I N D E P E N D E N T   P R O P O S A L
for Pro Bono Credit

You have the option of custom-designing your own placement. And now there are additional ways to satisfy your Pro Bono Requirement [formerly known as “Community Service”]:

- Do pro bono work for a private firm or practitioner where the work is performed at no cost on behalf of persons of limited means or otherwise underrepresented groups;
- Work on behalf of a local, state, or federal government entity (e.g., the district attorney’s office, the indigent defender program, the Dept. of Justice);
- Work for a non-profit organization which qualifies under IRS section 501c(3) and endeavors to protect rights of the underrepresented.

To qualify, your public interest work must be approved, uncompensated, and law-related service under the supervision of an attorney or faculty member.

Here is what you need to do:

In or Outside New Orleans - Does your proposal fall in one of the categories above? If so, seek approval before you begin; not all proposals qualify for credit. If you already know the name of the attorney who would serve as your supervisor and/or the name of the agency providing pro bono legal service for which you propose to work, first discuss your proposal with the attorney. Then complete the form on the reverse side.

If you have a funded summer fellowship or paid internship, that work does NOT qualify. However, work performed prior to or following the prescribed dates of your fellowship or internship may qualify if these additional hours are donated in furtherance of the pro bono requirement.

Need Ideas for Doing Work Over Break? - If you want a placement in the locale where you are taking break, check the public interest directories in our office, and at the Tulane Career Development Office (CDO), 6325 Freret Street, or on the web at pslawnet.org. These materials list opportunities across the U.S. Please call Dean Jackson at (504)865-5733 for an appointment if you would like to discuss possibilities in greater detail.

Paid Work and Pro Bono Work With the Same Attorney - If the attorney whom you propose to assist in a pro bono matter is also your employer, you will need to propose a schedule for your pro bono hours that is separate from your paid work schedule. For example, you might propose to do the pro bono work during the week before or the week after you complete your job. You cannot, of course, receive Pro Bono credit for work that you are paid to perform.

(over)
INDEPENDENT PROPOSAL

Name______________________________________________Class_______ Date___________

Mailing address: ___________________________________________ ZIP____________________

Daytime phone/cell __________________________ email: __________________________

Proposed supervising attorney: __________________________________________

Organization: __________________________________________________________

Address: ________________________________________________________________ ZIP____________________

Phone: __________________________ Email: __________________________

I have___ have not___ discussed with the above attorney my proposal for pro bono service.

If you are assisting a private practitioner, is the attorney performing the work on a no-fee, pro bono basis?

Yes_____ No ______

Proposed start date:__________________ and end date:______________________

Are you receiving a stipend such as a PILF grant? _________ Or, will you be employed by this attorney/organization? _________ If you are paid, e.g., on a weekly basis as a summer clerk, your pro bono work must be performed either BEFORE your clerkship begins or AFTER your clerkship ends. In all cases if your employer is the source of your pro bono assignment, please provide dates for unpaid work to be performed: ______________________________________________________

If this work has already been completed, in what time period did you work?

______________________________________________________________________________

Description of your pro bono legal service, including TYPE OF SUBJECT MATTER : __________________________

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