

Fellowships for Deferred Law Firm Attorneys

The University of North Carolina General Administration, Division of Legal Affairs

The University Of North Carolina General Administration, Division of Legal Affairs is offering unpaid fellow positions to law firm attorneys who have been deferred or granted fellowship or sabbatical arrangements with public interest organizations. UNC Legal Affairs provides exceptional experience and mentoring for lawyers interested in the varied and complex in-house practice of higher education law.

UNC Legal Affairs provides legal advice and counsel to the UNC Board of Governors, the UNC President, the senior officers of the UNC General Administration, and the legal counsel, chancellors, and senior officers of the 17 UNC constituent institutions, and the UNC Affiliated Entities. Substantive legal areas include constitutional law, construction, litigation oversight, environmental law, student affairs, insurance and risk management, intellectual property, information technology, employment issues, benefits, tenure and promotion, technology transfer, purchasing, finance and bond issues, contracts and licensing, state and federal budget and appropriations, drafting and advocating legislation, human resources, research regulation and compliance, academic program development, FERPA, criminal law, immigration, ADA, public broadcasting, university press publishing, open meetings and public records compliance, NCAA and athletics, affiliated foundations, gifts and estates, taxation, and real property.

Program specifics:

- Fellows will engage in higher education law practice at a high level and develop essential skills in projects that span the breadth of the practice of higher education law.
- Current projects include: (1) an innovation initiative which includes the development of intellectual property and research compliance templates, policies, and procedures to transform innovation and technology transfer at all UNC institutions, with the goal of creating a national model for university and industry cooperation, innovation, and economic development; (2) legal compliance training programs for administrators at constituent universities on student affairs subjects such as study abroad, campus safety, student records, and state residency; (3) organization, revision, and consolidation of UNC Policy Manual personnel policies; and (4) University comprehensive policy development.
- Length and timing of placements are flexible, although immediate placement for the innovation initiative is desired. Placements may be on a full-time or part-time basis.
- Fellows will be volunteers and will not be employees of UNC. Pay and benefits are not available. Legal Affairs will provide work space, computers, and other administrative support to Fellows. Law-firm support for the costs of the program will be welcomed.

Application and qualifications information:

- Applicants should submit a substantive cover letter, resume, legal writing sample, and names of two references. The references may include members of the deferring law firm. Direct applications and inquiries to David Lombard Harrison, Associate Vice President for Legal Affairs, at harrison@northcarolina.edu. We will conduct a rolling selection process and will try to accommodate the schedules under which attorneys and firms are working.
- In considering Fellow candidates, we seek qualities we search for in hiring attorneys for the Legal Affairs Division. In addition to a J.D. and bar admission or pending admission (NC not necessary), these qualities include excellent writing, oral, and interpersonal skills, and a strong academic background. Interest in public or higher education law is important, and experience in such fields is desirable, but not required.