

Lawyer – Level 6

Organisation Overview

Circle Green Community Legal (**Circle Green**) is a community legal centre providing humanitarian, tenancy, workplace, and family and domestic violence legal advice, further assistance, representation, advocacy, community legal education, referrals, outreach, and support.

Circle Green provides accessible justice and seeks to create system, place and space to ensure a safety net of best practice legal advice, education, and advocacy. Services aim to assist people who are otherwise disadvantaged in their access to legal services.

Specialist services also support other providers of community legal services to develop local service capacity and to build strong referral pathways.

Values



Role Contribution

Lawyers are required to provide comprehensive legal advice, further assistance, representation, community legal education and training, and law reform under the supervision of the Principal Lawyer. Lawyers will also be involved in the direct supervision and management of restricted lawyers, law graduates, advocates, secondees and volunteers.

The Lawyer will work closely with the supervising lawyers and other team members delivering legal and support services to provide clients with trauma-informed, effective, and streamlined services. A client-centred approach and a commitment to ensuring high-quality services are provided to vulnerable people are essential.

Key relationships

- Reporting to the Principal Lawyer.
- Working with Circle Green lawyers, client services coordinators, advocates, administration staff and central support functions.

Key Responsibilities

Legal Supervision

- Supervise and train restricted Lawyers, law graduates, advocates, secondees, and volunteers.
- Support the supervision and training of unrestricted Lawyers.
- Supervise the Intake and Triage team on rotation with other Lawyers.
- Review triage, overview new client assessments, and monitor client intake process.
- Participate in regular file review meetings for legal staff.
- Provide regular reports to the Principal Lawyer regarding caseload and matter types.
- Ensure compliance with professional indemnity obligations.

Client Work

- Provide legal advice and casework services, including complex cases, litigation, and court advocacy.
- Provide further assistance to clients in compliance with casework guidelines and policies.
- May be an ongoing point of contact and liaison for existing clients, providing information, and assisting with arrangements for further service delivery in conjunction with the Principal Lawyer.
- Work with interpreters as needed.
- Represent clients in the following (but not limited to) tribunals/Federal Court/Magistrates Court/Department of Home Affairs.
- Provide duty lawyer services.
- Conduct regular file reviews (at least monthly).
- Research legal problems and options.
- Assist the Principal Lawyer or Senior Lawyers in the conduct of test cases, including by undertaking the conduct of test cases.
- Prepare files for closing.

Strategic Legal Review and Advocacy

- Ensure appropriate compliance with guidelines and policies.
- Identify future legal needs of clients and potential clients.
- Supervised by Principal Lawyer, contribute to law reform and policy change.
- Monitor compliance with all funding requirements in conjunction with the Principal Lawyer and Administration Officer.
- Liaise with Community Legal Centres and other organisations providing complementary services.

Community Legal Education

- Develop and promote community legal education initiatives.
- Facilitate and present community legal education courses.
- Develop specialised community legal education resources, including fact sheets.

Team Responsibilities

- Implement Circle Green's policies and procedures and act in accordance with the organisation's mission and values.
- Participate in Circle Green's team meetings and planning and review activities.
- Carry out other duties, consistent with the role, as directed by the Principal Lawyer.

Selection Criteria

Credentials

- Law degree.
- Admitted, or eligible for admission, as a legal practitioner in the Supreme Court of Western Australia and eligible to hold an unrestricted WA practising certificate.

Experience

- At least 2 years' post admission experience in relevant area of law.
- Experience supervising and mentoring junior legal staff.
- A demonstrated commitment to human rights and social justice issues.

Skills

- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, with the ability to understand and convey complex concepts to people from diverse social, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds.
- Ability to effectively time manage a high and diverse workload.
- Ability to work with minimal supervision and be an effective team member.
- Demonstrated problem solving, negotiation and conflict resolution skills.
- Ability to conduct case work and litigation, including advocacy skills.