



Uniform Law Commission

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF COMMISSIONERS ON UNIFORM STATE LAWS

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Legislative Counsel

The Uniform Law Commission (ULC), a nonprofit organization representing state governments, seeks a motivated, articulate, and well-organized attorney to join the legislative staff in its Chicago office.

About the ULC

The ULC drafts nonpartisan, policy-based state legislation in areas of the law for which uniformity among states is desirable. Drafting meetings are scheduled in advance and open to any interested person who registers to attend. Draft laws are posted for public comment and often revised based on the input received. Final uniform acts are published and made available to state legislatures for enactment.

ULC products include the Uniform Commercial Code, the Uniform Probate Code, the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act, The Uniform Interstate Family Support Act, The Uniform Trade Secrets Act, the Uniform Transfers to Minors Act, and over a hundred other uniform and model laws in areas including commercial law, family law, civil procedure, criminal justice, property law, trust and estate law, and the law of business organizations.

Job Description

The primary mission of the Legislative Counsel is to provide support for ULC commissioners as they seek to enact uniform laws in the legislatures of the fifty states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. This may involve organizing coalitions of local advocates, drafting testimony for committee hearings, answering substantive questions about law and policy, drafting summaries and talking points, and tracking bills as they progress through the legislative process.

ULC Legislative Counsel represent the ULC at legislative hearings and in meetings with stakeholders. They liaise with other organizations that have an interest in various uniform acts. Legislative Counsel work closely with state legislators and their staff to strategize and build support for enactment of uniform laws.

The position requires a willingness to travel, particularly during prime state legislative session months (January-May). Attendance at the ULC's seven-day annual meeting each summer is also required.

Desired Skills and Experience

The Legislative Counsel position requires:

- The ability to communicate complex legal information quickly;
- Experience working collaboratively with other organizations, interest groups, and individuals;
- Creativity, professionalism, and the ability to adjust to changing legislative and legal demands and to work within a highly collaborative environment;
- Strong organizational skills and the ability to manage many projects simultaneously;
- Demonstrated ability to take ownership of and solve problems, to expeditiously assess issues, and provide sound legal advice;
- The ability to speak and write effectively;
- A J.D. degree from an ABA-accredited law school;
- Admission to practice law in at least one U.S. jurisdiction; and
- A minimum of one year's experience in law practice, in government relations work, or within state legislative or executive departments.

Favorable consideration will be given to candidates who have significant legislative or policy experience at the state level. Experience with criminal justice issues, business organizations, or technology law is a plus.

Conditions of Employment

This is a full-time salaried position. The ULC legislative staff works in a collegial environment from the ULC office in downtown Chicago. Office hours are generally from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. with some scheduling flexibility. Occasional evening or weekend duties will result in accrual of compensatory time.

The ULC offers a competitive benefits package including health, disability, life, and dental insurance, 11 paid holidays and 2 paid personal leave days annually, three weeks of paid vacation time annually, and a retirement plan with employer contributions.

Starting salary for the Legislative Counsel will be in the range of \$70,000 to \$75,000, commensurate with experience. Following a 90-day probationary period for new employees, performance reviews are conducted annually. Future salary increases are based on merit.

Application Procedures

The deadline for applications is November 2nd, 2018 with a preferred starting date in January 2019.

Please send a cover letter, résumé, and legal writing sample to apply@uniformlaws.org and include "Legislative Counsel" in the subject line. Alternatively, you may mail materials to:

Benjamin Orzeske
Chief Counsel
Uniform Law Commission
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Chicago, IL 60602

An equal opportunity employer, the ULC welcomes and encourages diversity in our workforce.