



Environmental Defender's Office WA (Inc)

Outreach Solicitor Position Description and Selection Criteria

The Environmental Defender's Office of Western Australia Inc is a not-for-profit Community Legal Centre which provides free legal advice, legal representation and community legal education in public interest environmental law matters.

We are looking for someone with a passion for the environment who is also an excellent lawyer and communicator to fill the position of Outreach solicitor.

The position will be based in our Perth office (at 544 Hay Street, Perth) but will require some travel to rural, remote and regional areas to provide environmental legal services. The Outreach Solicitor will report to and work closely with, the Principal Solicitor, who is an experienced environmental lawyer.

The position is currently a part-time (9 days per fortnight) position, however hours are negotiable.

The salary offered is (depending on experience) **\$50,000 to \$60,000** per annum full time equivalent plus superannuation.

Job responsibilities

1. Provide environmental law advice and legal representation to members of the community, with a particular focus on rural, remote and regional clients;
2. Deliver legal education to rural, remote and regional communities;
3. Coordinate and deliver legal advice clinics in regional, rural and remote areas;
4. Liaise with a range of community interest groups to identify key areas in need of legislative reform;
5. Prepare submissions to government on environmental law reform issues;
6. Assist the EDO Principal Solicitor with preparation of EDO News; and
7. Compile reports to the EDO Management Committee in relation to tasks.

Applications

Applicants must provide a written application that:

1. Addresses the selection criteria (see below);
2. Includes a current curriculum vitae; and
3. Lists names and contact details for 2 confidential referees.

Applications must be received by 29 January 2010

Send to: Josie Walker, Principal Solicitor, the Environmental Defender's Office (WA)
Suite 4, 544 Hay Street, Perth 6000 or email to jwalker@edowa.org.au

Selection criteria

Essential:

1. Admitted to practice as a legal practitioner and eligible to hold a practicing certificate in Western Australia.
2. Post-admission experience as a legal practitioner.
3. A keen interest in environmental issues and working with community groups concerned with environmental protection.
4. Excellent communication skills (oral and written).
5. Excellent and proven ability to analyse and resolve complex legal questions.
6. Excellent and proven ability to take responsibility, manage time, and work to deadlines.
7. Computer skills sufficient to type and produce own correspondence, reports, legal documents and access email/internet, as well as use an on-line client data-base.
8. Willingness and ability to travel to regional, rural and remote areas, when required.
9. A current Australian driver's licence.

Desirable:

1. Workshop facilitation skills.
2. Experience in the area of environmental, planning or administrative law.
3. Experience working in the Western Australian legal and political system.
4. Eligible to obtain an unrestricted practicing certificate in Western Australia.
5. Knowledge of the rural sector in Western Australia.

The EDO is an independent community legal centre specialising in public interest environmental law and is an equal opportunity employer.

For further information, please contact the EDO Principal Solicitor, Josie Walker, on (08) 9221 3030