Empire Justice Center, a highly respected, statewide legal services organization, is seeking a Staff Attorney for its Student Loan Program. This is an opportunity to join one of the most effective organizations serving low-income individuals and families in New York State.

Empire Justice Center attracts and employs dedicated, determined, and passionate advocates who, together, make a significant impact on the lives of low-income New Yorkers. We achieve our successes through direct legal representation and high-impact litigation, legislative and administrative advocacy, and by providing training and technical assistance to other advocates who are working towards the same goals.

With offices in Rochester, Albany, Westchester County, and Long Island, our organization offers staff an exciting and dynamic working environment and a strong commitment to teamwork, diversity, and personal/professional development. Our current openings are for one (1) Staff Attorney to work in our Albany office.

**Position Description:**

Empire Justice Center is pleased to announce an opening for a full-time Staff Attorney position in our new Education Debt Consumer Assistance Program (EDCAP). The Staff Attorney will work closely with a Senior Attorney managing the program and the Student Debt Counselor to assist with the development of a new project and provide direct legal representation in court and administrative proceedings to individuals with student debt. The position will also include providing training, technical assistance and support to EDCAP student debt counselors in other programs throughout New York State.

**Primary responsibilities will include:**

- Providing information and advice to student loan borrowers based on their specific circumstances
- Helping student loan borrowers apply for relief through cancellation, forgiveness, or discharge programs
- Representing student debt borrowers in court and administrative proceedings
- Providing training, technical assistance and support to EDCAP student debt counselors throughout New York State
- Working within a team and collaborating with partners to identify issues and trends, and contributing to policy advocacy
- Other responsibilities identified by Supervisor
Candidates for this position should possess:

- Admission to New York State Bar.
- A demonstrated passion for social justice and commitment to working with low-income communities and communities of color to advance racial and economic equity.
- Strong interest in client work.
- Strong writing skills.
- 1-13 years of experience as an attorney.
- Preferably, at least 3 years of litigation experience.
- Excellent communication and advocacy skills, including speaking before lawmakers and judges.
- Strong interpersonal skills, empathy, and a sense of teamwork.
- Knowledge of or interest in student loan work preferred.

Salary and Benefits:

The range of salary is from $54,580 to $78,580. Salary is commensurate with experience and based on the organization’s salary scale. Empire Justice Center offers a generous benefit package, including health insurance, life insurance, a 403b retirement plan, vacation, holiday, and sick time. We are an organization that supports and encourages a work/life balance.

Empire Justice Center is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer and desires a diverse and inclusive workforce. Empire Justice Center provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment and prohibits discrimination and harassment of any type without regard to race, color, religion, age (40 or older), sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), national origin, disability status, genetics, protected veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state, or local laws.

TO APPLY:

Applications will be accepted until filled. If interested e-mail a resume, writing sample and contact information for three professional references aware of this application to employment@empirejustice.org. Please include Staff Attorney, EDCAP, First/Last Name to the subject line of the email. No phone calls or hard copies please.

Staff Attorney, Education Debt Consumer Assistance Program
employment@empirejustice.org