

# Pro Bono

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY



## What is the Pro Bono Program?

We encourage all Emory Law students to do pro bono work; providing legal services to persons of limited means or organizations that serve underrepresented groups. While students help others, they also acquire valuable legal skills that serve them well in their careers. Emory Law recognizes significant commitment to pro bono in several ways.

- NY Bar has a mandatory 50 hour pro bono requirement. Find more information at the [NY Board of Law Examiner's website](#).

### How many hours do I need?

- 25+ hours per year earns a pro bono certificate
- 75+ hours total (JD/ AJD) or 50+ hours total (LLM) earns a medal to wear at commencement

### What counts as pro bono?

- Unpaid, law-related work, supervised by a judge or attorney, providing legal services without charge or academic credit

### How can I get hours?

- Public interest externship, academic clinic, practicum, or workshop overage hours
- Volunteer with a legal, non-profit organization
- Volunteer clinic hours

### How do I submit my hours?

- Record all hours in Symplicity Pro Bono Module
- Hours must be recorded in the semester earned
- Watch On the Docket for submission deadlines
  - graduating students must submit by the end of February

# Does This Count as Pro Bono?



This is a non-exhaustive list of pro bono activities to serve as guidance. If you have questions about specific activities, contact [lawpublicservice@emory.edu](mailto:lawpublicservice@emory.edu).

Pro bono hours are distinct from EPIC volunteer hours. Questions about EPIC hours can be sent to [epicgrants@emory.edu](mailto:epicgrants@emory.edu).

Training and orientation for pro bono work does not receive credit **UNLESS** you perform additional hours with the host organization.

## Activities that count

- Public Interest and Government Externship/ Practicum/ Clinic overage hours  
\*excluding judicial clerkships
- Legal observing
- Legal education activities for underserved communities
- Volunteering with a non-profit legal organization
- Poll watching  
\*non-partisan
- Unpaid activities that require "lawyering skills" (e.g., legal research and writing.)
- Volunteering with Emory Law VCV, EILA, or IRAP

## Activities that do not count

- Partisan work
- Legal volunteer work without attorney supervision
- Work for a judge in chambers
- Paid work
- Work during the summer
- Work for student organizations (e.g., tabling, board meetings)
- Non-legal volunteer work

# Opportunities to earn hours



- Atlanta Legal Aid Pro Bono Projects
- AVLF Saturday Lawyer Program
- Barton Center's Know Your Rights Project
- Emory Immigrant Legal Assistance (EILA)
- Emory Law School Supreme Court Advocacy Program (ELSSCAP)\*
- Georgia Re-entry Project
- Georgia Justice Project, Pardon Project
- International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP)
- OUTLaw & Atlanta Legal Aid LGBTQ+ Services
- Street Law
- Emory Law Volunteer Clinic for Veterans (VCV)
- [Find updated opportunities here](#)

\*Not all ELSSCAP work qualifies



EMORY  
LAW

Center for  
Public Service

Gambrell Hall,  
Suite G101

[lawpublicservice@emory.edu](mailto:lawpublicservice@emory.edu)



## Questions?

Rita A. Sheffey, PhD, JD, MPRL  
Assistant Dean for Public Service  
[rita.sheffey@emory.edu](mailto:rita.sheffey@emory.edu)  
(404)727-3838 office  
(404)314-1410 cell

Georgette M.C. Thinn, JD, MS  
Program Coordinator  
[gthinn@emory.edu](mailto:gthinn@emory.edu)  
(404)727-3349



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