

Legal Aid Ontario is committed to promoting access to justice throughout Ontario for low-income individuals by providing consistently high quality legal aid services

Invitation for Expression of Interest for Membership on Area Committees

Agency Title: Legal Aid Ontario

Position title: Area Committee Member

Terms: 3 and 4 year terms with eligibility for reappointment

Description: Legal Aid Ontario is seeking candidates for membership on area committees in nine districts across Ontario.

Area committees sit in appeal of decisions that determine who will receive or continue to receive a legal aid certificate. Additionally, area committees determine whether it is appropriate to fund appeals of judicial decisions made by Courts and Tribunals. While the qualifications are summarized below, for the detailed criteria, please refer to LAO's website at <http://www.legalaid.on.ca/>.

Qualifications:

- Lawyers who have expertise in Criminal, Family, Refugee, Mental Health, Prison Law and Poverty Law who have been engaged in practice for the past 5 years, in accordance with the criteria specified on LAO's website
- Retired members of the legal profession who practised in the above-mentioned areas
- Paralegals with equivalent experience in the above areas of practice
- Community members with first-hand knowledge and experience with the legal system or other public service areas within their communities
- Community members with experience in accounting, public service, community or social service agencies
- Community members with experience working in aboriginal communities with aboriginal people and organizations
- Community members with experience as an employee or volunteer in a community legal clinic

Other requirements:

- Lawyer members and paralegals must be in good standing with the Law Society of Upper Canada and LAO
- All applicants must have Internet access
- Applicants must be able to dedicate at least 2 hours preparation time per meeting and attend a minimum of one meeting per month.
- Preference will be given to bilingual candidates (French/English)
- Previous experience on an area committee is also an asset.
- Applicants must have excellent communication and interpersonal skills.

Remuneration: \$106.89 per hour as per LAO's Tier 3 Tariff Rate

How to apply:

If you meet the criteria specified on LAO's website and are interested in providing access to justice to low-income Ontarians by being a member of the area committee, please submit a resume, checklist from the LAO website and a cover letter by June 1, 2010. Please be sure to include the name of your city in the Subject line of the email.

Only applications submitted via e-mail will be accepted. Please submit your application to areacommittees@lao.on.ca and quote the following invitation number in the subject line depending on the district for which you are applying:

LAOAC-010-10

Please refer to Legal Aid Ontario's website for more information: <http://www.legalaid.on.ca>