

Application Information

[The Board Observer Program \(BOP\)](#) is a partnership between the Philadelphia Bar Foundation, the Delivery of Legal Services Committee of the Philadelphia Bar Association (DLSC), and the Young Lawyers Division of the Philadelphia Bar Association (YLD). The BOP gives young lawyers practicing in Philadelphia County the opportunity to learn more about local legal services organizations and other non-profits, and to gain the kinds of leadership skills necessary to serve on the boards of such organizations as well as to succeed in their future careers.

An applicant for BOP must be:

- A member of the Young Lawyers Division of the Philadelphia Bar Association; and
- Licensed to practice law in Pennsylvania and be in good standing.

If you are not yet a member of the Philadelphia Bar Association, you must join by the time your application is submitted. If you are a member of the Philadelphia Bar Association who has not reached his or her 37th birthday or are within the first three years of admission, you are automatically a member of the YLD. Information on membership may be found at www.philabar.org.

Applicants with a demonstrated interest in community service and/or pro bono work are preferred, but prior experience in these areas is not required for participation. Applicants who are not selected for the program are encouraged to reapply next year.

To apply, please complete the application form and provide a current résumé. Your résumé should highlight any community service and/or pro bono experience and whether you have previously served or currently serve on any boards.

Please send your application material via email to: Jessica Hilburn-Holmes, Esq., Executive Director, Philadelphia Bar Foundation at info@philabarfoundation.org (with the subject line: **BOP Application 2018 [Applicant's Name]**). You may also send any questions to that address, or you may reach Jessica by phone at 215-238-6347.

Applications for the 2017-18 Program must be submitted by Monday, September 18, 2017.

BOARD OBSERVER PROGRAM

APPLICATION

Name and Current Contact Information: _____

(Most BOP communications are done by e-mail, so please provide an e-mail address that you check frequently)

Work Phone: _____

Mobile Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Current Employer & Length of Employment:

Law School & Year of Graduation:

Are you a member of the YLD? YES or NO

(Indicate whether you are a member of the Young Lawyers Division of the Philadelphia Bar Association above. In addition, please list other Philadelphia Bar Association sections or committees you are a member of, if any.)

Admissions:

(Include jurisdictions and admission dates)

How Did You Hear of the Board Observer Program? _____

Statement of Interest in the Board Observer Program:

Please attach a one-page statement of interest. Your statement should discuss both the reasons for your interest in BOP as well as what you hope to achieve through participation in the program.

References:

Please provide two references and their contact information who may be contacted regarding your application. Where applicable, it is preferred that your current employer be included as a reference.

Areas of Interest:

Please indicate whether you would prefer to be placed with the board of a legal services organization or with the board of a non-legal services nonprofit:

Please indicate the top three areas in which you are most interested, from 1 to 3. Although there is no guarantee that you will be matched with a board that addresses these issues, the best effort will be made to match according to preference.

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture/
Farmworker Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Disability Rights &
Healthcare Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Inmate Issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bankruptcy/Veterans Law
Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Education Law | <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children’s Rights | <input type="checkbox"/> Elder Law (focusing on
poverty law issues) | <input type="checkbox"/> Landlord/Tenant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community-Based
Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Law | <input type="checkbox"/> LGBT Rights & Issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Constitutional Issues/
impact litigation | <input type="checkbox"/> General Litigation | <input type="checkbox"/> The Arts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Court Systems/Judicial
Selection | <input type="checkbox"/> HIV+/AIDS Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Blight |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal Law | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing & Homeless Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Service Dog Training |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Immigration Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Women’s Issues |

Skills:

Please indicate whether you have previous experience with, or a particular interest in, any of the following areas:

____ Financial Management/Accounting

____ Media/Public Relations/Marketing

____ Public Speaking

____ Employment/HR Issues

____ Grant Writing

____ Program Development

____ Event Planning

____ Fundraising

____ Volunteer Recruitment

____ Other

Certification:

Please certify, by signing below, that if you are matched with a participating board and accept your placement that you will:

1. Make every effort to attend BOP events, including CLEs, lunch-and learn programs, and mid-year check-ins.
2. Attend all board meetings to which your organization invites you unless you have a significant scheduling conflict.
3. Notify your board mentor and the BOP Committee immediately should any situation arise that would affect your ability to participate meaningfully in the BOP (such as a move, job change, or recurring scheduling conflicts).
4. Notify the BOP Committee of any change in your contact information.

Signature

Date

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Thank you for your interest in the Board Observer Program!