

CAREERS IN LAW AND GOVERNMENT

Pennsylvania Legislature

Full-Time Attorney Employment within the Pennsylvania Legislature

- Lawyers fill many important positions within the Pennsylvania General Assembly (the formal name for the legislature, which is made up of the House of Representatives and the Senate). There are positions that require a law degree. Additionally, there are positions that do not require a law degree, but lawyers often fill the position.
- The Legislative Directory is a good source to explore the types of full-time positions in the General Assembly:
<https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/admin/ld/>.
- The chart on the next page lists different types of positions in the legislature for lawyers.
- There is no centralized hiring process. If you have questions about these positions, please speak to Eden Mandrell in the Career Development Office or Professor Family.

Student Employment within the Pennsylvania Legislature

- Many of the offices listed in the chart on the following page will employ law students as interns and/or externs. There is no centralized application process. Please discuss your application strategy with Eden Mandrell in the Career Development Office or Professor Family.
- There are formal internship programs within the legislature. The PA House Fellowship Program is open to law students during the summer (<http://www.pahousefellowship.us/>). The House Archival Internship Program is open to law students year-round (<http://www.house.state.pa.us/BMC/archives/internship.cfm>).

Positions in the PA General Assembly Requiring a Law Degree or Often Filled by Lawyers

Position	Location with Legislature
Assistant Counsel; Associate Counsel; Senior Counsel; Assistant Director; Director	Legislative Reference Bureau
Executive Director	Committee, House and Senate (Appointed by committee chair)
Majority or Minority Counsel	Committee, House and Senate (Appointed by ranking member of each party)
Chief of Staff; Policy Director; Legislative Director; Legislative Counsel	Individual members (Representatives and Senators; positions vary by member)
Chief Counsel; Deputy Chief Counsel; Senior Legal Counsel; General Counsel	Republican Legal Department, House
Chief Counsel; Senior Deputy Chief Legal Counsel; Deputy Chief Counsel; Senior Legal Counsel; Legal Counsel	Democratic Office of Chief Counsel, House
Counsel	Republican Legal Senate
Chief Counsel; Counsel	Democratic Legal Senate
Counsel to Chief Clerk	Senate
Counsel; Staff Attorney	Joint State Government Commission
Counsel	PA Commission on Sentencing
Counsel	Legislative Budget and Finance Committee
Legal Counsel; Associate Legal Counsel	Local Government Commission
Executive Director	Joint Conservation Committee
Parliamentarian	Parliamentarian, House
Secretary of Senate	Office of Parliamentarian and Secretary of the Senate
Administrator; Appeals Officer	Office of Right to Know Administrator, House and Senate
House Counsel	Bipartisan Management Committee

