



STATE BAR OF WISCONSIN
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Rural Clerkship Program Employer Information

The State Bar's Rural Clerkship Program connects students with rural employers offering a limited-term, full-time, paid summer employment opportunity in Wisconsin.

We would like the students to experience the real-world legal environment. We ask employers to provide the same salary, work experience and social opportunities to our clerkship students as they provide to any of their summer associates. **The goal of this program is to expose students to the benefits of practicing law in rural Wisconsin.**

Students will be recruited from Wisconsin and Minnesota law schools for a limited-term, full-time, paid summer employment opportunity. Employment typically lasts eight weeks, starting after the end of the spring semester. Interested first- and second-year law students will submit a resume, legal writing sample and personal statement on why they want to participate in this clerkship.

In agreeing to commit to participating in this program as an employer, I understand I must:

- Self-identify your service area as rural and underserved (areas outside of Dane, Milwaukee and Waukesha Counties)
- Submit the Employer Description Form provided by the State Bar (educates the student on your culture and environment)
- Conduct virtual clerk interviews during the period set by the State Bar (tentatively the week of January 22)
- Employ a student full-time for at least eight weeks
- Provide information/assistance on affordable housing in the area
- Follow all labor and employment laws relating to hiring a student
- Provide a mentor to your clerk as well as feedback and regular check-ins
- Conduct an exit interview with your clerk at the end of the summer
- Provide the same salary, work experience, and social opportunities to your clerk as you would to any other summer associate

One of the challenges with the State Bar program is that it is unknown how many clerks are going to apply for the program. The number of employers needed for the program is dependent on the number of clerks applying. We will know in early January the number of clerks that will be in the program.

If you are interested in participating or have questions, please contact Kim Burns, kburns@wisbar.org / 608-250-6181. Or you can complete the attached form and return it to Kim Burns by November 14, 2024.