



Job Announcement

Health & Public Benefits Advocate or Senior Advocate

Western Center on Law and Poverty

For over 55 years, Western Center on Law and Poverty has led the fight to end poverty and secure housing, health care, a strong safety net, and racial and economic justice for all low-income Californians. Western Center brings about system-wide change through impact litigation, legislative, policy and administrative advocacy at the state and federal level, and support for legal services and community-based organizations. With offices in Los Angeles, Sacramento, and Oakland, we are California's largest legal services support center.

Position Summary

Western Center offers an opportunity for an experienced and enthusiastic advocate to join our successful and dedicated team to work in a unique multi-strategy position on a variety of issues critical to parents, expecting parents and children of low income and BIPOC communities in Los Angeles County and throughout the state.

We seek a team member who has experience practicing in diverse forums, thrives in a collegial and dynamic team environment, and is committed to addressing race-based inequities. The ideal candidate will demonstrate a strong interest in fighting for the health needs and rights of those experiencing poverty.

This position can be based in any of the Western Center offices, with a preference for our Los Angeles or Sacramento offices.

Responsibilities

- Collaborate with the Western Center health and public benefits teams and community partners to identify and develop advocacy and outreach strategies to ensure that every person has access to affordable, quality health care and public benefits.
- Collaborate with community partners, stakeholders, and agency staff to increase awareness and ensure the proper implementation of (SB 65) Omnibus' historic new maternal and infant health care standards throughout California.
- Advocate for the restoration of funding for evidence-based home visitation programming for families on CalWORKS and work with partners to increase use of Home Visitation services by vulnerable parents and their children with a focus on Los Angeles County.
- Collaborate with community colleges on training, education, and monitoring to achieve Title IX compliance for pregnant, lactating or parenting individuals who are pursuing post-secondary education, beginning with 21 public community colleges in Los Angeles.
- Collaborate with stakeholders to expand access to the Earned income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit.
- Analyze, monitor, and advocate for and against pertinent administrative policies and regulations.
- Identify legal issues and participate in ideating and designing innovative class action and impact litigation.
- Educate and inform policymakers, agency staff, stakeholders and community members.

- Respond to requests for information from public officials, agencies, and the media.
- Create and disseminate policy analysis and educational materials to our partners.
- Work with teams to implement initiatives, including work with administrative agencies on guidance and training as appropriate.
- Engage with community groups and coalitions of stakeholders.
- Research and answer technical assistance inquiries from community partners, policymakers, and local legal services advocates in areas of expertise.
- Embrace and participate in internal and external organizational diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives.
- Represent Western Center in various coalitions and settings.
- Some travel, including overnight travel, may be required.

Qualifications

- A minimum of nine years' experience (for Senior Advocate position) or a minimum of three years' experience (for Advocate position) in litigation or policy advocacy, preferably in California.
- A commitment to the mission of Western Center, available at www.wclp.org.
- Ability to think creatively, be strategic, and exercise good judgment.
- Strong oral and written communication skills.
- Ability to establish and maintain collaborative working relationships.
- Ability to develop and work in diverse coalitions in which participants may have multiple interests.
- Ability to work in a team setting but independent enough to be able to implement team objectives effectively outside the team setting.
- Ability to work under time pressure.
- Exemplary ethical standards.

Preferred Qualifications

- Experience working with or coming from historically marginalized communities.
- Experience with community-based organizations or nonprofit legal services agencies.
- Knowledge and understanding of California health or public benefits law and policy.
- Knowledge of state and county public and health benefits information technology systems.

Compensation

Salary is very competitive and commensurate with experience. We provide a generous benefits package, including leave policies, vacation, and December holiday office closure at full pay. We provide numerous opportunities and support to ensure our staff are able to grow and develop their professional skills. The salary range begins at \$85,000 and increases based on experience.

Application Process

To promote racial and social justice and achieve our mission, Western Center is committed to maintaining a diverse staff and creating an inclusive and respectful workplace. Western Center strongly encourages applications from persons of color, women, LGBTQIA+ individuals, persons with disabilities, and persons from other underrepresented groups whose background may contribute to effectively representing low-income people and underserved communities.

Applications received by October 15th will receive priority but applications will be accepted until the position is filled. In your cover letter, please explain how you think your experience or background has prepared you to contribute to a work environment with a strong commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion. Please email a cover letter, résumé, two writing samples, and a list of references to: jobs3@wclp.org.