

Student Clinics Application Deadline

Return to Vanessa Gosa, Secretary (Clinical Wing, Room 254 – Law Bldg.)

<p>NAME: _____</p> <p>SCHOOL BOX #: _____</p> <p>LOCAL ADDRESS: _____ _____</p> <p>EMAIL ADDRESS: _____</p> <p>LOCAL PHONE _____</p> <p>PERMANENT ADDRESS: _____ _____</p> <p>PHONE: _____</p> <p>PRESENT YEAR & DIVISION: _____</p> <p>GRADUATION DATE: _____</p> <p># CREDITS COMPLETED: _____ (as of term applied for)</p> <p>GRADE POINT AVERAGE: _____ (2.3 minimum*)</p>	<p>DATE APPLIED: _____</p> <p>CLINIC CHOICE (indicate order of preference):</p> <p>_____ Criminal Defense Clinic (PA)</p> <p>_____ Environmental and Natural Resources</p> <p>_____ Delaware Civil Clinic</p> <p>_____ Veterans Law Clinic</p> <p>_____ Clinical Externship</p> <p>_____ Judicial Externship (See course description for additional application requirements)</p> <p>_____ Health Law Externship Program</p> <p>Number of credits applied for _____</p> <p>Students may not take more than 12 clinical credits during their law school career.</p>
<p>COURSES TAKEN (if you will take concurrent with Clinic, indicate “☆”)</p> <p>FOR ALL CLINICS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Responsibility <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal Law <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal Procedure I <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal Procedure II <input type="checkbox"/> Other Criminal Law Elective _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Evidence <input type="checkbox"/> Family Law <input type="checkbox"/> Interviewing & Counseling <input type="checkbox"/> Negotiation <input type="checkbox"/> Trial Practice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Trial Methods <input type="checkbox"/> ATAP <input type="checkbox"/> ITAP <input type="checkbox"/> Trial Methods <input type="checkbox"/> Alternative Dispute Resolution 	<p>Enrollment Prerequisites:</p> <p>▶ Minimum GPA requirement: 2.3 (*Exceptions:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Judicial Externship – 2.5</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Health Law Externship – 2.7</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Global Law Externship – 2.7</p> <p>▶ Successful completion (C or better) of Professional Responsibility & Evidence.</p>

Continue on Reverse Side ►

All applicants, complete the following:

Previous Clinic Enrollment: Yes No

If previous enrollment, which one(s); which semester(s); total credits:

Fluent in any language other than English (specify) _____

For all Clinics:

1. Describe your legal experience.
2. Describe other relevant experience (including jobs, skills, languages, interests, etc.)
3. Describe why you wish to enroll in the clinic.
4. Describe any employment and non-classroom law school activities in which you will be involved next semester.
5. Submit a resume, if available.

NOTE: *Once enrolled in a Clinical program, students may not withdraw from the course without specific written authorization from a Program Director.*

CRIMINAL DEFENSE CLINIC

Students enrolled in the **Criminal Defense Clinic** will represent indigent persons charged with misdemeanor offenses in state courts. Students represent clients through all phases of the case including:

- initial interviews,
- preliminary hearings,
- investigations,
- plea negotiations,
- pretrial motions and hearings,
- jury or bench trials.

Students may also participate in the post-conviction representation of defendants.

The course includes a two hour weekly seminar focusing on case reviews, lawyering and advocacy skills as well as substantive criminal law and criminal procedure. Students are expected to devote a minimum of twenty (20) hours per week to their clinic work.

Only third year students are eligible to enroll. Students will be selected by the Clinic's Director after submission of application and interview. Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure I, Evidence and Professional Responsibility are course prerequisites. Preference will be given to students who have taken Trial Methods or ITAP and Criminal Procedure II.

Once enrolled in the Pennsylvania Criminal Defense Clinic, students may not withdraw from the course without specific written authorization from a Program Director.

ENVIRONMENTAL & NATURAL RESOURCES LAW CLINIC

The **Environmental and Natural Resources Law Clinic** has since 1989 offered students the opportunity to prepare for practice by assisting clients with issues under federal Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, Endangered Species Act, National Environment Policy Act, and other federal, state, and local environmental laws.

The Environmental and Natural Resources Law Clinic provides legal representation to individuals and dozens of national and regional public interest environmental groups. Cases include appeals, regulatory proceedings, land use, and citizen suits as private attorneys general in Federal and State courts. Students work with administrative agencies, scientists and engineers, conduct documentary research, and develop and implement legal strategies under the close supervision of the Clinic Director.

The Environmental and Natural Resources Law Clinic also includes a weekly seminar that addresses substantive and procedural problems encountered by students in their clinical work as well as work on the Clinic Case, an exercise to develop and hone practical skills of civil litigation drafting and strategy.

Recommended but not required: One of the following: Environmental Law, Natural Resources Law, Enforcement of Environmental Law, Ocean & Coastal Law, Environmental Seminar, Toxic Torts, and Evidence.

For more information visit www.widenerelc.org and click on "Environmental Law Clinic – For Students" link.

Once enrolled in the Environmental Law Clinic, students may not withdraw from the course without specific written authorization from a Program Director.

DELAWARE CIVIL CLINIC

The **Delaware Civil Clinic** (DCC) provides free legal services to indigent clients with civil legal problems. The DCC operates in conjunction with Delaware Volunteer Legal Services (DVLS), the pro bono arm of the Delaware State Bar Association.

Third year student attorneys are admitted to the limited practice of law under Delaware Supreme Court Rule 56 and represent clients in Family Court. Clinic students learn to apply the practical legal skills such as interviewing, counseling, negotiating, and trial advocacy in the representation of actual clients.

Third year students attorneys are expected to work twenty (20) hours a week. Student duties include:

- Preparing for trial
- Appearing in court
- Interviewing clients
- Performing telephone intakes
- Screening cases
- Working with pro bono attorneys

(Students are expected to work through school vacations during the semester and may be required to keep court dates during the final exam period.)

The clinic may also accept **second year** students for 2 credits depending on space availability, to do limited work in the clinic for approximately seven (7) hours per week.

Students enrolled in the Clinic may be able to satisfy some of their Delaware Bar Clerkship requirements through participation in the DCC.

Students must be available every Friday for court rotation, trial observation, and hearings.

The perfect applicant for the Delaware Civil Clinic is a student who has taken Family Law, Interviewing and Counseling, Negotiations, Trial Advocacy, Delaware Practice, and Domestic Violence or Violence Against Women; who is in the top 25% of the class; who has an undergraduate degree or experience in social work; who believes that the poor should have equal access to civil justice; and who is planning to take the Delaware Bar. The Clinic will, however, accept applications from students who have any of the above qualifications.

Third year students must have taken Professional Responsibility and Evidence.

Students participating in the Delaware Civil Clinic must attend a trial and training sessions prior to or at the beginning of the semester. These sessions are **mandatory** and will take place during business hours.

Once enrolled in the Delaware Civil Clinic, students may not withdraw from the course without specific written authorization from a Program Director.

VETERANS LAW CLINIC

History: The Veterans Law Clinic is a pro bono litigation program co-sponsored by Delaware Volunteer Legal Services and Widener University School of Law. It began operations in the Fall of 1997. Prof. Justin Holbrook is the Program Director.

Type & Kind of Clients and Cases: The Veterans Law Clinic primarily represents disabled veterans and their dependents who have made disability claims for compensation with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Clients include veterans of the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Gulf War, and the more recent wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Each of these clients suffers from a current disability arising from military service. Student interns assist clients in developing and appealing meritorious compensations claims from the VA Regional Office to the Board of Veterans Appeals and beyond.

Program Objectives & Skills Training: The primary objectives of the clinic are two-fold. First, students should leave the clinic with a working knowledge of how to practice veterans law, a discrete area of administrative law. Second, students should gain a range of practical skills useful in any legal practice, including (a) how to intake and interview clients, (b) how to file administrative claims, (c) how to locate and guide forensic experts, (d) how to gather documentary evidence, (e) how to present opening statements and direct examinations at administrative hearings, (f) how to write administrative appellate briefs, and (e) how to manage time and cases using firm-style client-matter management software.

To facilitate these objectives, Prof. Holbrook conducts a classroom component once a week for two hours. The classroom component focuses on skills training relating to VA benefits practice and on the substantive law of VA compensation benefits.

Eligible Students and Time Commitments: **This program is especially suitable for Extended Division students.** Generally, students are enrolled for six credits and are expected to spend 20 hours per week working in the Veterans Law Clinic. Because of the nature of the clinical work, much work can be done at home or another suitable location away from the Law School. Extended Division students and students with exceptional circumstances may enroll in the clinic for three credits with Prof. Holbrook's consent. Health Law LL.M. students who are admitted to the bar of any U.S. jurisdiction may be admitted as Associate Staff Attorneys for credit.

Prerequisites: Professional Responsibility. Prof. Holbrook reserves the right to interview every prospective intern before accepting the intern into the program.

Directed Research for Second Semester: Interns who wish to assist the program for an additional semester may register for a Directed Research project related to VA benefits practice

Once enrolled in the Veterans Law Clinic, students may not withdraw from the course without specific written authorization from a Program Director.

CLINICAL EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Clinical Externship is generally a full-year clinical lawyering experience in which students may earn three (3) or four (4) credits each semester. The course is graded pass/fail. Students who enroll in the **Clinical Externship** generally must commit to enrollment for the entire academic year.

If you have questions about placements for the Spring term, please contact Dr. Howe-Barksdale (ext. 2214). Clinical Externship placements are encouraged for the summer term.

The Requirements: Briefly put -and not intended to limit more specific instructions- to complete the program, externs must:

- ☞ Spend a minimum of **10-15** hours per week at placement (**3** credits per semester, **2** semester commitment).
- ☞ Submit three 3-5 page reflective writings per semester, 3 Case Journals, Log of Service Hours, and complete ungraded MPT practice exam
- ☞ Register and participate in class activities on the TWEN Clinical Public Interest Course.
- ☞ Complete student placement evaluation.
- ☞ Satisfactory evaluations by supervising attorney.

The Prerequisites: Applicants must have completed **three (3)** semesters of law school for placements in Pennsylvania. Applicants must have completed **four (4)** semesters of law school for placements in Delaware. All applicants must have successfully completed courses in **Professional Responsibility** and **Evidence**. Some placements also may require students to have completed either ITAP or Trial Methods. The Director will have final authority to determine which applicants qualify for admission and to determine placements with particular offices.

Application Requirements: Applicants should complete the **Externship Application Form** in this packet. In addition, applicants **must submit** the following materials to the Clinical Programs secretary Vanessa Gosa (Clinical Wing, 2nd Floor, Law Bldg. – Room 254):

- ☞ A complete, current **transcript of grades** (student copy).
- ☞ One (1) copy of a current résumé and cover letter for requested placements.
- ☞ One (1) copy of offer letter for secured placement (which should include supervising attorney contact information).
- ☞ A Clinical Credit Approval Form (available from Registrar).

Applicants will be scheduled for placement interviews with faculty Director (typically held within two weeks of application deadline) and must submit a formal request for Certification.

Once enrolled in the Clinical Externship Program, students may not withdraw from the course without specific written authorization from a Program Director.

JUDICIAL EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The Placements: Students enrolled in the Judicial Externship Program are placed as part-time clerks for academic credit in chambers of judges in State and Federal trial and appellate courts in Delaware, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, including Federal Circuit, District and Magistrate Courts; State Supreme, intermediate appellate and trial courts; and various other courts including U.S. Tax Court, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, state courts of equity, and administrative law courts.

The Requirements: Briefly put -and not intended to limit more specific instructions- to complete the program, externs must:

- ☞ Spend a minimum of **10** hours per week at placement (**3** credits per semester, **2** semester commitment).
- ☞ Submit three periodic 3-5 page reflective writings; complete practice MPT exam
- ☞ Participate in weekly class activities on the JEP Home Page.
- ☞ Complete student placement evaluation.
- ☞ Satisfactory evaluation by supervising judge.

The Prerequisites: Applicants must have completed **3** semesters of law school, and must have successfully completed courses in **Professional Responsibility** and **Evidence**. The Directors will have final authority to determine which applicants qualify for admission and to determine placements with particular courts. We recognize that some students have special relationships with judges, or may have contacted judges prior to application and enrollment. Such arrangements for placement will be carefully considered as they occur. Students are strongly urged to complete the application and placement interview before communicating with a judge.

Application Requirements: Applicants should complete the **Externship Application Form** in this packet. In addition, applicants **must submit** the following materials to the Clinical Programs secretary Vanessa Gosa (Clinical Wing, 2nd Floor, Law Bldg. – Room 254):

- ☞ A complete, current **transcript of grades** (student copy).
- ☞ Two (**2**) copies of a current résumé.
- ☞ Two (**2**) copies of one writing sample.

Once enrolled in the Judicial Externship Program, students may not withdraw from the course without specific written authorization from a Program Director.

HEALTH LAW EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM – Registration

Note: Applicants interested in this program should contact Program Director, Prof. Eileen A. Grena-Piretti, at egrena@widener.edu, Room 223 - Law Building or telephone (302) 477-2102

Placements:

The Health Law Externship Program seeks to provide qualified students with supervised work experience during the course of study for a J.D. or LL.M. Widener will undertake to place health law students with health care organizations, law firms and nonprofit organizations (“Sponsors”) in the Delaware Valley region where they work under the supervision of practicing attorneys. This externship strives to prepare students for the vast field of health law by offering a variety of sponsors and academic requirements.

Requirements:

- Completion of all 1st year courses
- Completion of LAW 702 Professional responsibility with a “C” or better
- Students must also have taken either Health Law I or Health Law II
- Minimum 2.7 GPA

Performance:

- Acceptance by Sponsor
- 140 hours per semester supervised work (average 10 hours per week. This will vary on the number of credits requested, 2 or 3.)
- Attend course orientation, complete online threaded discussions and online assignments, attend monthly classroom meetings, and complete a hypothetical case analysis.
- Submit a ten (10) page reflective writing.
- Successful completion of objectives in supervisor placement plan.
- Satisfactory midterm and final evaluations by supervising attorney.

Application Requirements: Application Requirements: Applicants should complete the **Externship Application Form** in this packet. In addition, applicants **must submit** the following materials to Clinical Programs secretary Vanessa Gosa (Clinical Wing, 2nd Floor, Law Bldg. – Room 254):

- ☞ Registration for L929
- ☞ A copy of a current résumé.
- ☞ A Personal statement and objectives.
- ☞ A Clinical Credit Approval Form (available from Registrar).

Registration: Placements are not guaranteed, so interested students should register for classes with enough credits to suffice in the event they cannot be placed in the Program. If you are interested, please register for the term accordingly, and make your interest known to Prof. Eileen A. Grena at: egrena@widener.edu, Room #223 of the Main Law Building, or (302) 477-2102. Contact with Prof. Grena should be two months prior to the anticipated externship semester commencement date.

Once enrolled in the Health Law Externship Program, students may not withdraw from the course without specific written authorization from the Program Director.