

Student Clinics Application

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

NAME: _____	DATE APPLIED: _____
SCHOOL BOX #: _____	CLINIC CHOICE (indicate order of preference):
LOCAL ADDRESS: _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> PA Criminal Defense Clinic
EMAIL ADDRESS: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Delaware Civil Clinic
LOCAL PHONE _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental and Natural Resources
PERMANENT ADDRESS: _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Veterans Law Clinic
PHONE: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Clinical Public Interest Externship
PRESENT YEAR & DIVISION: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Summer <input type="checkbox"/> Fall
GRADUATION DATE: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Judicial Externship (See course description for additional application requirements)
# CREDITS COMPLETED: _____ (as of term applied for)	<input type="checkbox"/> Summer <input type="checkbox"/> Fall
GRADE POINT AVERAGE: _____ (2.3 minimum*)	Number of credits applied for _____

Students may not take more than 12 clinical credits during their law school career.

<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: Judicial Externship – 2.5 Health Law Externship – 2.7</p> <p>▶ Successful completion (C or better) of Professional Responsibility & Evidence. (*Exceptions: Veterans Law Clinic – Only Professional Responsibility required</p>
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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 – Fall 2017, 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 -

Fall 2017, 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 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 the Program Director.

DELAWARE CIVIL CLINIC – Fall 2017, 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.

Summer 2017 Internships with the Veterans Law Clinic

The Veterans Law Clinic at Widener University Delaware Law School is accepting applications for **summer intern positions**. The Clinic represents disabled veterans with appeals of compensation claims with the Department of Veterans Affairs (including Regional Offices, the Board of Veterans' Appeals and the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.) Positions are open to any student who has completed at least one year of law school.

Students will be assigned to several cases and will be involved in research and writing of briefs and memos, attending client meetings and administrative hearings (if available), drafting client letters, investigation of claims and assisting in outreach events. Client contact is expected.

Students must be available to work 30 hours per week. Positions are unpaid, but students who are offered a position are encouraged to apply for the stipend listed below. Pro bono distinction hours may also be available. Please submit a resume and cover letter to *Denise Paul* at dmpaul@widener.edu. **Applications will be accepted and positions filled on a rolling basis.**

Stipend:

Equal Justice Works Summer Corps stipends. **The deadline is April 14th** (<http://www.equaljusticeworks.org/law-school/amicorpsjd>).

Contact dmpaul@widener.edu with any questions.

VETERANS LAW CLINIC – Fall 2017, Registration

The **Veterans Law Clinic** (VLC) provides free legal representation to veterans with low incomes in the area. VLC primarily represents veterans with disabilities from their time in the military service that have been denied compensation from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Students will also provide legal representation to veterans on other legal issues, such as wills and expungement of criminal records.

Students represent disabled veterans through all phases of the case: intake and initial interviews, investigation and gathering of documentary evidence, working with forensic experts, filing petitions, working with the clinic's social workers to address clients' non-legal needs, representing clients at hearings, and appellate brief writing.

As a part of the clinic's mission to reach veterans in the community with few resources, students attend outreach events during the semester to provide legal services. The class also works as a team on a project related to systemic/policy change to address the needs of the veterans with low incomes in the area.

The two-hour clinic seminar meets once a week, from 4 -6 p.m. Generally, students are enrolled for six credits and are expected to spend 20 hours per week working in the Veterans Law Clinic. Students can enroll for three to five credits, but should be aware that the clinic does require a significant time commitment.

This program is suitable for Extended Division students. Much of the clinic work can be done at home or another suitable location away from the Law School.

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: The clinic is open to any student who has completed at least three semesters and Professional Responsibility

Directed Research for Second Semester: Students who wish to work in VLC for an additional semester may register for a Directed Research project.

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

**CLINICAL PUBLIC INTEREST EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM –
Summer and Fall 2017, 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 Professor Catania at fjcatania@widener.edu (ext. 2108).

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.

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 **official transcript of grades** (student copy)
- ☞ a current résumé
- ☞ a writing sample

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

JUDICIAL EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM – Summer and Fall 2017, 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 fjcatania@widener.edu.

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