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STUDENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Illinois JusticeCorps

Part-time AmeriCorps Member

Applications are being accepted for the following locations:

The Daley Center in Chicago, Bloomington-Normal, Champaign-Urbana, Edwardsville, Galesburg, Joliet, Kankakee, Markham, Rockford and Waukegan.

Illinois JusticeCorps is an innovative program that enhances access to justice for the growing number of unrepresented people in the courts by empowering and training student volunteers to help people without lawyers navigate the court system by providing legal information and procedural guidance.

People coming to court without lawyers often do not know where to go, what to ask for or who to see for documents. They often are confused, intimidated and scared. JusticeCorps members serve as guides to make the courts more welcoming and less intimidating to people who are navigating this complex and daunting system. JusticeCorps assistance allows people to accomplish the purpose of their visit more efficiently. Members receive thorough training, including about the activities in the courthouse, available resources and the difference between legal information and advice.

Volunteer Responsibilities may include:

- Assist self-represented litigants in the self-help web center and other assigned locations by providing legal information and connecting them to available legal aid resources
- Accompany people without lawyers around the courthouse to help them complete the necessary steps to move forward with their legal matters
- Answering general questions about the legal process and making referrals to legal aid and other services when necessary

The position requirements:

- 300-hour volunteer commitment. All hours must be complete 1 year after start date or by December 31, 2017, whichever comes first.
- Attend all required training sessions, including Pre-Service Orientation.
- Be willing to work with people who are often stressed, anxious and sometimes challenging
- Conscientiously gather and submit data needed for reports
- Non-English Language proficiency a plus

Benefits:

- Volunteers are members of AmeriCorps, a national network of service programs that recruit and train volunteers to meet critical community needs while they earn money for education.
- After completion of 300-hour commitment, volunteer will receive \$1,222 Education Award for education expenses or loan repayment
- Great professional skills development, work experience and professional references

How to apply:

• Send completed application and resume (if available) to <u>applications@iljusticecorps.org</u>; Please indicate the location you are applying for in the subject line.