

## **POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT (February 2019)**

### **LEGAL SERVICES ATTORNEY POSITION (ROCHESTER, NY)**

The Legal Assistance of Western New York (LawNY®) Rochester Office has an immediate opening for a Staff Attorney at its office located in downtown Rochester. LawNY® is funded in part by the Legal Services Corporation and provides free legal services to low-income families and individuals. The Rochester Office's primary practice areas are civil rights, housing, public benefits, health law, employment, and elder law. Our 40 member staff includes attorneys, paralegals, and a legal support team who work closely across areas of specialization to bring a holistic approach to addressing law related issues affecting our clients and community.

The attorney will be assigned to the Rochester Office's Eviction Prevention Team. The Eviction Prevention Team focuses on helping low-income people maintain their housing, housing subsidies and income supports such as public benefits, medical coverage, child care, and emergency assistance. The position requires frequent interaction and relationship building with grassroots groups, community organizations, and social agencies. The attorney will utilize administrative hearing forums and the court system to challenge evictions, wrongful public benefit determinations and illegal practices. Working with other LawNY® staff members and the community, the attorney will develop strategies, including affirmative litigation, to address systemic problems that adversely impact low-income people. The attorney must have the caring, patience, and emotional maturity to help low-income people overcome crisis situations.

**Program:** LawNY® is a not-for-profit law firm which provides civil legal services to low income clients in a fourteen-county region in western New York State. LawNY® staff work in a cooperative environment and all staff members are expected to assist other staff members to achieve the general purposes of our program.

**Requirements:** Applicants must have at least 3 years or more of relevant experience and be licensed to practice law in New York State. Applicants must have excellent legal advocacy and writing skills, and must be able to communicate effectively with people from diverse backgrounds and cultures. Most importantly, applicants must demonstrate strong commitment to helping low-income and disadvantaged people overcome barriers to housing, and medical and income supports. Preference will be given to candidates who are bilingual in Spanish and English.

Law school graduates who have taken the first available New York State Bar examination following completion of law school may qualify for a practice order pending admission to the New York State bar pursuant to the LawNY® practice order. Attorneys admitted in



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another jurisdiction may qualify for a practice order for up to 18 months pursuant to a court rule.

**Salary/Fringe Benefits:** Salary is dependent upon experience. The candidate will be placed on the LawNY® salary scale based upon their level of relevant experience. The salary for admitted attorneys with three years of experience is \$50,100 per year. Fringe benefits include health, dental, life insurance, short and long-term disability and generous leave time. The position is available immediately and will remain open until filled.

**Procedure:** Applicants should submit a cover letter describing qualifications, resume, and the name and contact information of (3) references by February 22, 2019 to ensure full consideration. Applications will be accepted beyond that date until the position is filled. Applications should be addressed to the attention of Lori O'Brien, Deputy Director, and sent by e-mail to [lawnyapplications@lawny.org](mailto:lawnyapplications@lawny.org). Candidates can also apply via Indeed.com.

Legal Assistance of Western New York, Inc.® (LawNY®) is an equal opportunity employer. LawNY® encourages applications from diverse candidates. LawNY® welcomes applications regardless of race, color, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy, national origin, age, disability, genetic information or any other consideration protected by law.

