

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Council Volunteer Position Description

The Washington State Bar Association's DEI Council works to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion and address the problems of bias, systemic inequities and underrepresentation in the legal profession. The council works with a variety of stakeholders to ensure it centers underrepresented members and communities, and works collaboratively with WSBA staff who manage diversity, equity, and inclusion programs.

Position overview: Council members help to advance WSBA's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion in the legal profession through planning and participating in a variety of programming and activities, and representing the DEI Council in the legal community and in collaboration with stakeholders throughout Washington State. Monthly committee meetings will be held virtually, with 3-4 in-person/virtual hybrid retreats throughout the fiscal year. An orientation meeting will take place in October. Council members are expected to volunteer for subcommittees, and at various events throughout their terms. Appointment is for a two-year term with a two term limit.

Time commitment: Monthly virtual meetings for 90 minutes, and 3-4 retreats which are generally 3 hours. Retreats may be either hybrid or completely virtual, depending on health safety concerns. Additional time commitment varies depending on council member. Members are expected to participate in some of the council activities which include mentoring, networking, writing, and educational events and programs. Subcommittee and project-based work may also be available.

Requirements: Be either a WSBA member who is active, has pro bono status, has judicial status/judicial officer, law student, faculty or staff, or member of the public. Agreement with and interest in addressing systemic inequities and underrepresentation to promote a more equitable legal profession and legal system. Willingness to attend and actively participate in committee meetings and programs.

Preferred qualifications and skills: A genuine interest in the work. A basic understanding of what diversity, equity, and inclusion means, and willingness to learn more.

Benefits:

- Being a leader on the issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion in the legal profession.
- Education in the current issues and strategies regarding diversity inclusion and equity.
- Networking with other bar members, stakeholders, leaders, and partners in this work.
- Recognizing your own personal stake in diversity, equity and inclusion regardless of your individual and group identities.

Reimbursement policy: This is an unpaid volunteer position. Members are eligible for reimbursement of travel expenses under WSBA's committee volunteer reimbursement policy.

Selection and appointment process: Candidates are vetted by a team including the council co-chairs, and staff liaisons. Recommendations are made to the Board of Governor's Nominations Committee, which makes the appointments.

For further information: See <https://www.wsba.org/Legal-Community/Committees-Boards-and-Other-Groups/wsba-diversity-committee>

How to apply: See instructions at www.wsba.org/joincommittee. Questions about the application?
Email barleaders@wsba.org.