

Pro bono projects

Birmingham.

Employment Tribunal Litigant in Person Support Scheme (ELIPS)

This is an Employment Lawyers Association scheme set up to assist unrepresented litigants in Tribunal. Along with law students from other local universities, BPP student volunteers assist the qualified lawyers who operate the ELIPS clinic, in the Birmingham Employment Tribunal, to provide advice and representation to litigants in person.

Course eligibility: all

Human Rights Unit (HRU)

HRU educates students on the importance of human rights laws by running a series of talks from external speakers. HRU publish articles on human rights issues, and students get practical experience of legal research by assisting charities and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). Students can also join BPP University's Amnesty group.

Project viability subject to student interest.

Course eligibility: all

LEASE Case Summaries

This is a joint-working project with the Leasehold Advisory Service, LEASE, where students summarise cases from the Residential Property Tribunal which are then made available to the public on the LEASE website.

Course eligibility: all

Legal Translation Service (LTS)

The LTS aims to provide legal advice centres and not-for-profit organisations with free interpretation and translation, both in writing and in person, by involving students with native or fluent foreign language abilities. Students develop good listening and client skills and are exposed to varied real-life legal issues.

Course eligibility: all

Personal Support Unit

The Personal Support Unit is a charity that gives practical and emotional support to unrepresented litigants at court. Students meet unrepresented litigants to talk through their cases informally and to accompany them around the courts and in hearings.

Course eligibility: all

Research Project

Students are invited to work in groups to research varied areas of law relevant to the pro bono sector. Research tasks might include helping prepare creative and interactive legal workshops for our Streetlaw project, or may be to assist a client or partner with a legal issue. Students can also research and write articles to be published on the BPP University Law School Pro Bono Centre social media and/or on other online spaces and blogs. All work is supervised by a qualified lawyer.

Course eligibility: all

Shadowing at Birmingham Legal Advice Centre

Students attend the Birmingham Library with qualified solicitors at evening clinics aimed at improving access to justice for the local community. Students generally observe the interviews and take notes but may be required to interview, research areas of law, and prepare letters of advice on occasion.

Course eligibility: all but priority to BPTC and LPC

Streetlaw

Streetlaw promotes understanding about legal rights and responsibilities to individuals who would not otherwise have access to legal knowledge or education. Streetlaw projects benefit both the wider community and law students, who learn valuable legal and professional skills.

Law students research and deliver interactive presentations on the law to a range of community groups – including school children, youth groups, prisoners, ex-offenders, homeless shelters and charities.

Course eligibility: all

Streetlaw - Mock Trials

Students visit local schools and run mock trial workshops, giving young people an introduction to the criminal justice system and the court process. Project viability subject to student and school interest.

Course eligibility: all

Tribunal Services

From time to time, student volunteers will have the opportunity to provide moral support and administrative assistance to a client at Birmingham Employment Tribunal. Students may assist clients in the administrative preparation of their case and attend hearings to take notes. Tribunal Services is a project that enables students to develop a number of career-ready skills and gain first-hand experience of the Tribunal process.

Course eligibility: all

For more information

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PRO BONO CENTRE