

Overview of the 2026–27 Articling Program

Background

Over the past three years, the Articling Program has been highly effective in increasing access to legal services across underserved regions of BC. By supporting practice areas such as family law, child protection, and criminal law, the program has enabled articling students to gain meaningful hands-on experience while receiving structured mentorship from practising lawyers. Participating firms and lawyers have also benefited by recruiting motivated new lawyers who are eager to build their careers while contributing to communities where legal support is needed most.

This program is funded by the [Law Foundation of British Columbia](#), [Legal Aid BC \(LABC\)](#) and the [Association of Legal Aid Lawyers \(ALL\)](#) will continue to collaborate in administering it, contingent upon the continuation of funding.

Funding

Each of the successful law firms/sole practitioners will receive \$40,000 toward the overall cost of employing an articulated student who will commit at least 50 percent of their time to legal aid cases.

The funding will be provided in three installments over the course of 12 months.

The law firm/sole practitioner retains billings resulting from the student's work.

Eligibility Criteria for Law Firms/Sole Practitioners

1. Be in good standing with the [Law Society of British Columbia](#);
2. Be in good standing with ALL and ensure your annual membership fees are fully paid;
3. LABC will ensure that selected firms have annual legal aid billings of at least \$50,000 (excluding duty counsel) or can otherwise demonstrate that they are able to meet this threshold, and that there have been no identified compliance issues with LABC policies;
4. Be familiar with LABC's policies and procedures;
5. Have experience serving clients facing systemic barriers such as mental health issues, addictions, homelessness, poverty, literacy challenges, disabilities, and individuals affected by trauma;
6. Have knowledge of the legislative, policy and regulatory frameworks affecting

Indigenous legal aid clients;

7. Have experience achieving positive outcomes for equity-denied legal aid clients; and
8. Law Firms/Sole Practitioners that support candidates from diverse and underrepresented backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

Program Requirements

The law firm/sole practitioner must:

- Pay the student's Professional Legal Training Course (PLTC) fees and salary while they are at PLTC
- Not chargeback any expenses to the students
- Pay a minimum annual salary of \$53,000 to the articled student
- Employer contributions toward additional benefits (if any) must be in addition to the minimum salary
- Be located and serve communities outside Vancouver, Fraser Valley, and Victoria

Shared article students will be considered provided both firms meet all the requirements listed above and the 50 percent legal aid practice requirement.

Applications from firms/sole practitioners who have already received funding will be considered, however priority will be given to others who have not yet received funding.

Program Administration

LABC will ensure that law firms/sole practitioners selected have legal aid billings that are sufficient to meet the criteria, and that there have been no identified issues with compliance with LABC policies.

Applications will be reviewed and selected by the ALL-Articling Committee in consultation with LABC. LABC will administer payments.

Evaluations Process

There will be an evaluation of the program which may include interviews with the students and employer surveys to collect data about the longer-term success of the program.



The deadline for applications is ongoing until filled.

For Further Information

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