litigation; and
- supervising fellows and law students and assisting in the preparation of grant reports.

Qualifications

- four or more years of legal practice experience beyond law school;
- experience in civil rights, education law and/or policy;
- advanced legal research and analytical skills;
- excellent written and verbal communications skills, including social and other media;
- organizational, networking, and relationship-building skills;
- demonstrated ability to work in collaboration across organizational boundaries to achieve agreed-upon goals;
- licensed in New Jersey preferred; and
- commitment to the mission of ELC.

Salary and Benefits

Salary will be commensurate with experience. Paid vacation and sick leave will be provided. ELC's benefit package includes medical, life, and dental insurance, as well as a retirement savings program.

How to apply

To apply, send a resume, cover letter and two writing samples by email to:

Theresa Luhm, Esq.

Education Law Center

60 Park Place, #300

Newark, NJ 07102

tluhm@edlawcenter.org

Deadline

The position will be open until filled.

ELC is an equal opportunity employer and strongly encourages persons with disabilities, persons of color, women, and LGBTQI persons to apply.