



Board Observer Program Application Information For 2014-2015

The Board Observer Program (BOP) is a partnership between the Philadelphia Bar Foundation, the Delivery of Legal Services Committee of the Philadelphia Bar Association (DLSC), and the Young Lawyers Division of the Philadelphia Bar Association (YLD). The BOP gives young lawyers practicing in Philadelphia County the opportunity to learn more about local legal services organizations and other non-profits and the leadership skills necessary to serve on the boards of such organizations as well as succeed in their future careers.

An applicant for BOP must be:

- A member of the Young Lawyers Division of the Philadelphia Bar Association; and
- Licensed to practice law in Pennsylvania and be in good standing.

If you are not yet a member of the Philadelphia Bar Association, you must join by the time your application is submitted. If you are a member of the Philadelphia Bar Association who has not reached his or her 37th birthday or are within the first three years of admission, you are automatically a member of the YLD. Information on membership may be found at www.philabar.org.

Applicants with a demonstrated interest in community service and/or pro bono work are preferred, but prior experience in these areas is not required for participation. Applicants who are not selected for the program are encouraged to reapply next year.

To apply, please complete the application form and provide a current résumé. Your résumé should highlight any community service and/or pro bono experience and whether you have previously served or currently serve on any boards. Please send your application material via mail or email to:

Jessica Hilburn-Holmes, Esq.
Executive Director
Philadelphia Bar Foundation
1101 Market Street, 11th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19107
jhilburnholmes@philabar.org
215-238-6347(ph); 215-238-1159 (f)

Applications for the 2014-15 Program must be submitted by September 26, 2014.



Board Observer Program Application

Name and Current Contact Information (NB: Most BOP communications are done by e-mail, so please provide an e-mail address that you check frequently)

Current Employer & Length of Employment

Law School & Year of Graduation

YLD Member

(Indicate whether you are a member of the Young Lawyers Division of the Philadelphia Bar Association. In addition, please indicate whether you are a member of any other Philadelphia Bar Association sections or committees.)

Admissions

(Include jurisdictions and admission dates)

Statement of Interest in the Board Observer Program

(Please attach a one-page statement of interest. Your statement should discuss both the reasons for your interest in BOP as well as what you hope to achieve through participation in the program.)

References

Please provide two references who may be contacted regarding your application. Where applicable, it is preferred that your current employer be included as a reference.

Areas of Interest

Please indicate whether you would prefer to be placed with the board of a legal services organization or with the board of a non-legal services nonprofit:

Please indicate the top three areas in which you are most interested, from 1 to 3.

Although there is no guarantee that you will be matched with a board that addresses these issues, the best effort will be made to match according to preference.

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children’s Rights | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Law | <input type="checkbox"/> LBGT Issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community-Based Services | <input type="checkbox"/> General Litigation | <input type="checkbox"/> The Arts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Constitutional Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing & Homeless Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Blight |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Court Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Immigration Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> HIV+/AIDS Issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal Law | <input type="checkbox"/> Inmate Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Service Dog Training |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disability & Healthcare Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Issues Affecting Women | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture/
Farmworker Issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education Law | <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Issues | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Law (focusing on poverty law issues) | <input type="checkbox"/> Landlord/Tenant | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Bankruptcy | |

Skills

Please indicate whether you have previous experience with, or a particular interest in, any of the following areas:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Management/Accounting | <input type="checkbox"/> Media/Public Relations/Marketing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Speaking | <input type="checkbox"/> Employment/HR Issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Writing | <input type="checkbox"/> Program Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Event Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer Recruitment | |

Please certify, by signing below, that if you are matched with a participating board and accept your placement that you will:

1. Make every effort to attend BOP events, including CLEs, lunch-and learn programs, and mid-year check-ins.
2. Attend all board meetings to which your organization invites you unless you have a significant scheduling conflict.
3. Notify your board mentor and the BOP Committee immediately should any situation arise that would affect your ability to participate meaningfully in the BOP (such as a move, job change, or recurring scheduling conflicts).
4. Notify the BOP Committee of any change in your contact information.

Signature, Date

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Thank you for your interest in the Board Observer Program!