



IMMIGRANT LEGAL ADVOCACY PROJECT

Advocacy and Outreach Attorney

Based in Portland, Maine, the Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project (ILAP) is Maine's only state-wide immigration legal aid organization. ILAP helps low-income immigrants improve their legal status and works for more just and humane laws and policies affecting immigrants. ILAP's work includes direct legal services for over 2,000 clients each year; education and outreach to immigrant communities and service providers; and systemic advocacy on local, state, and federal immigration law issues.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

The Advocacy and Outreach Attorney is responsible for working on local, state, and federal systemic advocacy issues impacting Maine's immigrant community; conducting education and outreach on immigration laws and legal rights to Maine's immigrant community and other stakeholders; and coordinating communications on immigration issues and ILAP's work to partners, supporters, the public, and the media.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Monitor and analyze relevant activity related to immigration policy on the local, regional, and national levels.
- Coordinate a strong policy and advocacy agenda consistent with the organization's strategic plan and mission.
- Participate on coalitions and work groups related to immigration law and advocacy.
- Represent ILAP in the community to build and strengthen community relationships.
- Advocate on important immigration issues by: testifying before the legislature; meeting with local, state, and federal government officials; advocating with law enforcement; writing policy statements and sign-on letters, and other related activities.
- Conduct education and outreach to immigrant groups, service providers, stakeholders, and the public on immigration laws and legal rights, including immigration policy changes that impact Maine's immigrant community.
- Coordinate know-your-rights presentations to Maine residents detained by ICE, and conduct advocacy related to ICE enforcement and detention.
- Coordinate communications on immigration law and ILAP's work through regular email communications, social media, press releases, and op-eds.
- Participate in legal staff activities, including attending weekly legal staff meetings, in order to remain informed and updated on immigration laws and procedures.
- Perform other tasks as assigned by the Legal Director or the Executive Director.

QUALIFICATIONS

- J.D. and member in good standing of any state bar.
- Prior experience with immigration law.
- Excellent interpersonal skills with a collaborative work style and ability to work well in coalitions with a variety of different stakeholders.
- Strong analytical, research, and writing skills.
- Ability to challenge and debate issues of importance to the organization.
- Ability to multi-task effectively, including having strong detail-orientation, planning, and organizing skills; and the ability to work well under pressure.
- Comfort in communicating with the media, legislators, and government officials.
- Demonstrated commitment to public interest law or to working with low-income populations, and an ability to work well with individuals from different cultures and with varying levels of English proficiency.
- Willingness to travel for meetings.
- Ability to work nights and weekends as needed.
- Language skills, especially Spanish, French, Somali, Arabic, or Portuguese, are desirable but not required.

COMPENSATION

This is a full-time, permanent position. Compensation is commensurate with experience and includes a competitive benefits package.

TO APPLY

Send cover letter, resume and writing sample by e-mail to Susan Roche, Executive Director, at sroche@ilapmaine.org. Review of applications will begin on June 12th and will continue until the position is filled.

ILAP is an Equal Opportunity Employer.