

Full-Time Administrative Law Judge (ALJ)

Caseload: Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)

Location: Seattle Field Office

Salary: See Posting on [Careers.wa.gov](https://careers.wa.gov)

The Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) is currently seeking a full-time Line ALJ for the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) caseload. The position is located in the **Seattle** office.

About OAH: The Legislature created OAH in 1981 to offer Washingtonians an independent, fair and neutral forum to hold administrative hearings delegated by state and local government agencies. Operating out of field offices in Olympia, Tacoma, Seattle, Spokane Valley and Yakima, approximately 100 ALJs preside over administrative hearings involving multiple subject matter areas. For more information about OAH, please visit our website at oah.wa.gov.

Opportunity: This is an exciting opportunity to work with a small team of ALJs in a fascinating area of law. Approximately 85% of the caseload involves requests for due process hearings under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). These hearings involve disabled children ages 3-21 and their special education programs at school.

About the OSPI caseload: ALJs issue final administrative decisions subject to direct appeal in state superior and federal district courts. This caseload is similar to a civil trial practice. Parties are often represented by attorneys. ALJs must hear and decide complex prehearing matters. Hearings range from one day to multiple weeks. ALJs must critically examine conflicting expert testimony, make difficult credibility determinations, and address multiple issues in the same decision. Decisions are typically 25+ pages.

Requirements/Expectations: ALJs must attend OAH-paid CLE training each year, which will fulfill your Bar CLE requirement. ALJs must be able to travel state-wide for up to a week at a time, and must be able to transport all equipment and files as needed. ALJs must use PRISM, the OAH case management system, as well PRISM templates and forms. ALJs are expected to comply with standard practices and procedures as to non-decisional matters. New ALJs will initially have their work-product reviewed by the Senior ALJ or designee. Timeliness of work is imperative. All ALJs are expected and required to enter timely final decisions. This may require work beyond normal business hours and on weekends. ALJs should be comfortable with high-profile cases and media coverage. ALJs must be able to conduct hearings involving often highly emotional parties.

To Apply: If you would like to learn more about this opportunity, visit: [Careers.wa.gov](https://careers.wa.gov) and search for Administrative Law Judge.