

State of Washington
Attorney General's Office
invites applications for the position of:

Assistant Attorney General - Social and Health Services Division in Olympia

SALARY: Depends on Qualifications

OPENING DATE: 02/13/20

CLOSING DATE: 03/02/20 11:59 PM

DESCRIPTION:

Persons requiring reasonable accommodation in the application process or requiring information in an alternative format may contact Tracy Robinson at 360-586-7693. Those with a hearing impairment in need of accommodation are encouraged to contact the Washington Relay Service at 1-800-676-3777 or www.washingtonrelay.com.



All employees and volunteers of the Washington State Attorney General's Office serve a crucial role in the protection of the state, its people and resources, thereby providing an incomparable degree of job satisfaction. The AGO is composed of diverse, collegial and supremely talented legal professionals who are resolute in their commitment to public service and share the common goal of advancing the public interest. For more information about the AGO, we encourage you to review the Office's Annual Report which can be found [HERE](#) and view [THIS VIDEO](#).

DUTIES:

Do you have experience or an interest in health care law?

The Washington State Attorney General's Office has an opening for an attorney with experience or interest in the quickly evolving and critically important area of health care law. This Assistant Attorney General position is a part of the [Social and Health Services Olympia Division \(SHO\)](#), in the Health Care Authority section. SHO is a large division that provides advice and representation to the Health Care Authority, the Department of Social and Health Services, the Department of Children Youth and Families, the Health Benefit Exchange, the Department of Veteran Affairs and Services for the Blind.

The Health Care Authority section of the SHO Division advises and represents the programs administered by the Washington Health Care Authority (HCA), including the Medicaid, Public Employee Benefits, and newly created School Employee Benefits programs. The section also provides some legal support to Washington's Health Benefit Exchange. The section represents both the HCA and the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) in litigation, in which they partner as co-defendants with regard to programs involving both agencies. An attorney interested in this position should possess excellent analytical and writing skills, and a desire to have a practice involving both client advice and litigation.

Issues that commonly arise in representing the Medicaid program include client eligibility, covered benefits, recovery of state funds from responsible third parties, audits of Medicaid providers (physicians, pharmacists, durable medical equipment providers, dentists, hospitals, etc.), privacy, contract disputes with Medicaid providers, and implementation of the Affordable Care Act. Medicaid litigation commonly involves disputes regarding payment rates for and contractual issues with Medicaid-contracted health care providers. Issues that commonly arise in representing the Public Employee Benefits program include member eligibility, covered benefits, complex contract procurement, public disclosure, privacy, and open public meetings. The School Employee Benefits program is new and client advice will center on the start-up of that program. Attorneys in the Health Care Authority section appear frequently in state and federal courts litigating class actions. In addition to the primary assignment, other work may be available representing HCA or DSHS, depending on interest and client priorities.

Typical daily work for this position may include administrative litigation regarding provider audit overpayment findings, working on a multi-attorney litigation team to defend a class action lawsuit regarding health benefits coverage, and conducting research to provide options-based legal advice to clients.

The Section consists of 8 Assistant Attorneys General who are supported by 2 paralegals and 3 legal assistants. The members of the section are good-humored, collaborative, and hard working. Every member is invested in the success of the other team members. Accordingly, this division and section, like the rest of the AGO, enjoys a collegial, inclusive and respectful working environment in which every person is demonstratively committed to providing exceptional legal services, and each person is given the tools to excel professionally and the necessary support to reach a healthy work-life balance.

This is a full time position located in Tumwater (just south of Olympia).

[Tumwater](#) is a beautiful, thriving and affordable community immediately south of the state capital of Olympia. Living and working here offers unparalleled opportunities to pursue a rewarding career while living in a historically rich and vibrant area. It is ideally situated between the northwest's two largest cities (Seattle and Portland) and exploring either is but a short drive away. If exploring Washington State's natural features is your passion, you will appreciate that hiking, skiing and sailing opportunities are easily accessible. But you needn't stray from home for an adventure, as Tumwater/Olympia offers lush parks and trails, walkable neighborhoods, and exceptional dining, shopping and cultural experiences.

Families and individuals will benefit from Tumwater/Olympia's excellent schools, from elementary through college.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Well-qualified applicants will offer:

- **The ability to quickly master the applicable laws and court rules;**
- **Strong research, writing, and oral presentation skills;**
- **Flexibility and time-management skill to handle both client advice and litigation assignments;**
- **Excellent interpersonal skills to interact with clients and opposing counsel; and**
- **The ability to respectfully engage all team members, from attorneys to professional staff.**

Experience in health care law is not required.

Applicants must have graduated from a law school accredited by the ABA or completed the WSBA's Rule 6 Law Clerk Program and be licensed to practice law in Washington state. The AGO seeks applicants who are committed to public service as demonstrated by an applicant's background, talents, attitude, and enthusiasm for public law practice. The AGO greatly encourages, celebrates and values diversity, appreciating that a workforce composed of those from different backgrounds and experiences creates an inclusive environment, strengthens positive relationships with the local community and brings new perspectives and approaches to fulfill its mission of providing excellent, independent and ethical legal services to the State of Washington and protect the rights of its people.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:

The Assistant Attorney General position is represented by the Association of Assistant Attorneys General (AWAAG) / Washington Federation of State Employees (WFSE) AFSCME Council 28, AFL-CIO.

Starting salary for AAG positions for entry level positions start at sixty-three thousand dollars a year. Ultimately, AAG salaries are based on experience and qualifications, and are commensurate with comparable positions in the AGO. A competitive state benefits package is also offered which includes a choice of medical/dental insurance plans, retirement, life and basic long-term disability insurance. In addition, there are non-financial benefits that include working in a collaborative and supportive work environment where professional development and work-life balance are highly valued.

Interested applicants must apply by hitting the "apply" button above. In addition to the on-line application, one must upload, via the system, **preferably as PDFs:**

- A letter of interest;
- Resume;
- Law school transcript (unofficial copy is acceptable); and
- Writing sample.

If you have questions about this position and/or want to learn more about it before applying, please contact Senior Counsel Angela Coats McCarthy at Angela.CoatsMcCarthy@atg.wa.gov or 360-586-6484. The deadline to apply is March 2, 2020.

Honoring diversity, equity and inclusion means that as an agency, and as individuals, we are committed to ensuring that all employees and volunteers enjoy a respectful, safe and supportive working environment. Only by fostering the inclusion of people from all backgrounds, cultures and attributes, can AGO employees and volunteers achieve their fullest potential and best advance the goals and mission of the AGO.

The AGO is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, marital status, sexual orientation/gender identity, age, disability, honorably discharged veteran or military status, retaliation or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. Persons requiring reasonable accommodation in the application process or requiring information in an alternative format may contact Tracy Robinson at 360-586-7693. Those with a hearing impairment in need of accommodation are encouraged to contact the Washington Relay Service at 1-800-676-3777 or www.washingtonrelay.com.

Assistant Attorney General - Social and Health Services Division in Olympia Supplemental Questionnaire

- * 1. Have you ever worked or volunteered for the Washington State Attorney General's Office?
If yes, indicate dates and positions in which you served. If "NO", you will need to indicate "NO" or "N/A" in order to proceed with your application.
- * 2. List all activities or community involvement, past or present, that demonstrate a commitment to public service.
- * 3. Are you a current member of the Washington State Bar Association?
 Yes No
- 4. What is your Washington State Bar Association number?
- 5. If seeking admission to the WSBA via reciprocity or score transfer, what date do you anticipate being admitted to the WSBA?

- * 6. Have you ever been subject to discipline or censure by a Bar Association or other licensing organization? If "YES" provide a full explanation for each disciplinary action. If the answer is "NO" you must indicate this by typing "NO" in order to proceed with your application.
- * 7. Is there any Bar disciplinary proceeding pending against you? If "YES", provide a full explanation. If the answer is "NO", you must indicate this by typing "NO" in order to proceed with your application.
- * 8. Have you ever been held in contempt or sanctioned by any state or federal court or administrative agency? If "Yes", provide a full explanation for each action. If the answer is "No" you must indicate this by typing "No" in order to proceed with your application.
- * 9. Have you ever been fired, asked to resign, or resigned in lieu of termination, from any position? If "YES", you must provide a full explanation for each termination. If the answer is "NO", you must indicate this by typing "NO" in order to proceed with your application.
- * 10. Have you participated, whether as an attorney, paralegal, legal assistant, or in any other capacity, in the representation of any party in a matter where the party's interest was materially adverse to that of the State, its agencies, or its officers or employees? If "YES", please identify all such matters, including the parties to the matter, the court and cause number of the matter, and your role in the matter. If "NO", you must indicate this by typing "NO" in order to proceed with your application. If you require additional space, please attach additional sheets and indicate your attachment here.
- * 11. Have you participated as a judge, arbitrator, mediator, adjudicative officer, or as a law clerk to such a person, in a matter in which the State or any of its agencies, officers, or employees were a party? If YES, please identify all such matters, including the parties to the matter, the court and cause number of the matter, and your role in the matter. If "NO", you must indicate this by typing "NO" in order to proceed with your application. If you require additional space, please attach additional sheets and indicate your attachment here.
- * 12. Is there any other matter, person, entity, or personal interest that might present a conflict of interest or otherwise limit your ability to perform work for the Attorney General's Office or represent a state agency, officer, or employee? If YES, please identify such matters, persons, entities, or personal interests with sufficient detail to allow the Attorney General's Office to understand the nature of the potential conflict of interest. You are not required to disclose any pending or contemplated complaint or dispute for which the law allows you to remain anonymous; however, you are responsible for not accepting assignments that would violate conflict of interest or confidentiality provisions of the Rules of Professional Conduct or other laws with regard to such matters. If "NO", you must indicate this by typing "NO" in order to proceed with your application. If you require additional space, please attach additional sheets and indicate your attachment here.
- * 13. Please be advised that the AGO thoroughly checks references, including one's current employer. HOWEVER, it is very important to note that references are ONLY checked after at least one interview. Any concerns about checking references can be discussed during any interview. For the sake of efficiency, we ask that you proactively provide a release by responding affirmatively to the following statement. I authorize the Washington State Attorney General's Office (AGO) to contact any or all of my former or present employers, or organizations for which services have been provided, for the purposes of verification and reference. This may include information of a confidential nature, to include but is not limited to reviewing my personnel file, contacting any references, and/or contacting anyone else who might be familiar with my past job performance. I knowingly and voluntarily release the state of Washington, the AGO, its individual employees, and all my former or present employers, and their individual employees, from any and all known and unknown claims for damages or other relief arising out of the AGO's request for and receipt of employment information, unless my current or former employer is prohibited by state or federal law from disclosing the information that the AGO requests. PLEASE TYPE YOUR FULL NAME IN RESPONSE TO THIS SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTION TO PROVIDE SUCH AUTHORIZATION.
- * 14. Have you uploaded all of the required material (i.e., letter of interest, resume, law school transcript and writing sample) with this application?
 Yes No

* Required Question