Projects are listed by quantity of volunteers needed: most to least.

**Marquette Volunteer Legal Clinics (MVLC) ●●● ● S**

*Training: Thursday, January 20, 12:00 – 1:15 p.m. via Zoom (recorded for those unable to attend live)*

Law students pair up with volunteer attorneys and help clients with civil legal questions. Law students explain the limits of the clinic to each client, help frame the legal issue presented, conduct legal research, help prepare legal forms and other documents, maintain the client file, and prepare a written summary of next steps for the client while developing professional relationships with the volunteer lawyers. The clinics take place in-person and remotely via Zoom. Students are scheduled for a two-hour shift every other week.

**Milwaukee Justice Center (MJC) Family Law Forms Clinic ●●●● ● S**

*Training: Available online, Watch before your first shift.*

Learn the basics of family law and procedure ranging from matters of divorce to child support to others like name changes. Law students work one-on-one with a client, under attorney supervision, and learn how to identify the procedure required to help a client meet their goal. Client interviewing skills are central to all types of lawyering and is a skill honed at this clinic. Students interact with circuit court civil procedures ranging from jurisdictional issues to service of process to de novo reviews. The clinics take place in-person and remotely via Zoom. Students are scheduled for an hour and a half weekly shift.

**Civil Legal Help Line ●●● ● S**

*Training: Available online, Watch before your first shift.*

The Civil Legal Help Line was established at the beginning of the Covid-19 crisis when in-person services and drop-in clinics were no longer a safe option for community members seeking legal aid. The Help Line receives a large volume of calls. Help Line operators will hone their issue spotting skills and learn about the civil legal aid options available in the Milwaukee area. Answer calls in live-time or respond to voice mails to help get community members linked with the best resource to resolve their legal issue. Hotline operators work remotely and use a Google Voice account (not their own phone numbers). Students are scheduled for 90-minute weekly shifts and have access to a supervisor throughout the entirety of the shift.

**Student Legal Aid Project with Legal Action of Wisconsin ●●●● S**

*Training: Available online, Watch before your first shift.*

Law students will work with volunteer lawyers and Legal Action staff to assist technical college students from across the southern half of the state to remove barriers to graduation and employment. Specifically, the clinics address criminal records/expungement/pardons, driver’s license recovery, unemployment and consumer/bankruptcy issues. Law students will learn how to read and interpret Criminal Information Bureau (CIB) reports, CCAP records, driver’s license abstracts, administrative decisions, and court-related documents. Volunteers can also work directly (remotely) with clients to assist in completing pardon applications, court motions, court and administrative forms, and prepare for unemployment hearings. Students are scheduled for two-hour shifts every other week.

**Free Legal Answers: Brief Legal Advice by Email ●●●● S**

*Training: Available online, Watch before your first referral.*

Collaborate by email with a Legal Action lawyer to draft a written answer to a legal question posted by a low-income Wisconsinite to a free online legal help service operated by the American Bar Association and the State Bar of Wisconsin. Law students are assigned questions three to five weeks to work on over a five-day period on their own time. Relevant research materials are available and a catalogue of over 400 past questions and accompanying completed answers are provided for students’ use as models. The estimated time commitment for this project is four months. This project is for students at least one semester of consistent pro bono experience.

**Estate Planning Clinic ●●● ● S**

*Training: Available online, Watch before your first shift.*

Law students and lawyers pair up to prepare an estate plan for a client that includes power of attorney documents for health care and finances, a living will, and a will. Helping a client through these processes when they are healthy means later avoidance of court proceedings for guardianship and heirs’ questions about asset distribution. Students are scheduled for 1.5 hour shifts weekly in-person or remotely via Zoom and have about one hour of preparation work to complete on their own before the assigned shift.

**Expungement & Pardon Clinic ●●●● S**

*Training: Available online, Watch before your first shift.*

Work alongside volunteer attorneys to help clients determine whether they qualify for an expungement or a pardon. If a client qualifies, work through the process of applying to remove convictions from public records to increase employment opportunities, obtain safe sustainable housing, and pursue educational advancements. As part of this opportunity, students will learn how to interpret Criminal Information Bureau (CIB) reports, CCAP records, and other court-related documents. Students are scheduled for three-hour shifts every other week.

**Adult Guardianship Forms Clinic ●●●● S**

*Training: Available online, Watch before your first shift.*

Assist a family in need of a court-appointed guardian for a loved one with the required court pleading in this forms-intensive project. A guardianship practice is a natural accompaniment to an estate planning practice. Law students work with an attorney to interview the petitioner and complete the necessary forms. Students are scheduled for a 1.5 hour shift every other week in-person at the Milwaukee Justice Center located in the Milwaukee County Courthouse.

**Eviction Records Clean-up Clinic ●●●● S**

*Training: Thursday, January 20, 12:00 – 1:15 p.m. via Zoom (recorded for those unable to attend live)*

Law students work with volunteer attorneys to help clients determine whether they qualify for an eviction or a settlement. If a client qualifies, work through the process of applying to resolve evictions from public records to increase employment opportunities, obtain safe sustainable housing, and pursue educational advancements. As part of this opportunity, students will learn how to interpret Criminal Information Bureau (CIB) reports, CCAP records, and other court-related documents. Students are scheduled for three-hour shifts every other week.
Nearly 15,000 evictions are filed in Milwaukee each year. Help a tenant with a dismissed eviction action have the record sealed. When a tenant’s history of eviction—even a dismissed eviction—appears in the public record, this often presents barriers to securing future housing and employment. Learn when eviction records may be sealed and work directly with clients, under attorney supervision, to draft motions to seal. Students are scheduled for a two-hour remote shift every other week.

**Eviction Defense Project with Legal Action of Wisconsin ⚫⚫⚫**  
*Training: [Available online](#), Watch before your first shift.*  
Nearly 15,000 evictions are filed in Milwaukee each year. In eviction court, most people being evicted do not appear because they do not have a lawyer and, prior to the Eviction Defense Project's creation in 2016, Legal Action of Wisconsin could help only about 3% of people being evicted. Most landlords have experience in court or have someone representing them. Learn defenses to eviction, determine if a negotiated stipulation is possible, and watch the case resolution before a court commissioner or judge. Students are assigned projects to complete during their scheduled shift or can complete the work prior to their next scheduled shift. Students will work directly with volunteer attorneys, Legal Action attorneys, and clients remotely via Teams. Students can be scheduled weekly or every other week.

**Bankruptcy Advice Clinic with Legal Action of Wisconsin ⚫⚫⚫**  
*Training: [Available online](#), Watch before your first shift.*  
Law students pair up with volunteer attorneys to answer clients’ bankruptcy questions. Law students maintain the client file and work with the attorney to identify appropriate resources and next steps for each client. The attorney will evaluate the case and advise the client on whether a Ch 7 bankruptcy petition is appropriate. This project also utilizes volunteer UW-Madison law students. The clinics take place remotely by phone and students are scheduled for a 2-hour shift every other week.

**Chapter 7 Bankruptcy Petition Clinic with Legal Action of Wisconsin ⚫⚫⚫**  
*Training: [Available online](#), Watch before your first shift.*  
Work in teams of two under attorney supervision to assist clients with gathering all supporting documents and preparing the necessary forms to file to Chapter 7 bankruptcy relief. Students learn the basic analysis involved in determining eligibility for Chapter 7 filings and possible alternative forms of debt relief. The estimated time commitment for this project is two hours weekly. Students can work remotely or come to Legal Action’s office in Milwaukee. Each petition will take approximately 15 hours to prepare. This work is done over the course of the semester. Students will make a completion plan and determine volunteer times with the supervising attorney when the case is assigned.

**Small Business Clinic ⚫⚫⚫**  
*Training: Thursday, January 20, 12:00 – 1:15 p.m. via Zoom (recorded for those unable to attend live)*  
Law students pair up with volunteer attorneys and help clients with business law questions including finance, insurance claims, commercial contracting, tax issues, labor and employment matters, real estate, commercial debtor/creditor matters, and regulatory matters. Law students explain the limits of the clinic to each client, help frame the legal issue presented, conduct legal research, help prepare legal forms and other documents, maintain the client file, and prepare a written summary of next steps for the client while developing professional relationships with the volunteer lawyers. All clinics take place on Zoom and students are scheduled for a two-hour shift every other week.

**Unemployment Insurance Clinic with Legal Action of Wisconsin ⚫⚫⚫**  
*Training: [Available online](#), Watch before your first shift.*  
Assist clients appealing denial of an unemployment insurance claim. Law students assist clients in gathering evidence and organizing their case documents prior to attorney consultations and in anticipation of hearings. This may involve identifying evidence, helping the client navigate the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) application website, and contacting DWD with the client. All work will be done remotely via Teams. The estimated time commitment for this project is two hours weekly. Students will set their own two-hour weekly time commitment that will remain the same each week for the semester.

**Which projects work for your class schedule?**

- 1L, Section 1, Fallone, Papke, Boyden
- 1L, Section 2, Idleman, Ellis, Scoville
- 1L, Section 3, Oldfather, Murray, Boyden
- Only works with 2Ls, 3Ls, & part time students’ schedules

*S* Spanish-speaking volunteers needed here