

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

Assistant Attorney General - Tacoma Division's Social and Health Services Section

SALARY: Depends on Qualifications

OPENING DATE: 04/08/20

CLOSING DATE: 05/03/20 11:59 PM

DESCRIPTION:

Persons requiring reasonable accommodation in the application and/or interview process, may contact Tracy Robinson at 360-586-7693. For those who are hearing impaired and need assistance, please 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 a degree of job satisfaction that is incomparable. 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](#).

[Tacoma](#) is a welcoming and affordable city that offers a rich history and vibrant cultural opportunities.

DUTIES:

The [Tacoma Division](#) has an immediate opening for an Assistant Attorney General (AAG) in the Social and Health Services (SHS) Section. The Tacoma SHS Section is comprised of 20 AAGs, 6 paralegals, and 9.5 legal assistants. The primary focus of the section is on representation of the Department of Children Youth and Families (DCYF) but also includes representation of the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS). The Tacoma office handles matters in Pierce and Kitsap Counties.

The types of cases that this position would handle include litigation of dependency, termination, and guardianship cases brought under RCW Chapter 13.34 in superior court. The AAG in this position would also handle their own appeals. Cases assigned may also include contested adoptions under RCW Chapter 26.33, family law matters under Title 26, including non-parental custody petitions, public disclosure/confidentiality issues, fair hearings appeals, foster care and day care license suspension and/or revocation hearings and miscellaneous superior court or administrative hearings matters.

The attorney in this position will carry a mixed caseload. This will include representation of DCYF in child welfare cases to protect abused and neglected children in dependency, guardianship, and termination of parental rights cases. In addition, this position will handle appeals of juvenile litigation cases. The subject matter can be difficult but in a meaningful way. This position also includes representation of DCYF and/or DSHS in childcare, foster care, group care, childcare facilities, and other licensing cases, including regulatory enforcement. These cases involve advising the client regarding regulatory enforcement matters, representing the client agency in contested matters before the Office of Administrative Hearings and related Superior Court judicial review proceedings under the Washington Administrative Procedures Act.

QUALIFICATIONS:

We seek the following qualifications for this opportunity:

- The ability to communicate effectively with a variety of client agency representatives as well as with attorney and professional staff colleagues;
- The demonstrated ability to foster teamwork and collaboration and promote a positive work environment that recognizes and respects all employees;
- The demonstrated ability to independently manage time, identify and prioritize tasks, and maintain a well-organized practice under significant caseload demands; and
- Familiarity with RCW 13.34 and the Administrative Procedures Act.

Additionally, the division seeks candidates that preferably have experience in the following:

- Litigating before the Superior Court and/or appellate experience;
- Handling juvenile dependency and terminations;
- Presenting and defending motions;
- Interviewing and presenting witnesses; and
- Providing client advice.

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 (AAG) / 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 and 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 wish to learn more about it before applying, we encourage and welcome you to contact Section Chief Barbara Bailey at (253) 597-4117 or via email at Barbara.Bailey@atg.wa.gov. The deadline to apply is May 3, 2020.

(If you have questions or concerns about the recruitment and interviewing process in light of the Governor's stay-at-home order, you are encouraged to contact Attorney Recruitment Administrator, Linda Nakamura, at Linda.Nakamura@atg.wa.gov or (206) 464-6446.)

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 - Tacoma Division's Social and Health Services Section 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 or asked to resign 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