

LASP is a project run by Bristol Law Centre. Volunteer law students work with the Welfare Benefits team to run Personal Independence Payment (PIP) appeals to the First-tier Tribunal. Students are given a high level of responsibility and expected to work reliably independently and to a high standard.

We are looking for students who are passionate about helping those struggling with disability and long-term ill-health. Students will need to have an excellent eye for detail and be able to recognise key pieces of evidence which support or undermine each case. It is also crucial that consistent communication is maintained throughout.

LASP volunteers are expected to undertake all aspects of case preparation, help clients prepare for their hearing, and represent them at the First-tier Tribunal. Volunteers will undertake a period of training, usually 2-3 months, and are well supported by staff and more experienced volunteers in conducting all aspects of case preparation until able to work independently and largely unsupervised.

The role of **Advocacy Volunteer** involves arranging meetings to discuss strengths and weaknesses of the case, conducting interviews with clients to explore how their condition limits their ability to perform each of the descriptors for that benefit, reviewing further evidence, and producing a written legal submission. Advocacy volunteers also focus on preparing the client for the appeal by conducting pre-hearing interviews and providing representation to clients at First-tier Tribunals, both remotely and in person.

We will accept applications from law students at undergraduate level and above. We have found previously that students studying for their BPC have struggled to maintain their commitment to the project, therefore if you are intending to volunteer whilst studying this course, you will need to demonstrate an ability to meet the specified volunteer commitment on your application. Priority will be given to candidates who are willing to commit to the project for longer than the required period.

**We require LASP volunteers to complete a 4-hour session per week for 40 out of the first 52 weeks of starting on the project in order to ensure clients receive continuity and support which is paramount to the success of the project.** For the same reason we require volunteers to be available for 12 out of the 18 weeks from June to September 2024.

**Please submit your application using the attached form by  
5pm on the 18th of April 2024**

Shortlisting:	By 22nd April 2024
Interviews:	24th and 25th of April 2024
Training:	Evenings of 4th and 5th of June 2024
Start date:	Week commencing 10th June 2024