

SOUTHWESTERN

LAW SCHOOL
Los Angeles, CA

Public Service Program Recognition Policy

Faculty policy. Effective immediately.

Revision history: Formerly a part of the annually revised Student Handbook; established as part of the Academic Policies and Procedures standalone policy in August 2022; established as a standalone policy in August 2023; revised and name changed from Public Service Policy in March 2026.

Related policies: None

Scheduled Review Date: August 2029 (Public Service Program)

Providing pro bono legal services is an integral component of legal education and the practice of law. Through law-related volunteer initiatives, Southwestern's Public Service Program ("PSP") helps to ensure that students have opportunities to develop practical legal skills. PSP also connects students with opportunities that address unmet legal needs.

Graduating students who have completed at least 75 hours of law-related service by the April deadline in their final year of study will be recognized at Commencement, and the school will place a notation of Public Service Program distinction on their academic transcript.

To qualify for PSP recognition, a student's pro bono or public service work must be performed under the supervision of a licensed attorney; must be performed without receiving any form of compensation (e.g., academic credit or monetary compensation); and must be public interest-related. For purposes of this policy, "public interest" includes activities that serve underserved communities, advance causes that benefit the public, or promote advocacy on matters of broad societal concern, such as environmental protection, animal welfare, and similar issues.

For additional information regarding PSP, please visit the Public Service Program Canvas page at <https://swlaw.instructure/courses/1556> or [Public Service Program](#).