

Standardized Attorney

Role and Requirements

The Pennsylvania Child Welfare Resource Center (CWRC), is seeking experienced solicitors and attorneys interested in participating as members of an educational team to deliver a new simulation-based course, as part of the Foundational series for direct service worker. Foundations Module 7: Introduction to Dependency Court Practice provides a skills-based opportunity for new child welfare professionals to practice preparing for and testifying in a mock dependency court hearing. The role of the solicitor and attorney is to conduct a realistic direct or cross-examination and to deliver in-depth feedback to the learner in a constructive and strength-based manner.

The responsibilities of a "Standardized Attorney" include:

- Familiarize themselves with case scenarios and standard questions sufficiently to conduct a realistic cross or direct examination through study and participation in a pre-training session.
- Portray the role of the solicitor or attorney with a high degree of fidelity to the case script and consistency.
- Raise and respond to objections in a realistic manner.
- Provide the learners feedback on their testimony based on the case scenario.
- Complete an observation form for each learner.
- Collaborate and coordinate with CWRC staff and instructors to support an effective delivery of the simulation-based training session.

Interested applicants will meet the following criteria:

- Current or former licensed attorney (or 3rd year law student)
- Practice experience in dependency court or other child related hearings
- Comprehensive knowledge of successful courtroom practice
- Experience in direct examination and cross-examination
- Excellent communication and analytic skills
- Ability to exercise good judgement and to deliver feedback in a constructive and strength-based manner

Candidates interested in applying for the "Standardized Attorney" role and who meet the qualifications as outlined above, should submit an application of interest here: https://forms.cwrc.pitt.edu/SAApplication/ For questions specific to the "Standardized Attorney" role, please reach out to Amber Snyder, Simulation Program Supervisor at als373@pitt.edu.

Selected applicants will receive a \$350 stipend for their participation in each six-hour simulation-based training session. Opportunities to serve as a "Standardized Attorney" are available statewide.





