## Student Clinics Application Deadline – October 27, 2014 @ 5:00 p.m.

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

| NAME:   | DATE APPLIED:  |
|---|--|
| SCHOOL BOX #:   | CLINIC CHOICE (indicate order of preference):  |
| LOCAL ADDRESS:  | Criminal Defense Clinic (PA) Delaware Civil Clinic Environmental and Natural Resources   |
| EMAIL ADDRESS:  | Veterans Law Clinic  |
| LOCAL PHONE   | Clinical Public Interest Externship  |
| PERMANENT ADDRESS:  | Judicial Externship (See course  description for additional application requirements)  |
| PHONE:  | Health Law Externship Program  |
| PRESENT YEAR & DIVISION:  GRADUATION DATE:  # CREDITS COMPLETED:  (as of term applied for )  GRADE POINT AVERAGE:   | Number of credits applied for  Students may not take more than 12 clinical credits during their law school career.                           |
| (2.3 minimum*) COURSES TAKEN  | Enrollment Prerequisites:  |
| (if you will take concurrent with Clinic, indicate "☆")  FOR ALL CLINICS  □ Professional Responsibility □ Criminal Law □ Criminal Procedure I □ Criminal Procedure II □ Other Criminal Law Elective   | ► Minimum GPA requirement: 2.3  (*Exceptions:  Judicial Externship – 2.5  Health Law Externship – 2.7  ► Successful completion (C or better) |
| <ul> <li>□ Evidence</li> <li>□ Family Law</li> <li>□ Interviewing &amp; Counseling</li> <li>□ Negotiation</li> <li>□ Trial Practice</li> <li>□ Advanced Trial Methods</li> <li>□ ATAP</li> <li>□ ITAP</li> <li>□ Trial Methods</li> <li>□ Alternative Dispute Resolution</li> </ul> | of Professional Responsibility & Evidence.  (*Exceptions:  Veterans Law Clinic   |

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.   |  |
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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 – Spring 2015, Registration**

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. The Clinic is a one semester course for 6 credits.

Only third year students are eligible to enroll. Students will be selected by the Clinic's Director and Staff Attorney 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 the Program Director.

# ENVIRONMENTAL & NATURAL RESOURCES LAW CLINIC - Spring 2015, Registration

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 <u>www.widenerelc.org</u> 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 the Program Director.

## **DELAWARE CIVIL CLINIC – Spring 2015, Registration**

The **Delaware Civil Clinic** (DCC) provides free legal services to survivors of domestic violence, living below the poverty level, seeking civil legal representation, in obtaining protection from abuse orders, custody, visitation, and preparing divorce petitions. Legal representation also may include preparing wills, power of attorney, and health care directives for elderly and terminally ill Delawareans. The DCC operates in conjunction with Delaware Volunteer Legal Services, Inc. (DVLS), the pro bono arm of the Delaware State Bar Association.

Third year DCC students are admitted to the limited practice of law, as Certified Legal Interns, pursuant to Delaware Supreme Court Rule 56 and represent clients in Family Court. DCC students learn practical legal skills in the representation of actual clients.

The DCC is a one semester course for 6 credits. Third year students are expected to work a minimum of twenty (20) hours a week. Student duties include:

- Intake and Case Assessment
- Client & Witness Interviews
- Conduct Factual and Legal Investigations
- Prepare Memorandum of Law
- Prepare Legal Documents (petitions, motions, etc.)
- Trial Preparation (trial strategy, opening statements, direct and cross examinations, evidentiary issues, etc.)
- Negotiation
- Litigation
- Community Outreach

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 DCC 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 DCC are 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; every Tuesday for team meetings and class; and to work a four-hour scheduled telephone intake duty for the Legal Help Link (8:45 AM to 12:45 PM or 12:45 PM to 4:45 PM, Monday through Thursday). Students participating in the DCC must also attend all Friday training sessions beginning the first week of classes. 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 the Program Director.

### **VETERANS LAW CLINIC – Spring 2015, Registration**

**History:** The **Veterans Law Clinic** provides free legal representation to veterans residing in Delaware, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Prof. Susan Saidel is the current Program Director.

**Type & Kind of Clients and Cases:** The Veterans Law Clinic represents veterans with disabilities stemming from their time in the military service who have been denied compensation from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Student interns will represent disabled veterans through all phases of the case from intake and initial interviews, investigation and gathering of documentary evidence, working with forensic experts, representing clients at administrative hearings, and appellate brief writing.

Students may also work on other legal issues facing veterans, and will be required to attend several outreach events during the semester to provide legal services.

**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 and administrative law. Second, students should gain a range of practical skills useful in any legal practice, including (a) how to conduct intakes 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 and appellate briefs, and (e) how to manage time and cases using firm-style client-matter management software.

The clinic includes 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, some work can be done at home or another suitable location away from the Law School. Students can enroll for three to five credits, but should be aware that the clinic does require a significant time commitment.

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

**Prerequisites:** Students will be selected by the Clinic's Director after submission of application and interview. The clinic is open to any student who has completed at least 3 semesters and Professional Responsibility

**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 the Program Director.

## CLINICAL PUBIC INTEREST EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM – Spring 2015, Registration

The **Clinical Public Interest Externship** is generally a full-year clinical legal field placement experience in which students may earn up to a total of eight (8) academic credits. The course is graded pass/fail. Students are required to attend **mandatory** seminar classes on Monday evenings from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. and participate in activities on the Clinical Externship Program (CEP) TWEN course.

If you have questions about placements for the Academic Year, please contact Dr. Howe-Barksdale (ext. 2214).

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

- Spend approximately **15-20** hours per week at placement (to serve a total of 140-210 hours each semester).
- Submit three (3-5 page) reflective writings, 3 Case Journals, and a complete Log of service hours each semester.
- Participate in class discussions and activities on the CEP TWEN course.
- Complete student placement plan and evaluation each semester.
- Receive satisfactory evaluations by supervising attorney each semester.

**The Prerequisites:** By the start of the Externship Placement, students must have earned 60 credits for DE and NJ (45 credits for PA), and must have successfully completed courses in **Professional Responsibility** and **Evidence with grades of C+ or better**. Some placements also may require students to have completed additional courses such as Fed Tax, Family Law, ITAP and/or Trial Methods. Students are responsible for securing their own externship placements; however, Dr. Howe-Barksdale 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 the current résumé and cover letter used to secure placement.
- One (1) copy of the offer letter/email from placement organization (including Supervising attorney's name and contact information).
- A Clinical Credit Approval Form (available from Registrar).

Students will be required to set up an appointment with Dr. Howe-Barksdale regarding externship placements. With notification, Dr. Howe-Barksdale will be happy to meet with students, and if applicable, offer an extension to the application deadline.

Once enrolled in the Clinical Public Interest Externship Program, students may not withdraw from the course without specific written authorization from Dr. Howe-Barksdale.

#### JUDICIAL EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM – Spring 2015, Registration

**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 **must** complete the **Externship Application Form** in this packet, and **submit** the completed Application Form, along with a complete, current, **official transcript of grades** (student copy) to the Clinical Programs secretary, Vanessa Gosa (Clinical Wing, 2nd Floor, Law Bldg. – Room 254.

In addition, Applicants **must** submit an electronic copy (as an email attachment) of a current résumé and a writing sample to Professor Catania at <u>ficatania@widener.edu</u>.

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

#### **HEALTH LAW EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM – Spring 2015, Registration**

Note: Applicants interested in this program should contact Program Director, Prof. Eileen A. Grena-Piretti, at <a href="mailto:eagrena@widener.edu">eagrena@widener.edu</a>, Graduate Program Office, 1<sup>st</sup> fl. 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 and return to Susan Birdsong, Secretary, Health Law Externship (Graduate Program Office):

- 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 accordingly, and make your interest known to Prof. Eileen A. Grena at: <a href="mailto:eagrena@widener.edu">eagrena@widener.edu</a>, Graduate Program Office, 1<sup>st</sup> floor 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.