

Access to Justice Board

Volunteer Position Description

The Access to Justice (ATJ) Board was established by the Washington Supreme Court in 1994 at the request of the Washington State Bar Association in response to a growing need to coordinate access to justice efforts in Washington. Recognizing that access to the civil justice system is a fundamental right, the ATJ Board works to achieve equal access for those facing economic and other significant barriers. For more information about the ATJ Board, see <http://allianceforequaljustice.org/access-to-justice-board/who-we-are/>.

Position overview:

ATJ Board member responsibilities include:

- Attending 10-12 regular half-day Board meetings (mostly in Seattle);
- Participating in an annual day-long retreat (usually in Seattle);
- Attending the bi-annual Access to Justice Conference (location varies);
- Serving as co-chair or liaison to at least one standing committee of the Board;
- Serving as liaison to at least one partner organization; and
- Active participation in Board initiatives.

The ATJ Board typically meets at the WSBA offices in downtown Seattle and has at least two meetings a year outside of King County. In-person attendance at the monthly ATJ Board meetings is strongly encouraged but not required. Attendance at all other committee and workgroup meetings can be either in person or remote.

Appointment is for a three-year term with eligibility to be reappointed for one additional three-year term.

Time commitment: Service on the ATJ Board requires a substantial time commitment estimated at ten to twenty hours per month by the end of one's term.

Requirements: The ATJ Board has four open positions that may be filled by an attorney or a person who is not an attorney.

Preferred qualifications and skills: We are looking for strategic thinkers who are committed to equity and justice. We are looking for demonstrated leadership in equity and justice work and a proven track record of collaboration, strategic thinking and communication, fostering processes of renewal and building new leaders. Personal/professional experience working in community-based organizations, civil legal aid programs, pro bono programs or public defense is a plus. We also encourage applications from people who are or have been eligible for civil legal aid services.

Benefits:

- Significantly influence, improve and support civil legal aid and pro bono services across the state
- Networking
- Leadership opportunities
- Public service

(cont.)

Reimbursement policy: This is an unpaid volunteer position. Reasonable travel expenses may be reimbursed per the WSBA Expense Reimbursement Policy.

Selection and appointment process: Qualified candidates will be interviewed in March-April 2018 by a committee of the Access to Justice Board. Appointments are made by the Washington Supreme Court upon nomination of the Washington State Bar Association Board of Governors in consultation with the Access to Justice Board.

For further information: See <http://allianceforequaljustice.org/access-to-justice-board/who-we-are/>.

How to apply: <https://www.mywsba.org/CommitteeNomination.aspx> (requires myWSBA login).
Deadline is February 28, 2018. After February 28, contact Bonnie Sterken at BonnieS@wsba.org to receive application instructions. As asked in the application, please provide a résumé and a letter of interest describing your commitment to access to justice, and your commitment, experience, and any contribution you feel you can make relative to the diversity of the Board. We define diversity broadly to include age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, geographical location, indigenous background, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, social class and veteran status. You may also include one letter of recommendation. Questions about the application? Email barleaders@wsba.org.