



CHILDREN'S IMMIGRATION LAW ACADEMY Social Worker- Full Time

About CILA

The [Children's Immigration Law Academy](#) (CILA) is an expert legal resource center created by the American Bar Association (ABA). CILA's mission is to empower champions for unaccompanied children, advocates who guide children through complex legal procedures, to do so with courage, competency, compassion, and creativity. CILA builds capacity for those working to advance the rights of children seeking protection through trainings, technical assistance, and collaboration. In the words of one Texas UC Champion, "*CILA is an amazing resource for Texas practitioners. Having the organization's support, resources, and legal analysis helps us provide quick and legally solid advice and action to benefit our clients in this often hostile climate.*"

CILA is a project of the American Bar Association's [Commission for Immigration \(COI\)](#), which is part of the [Center for Public Interest Law](#), a group within the ABA. CILA is closely aligned with its sister projects within the COI, the [South Texas Pro Bono Asylum Representation Project \(ProBAR\)](#) and The [Immigrant Justice Project \(IJP\)](#).

The American Bar Association is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer of all protected classes including veterans and individuals with disabilities.

Women, minorities, veterans, and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply. In compliance with the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA), if you have a disability and would like to request an accommodation in order to apply for a position with the American Bar Association please call 312-988-5188.

Social Worker

CILA is seeking an experienced and self-starting social worker to spearhead a new project to provide technical assistance and training to social services staff at children's immigration legal service providers around the State of Texas. The ideal candidate has experience working directly with children or immigrant clients and is ready to move to a macro-level role to train and guide professionals in best practices in their work with immigrant children. The candidate should also be willing to work and collaborate in a multidisciplinary setting with legal and other professionals. This position reports to our Houston office although the CILA team is currently working from home due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

To apply, please visit [this link](#). A cover letter may be requested.

Essential Job Functions + Job Responsibilities

***Please note that the job functions described on the ABA description are for another ABA entity, not CILA. CILA does not provide direct services to children. ***

Assessment/Program Development

- Conduct assessment of the social service landscape at Legal Service Providers around Texas and gather feedback on needs of that population.
- Conduct assessment of the policies impacting access to services for immigrant children in Texas.
- Collect data regarding program outputs and support grant reporting for social work program to ensure compliance with funding contracts.
- Work with CILA and ABA leadership to set goals for social work department as well interdepartmental goals.

Technical Assistance

- Respond to requests for technical assistance about access to services, trauma informed practice and interdisciplinary practices from social workers and attorneys around the state of Texas.
- Respond in timely and individualized manner.
- Develop and maintain a knowledge base of social services available to clients in Texas.

Training

- Plan, coordinate and oversee virtual trainings on a variety of topics including access to services, trauma informed practice and interdisciplinary practices from social workers and attorneys around the state of Texas.
- Provide training to legal audience in collaboration with legal training team.
- Train new CILA staff.

Working Group

- Coordinate a statewide working group for professionals in social service role at legal service providers.
- Gather and report on trends in practice from this working group.

Resource Development

- Writing manuals, practitioner advisories, and outreach and educational materials for social workers and social services staff.
- Contribute to CILA communications via newsletter and blog.

Multidisciplinary setting

- Participate in multidisciplinary meetings with legal team to develop shared goals and work together laterally to identify training and support needs from the other team.

- Participate in meetings with stakeholders.

Required Education/Qualifications/Experience

- Possession of a Master's in Social Work or Counseling or related field.
- Provided two year's of services, preferably as a social worker.
- Fluency in English and Spanish in both oral and written formats.
- Intermediate proficiency in both the Microsoft Office suite of products and with Google tools and products.
- Ability to problem solve issues during stressful situations.
- Must be able to identify visual and verbal cues when interacting with clients and colleagues.
- Must have reliable transportation to travel between office and off-site locations.

Desired Qualifications

- Strong clinical skills, including with trauma survivors, and a commitment to providing culturally competent services.
- Understanding of immigration laws and policies that impact children's immigration.
- Prior experience working at a children's immigration legal service provider.
- Prior experience presenting to diverse audiences in person and in virtual spaces.
- Prior experience creating written resources applicable to a diverse audience.
- Ability to work collaboratively with co-workers, social service providers and other stakeholders.
- Ability to handle multiple tasks and prioritize workload in a fast-paced environment.
- Energy, optimism and passion for the issues affecting youth in detention and child immigrants.

Travel

- Travel, including travel to different sites around the state, may be required when travel is safe.

Reports to CILA Supervising Attorney.

Annual Salary and Benefits:

Pay is competitive for the field and commensurate with experience according to the American Bar Association salary scale for Social Workers. The salary range is \$61,740- \$68,450. The ABA recruits employees seeking opportunities for challenging and substantive work defending liberty and pursuing justice in the U.S. and around the world. The ABA offers competitive employment benefits which include medical, dental, vision, life and disability insurance, flexible spending accounts, a 401(k), commuter benefits, and more.