



## LIFT RURAL JUSTICE LEGAL INCUBATOR PROJECT ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

**New Attorneys Interested in Going Solo – Apply to the [LIFT Rural Justice Project](#)**

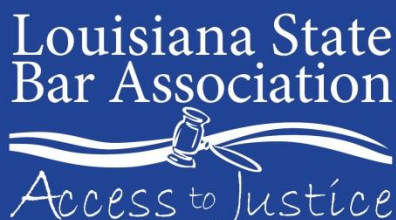
This 12-month project is designed to train and support new attorneys in developing solo and small law practices in underserved, *rural communities*. The project helps solo practitioners build public interest-focused practices, while bringing much-needed legal services to low- and moderate-income Louisianans living in rural parts of the state with limited access.

**Benefits of the Program:** Participating attorneys work with experienced Acadiana Legal Service Corporation (ALSC) lawyers and receive free access to case management software and legal research programs, CLE training, mentorship, and the opportunity to co-counsel on cases with ALSC lawyers. In exchange for the training and incubation of their practice, attorneys agree to provide free legal representation on pro bono cases referred by ALSC, for which they will receive \$30-50/hour, depending upon the case type.

**Parishes and Types of Cases:** The parishes targeted include Avoyelles, Cameron, Catahoula, Claiborne, Concordia, De Soto, East and West Carroll, Franklin, Grant, LaSalle, Madison, Richland, Sabine, Tensas, Union, and Vernon. The types of cases may include successions, family law, advanced directives, bankruptcy, Social Security/Disability, Child in Need of Care (CINC), housing and consumer issues.

**Who Should Apply:** Louisiana licensed attorneys with 0-7 years of practice experience who are dedicated to establishing sustainable law practices that provide legal services to limited-income individuals and small businesses in rural, underserved communities and are excited about using technology and innovation to implement new ways of providing cost-effective legal services are encouraged to apply.

Learn more about the program by going to [www.lsba.org/LIFT](http://www.lsba.org/LIFT).



For more information, contact:  
 Louisiana State Bar Association  
 Access to Justice  
 601 St. Charles Avenue  
 New Orleans, LA 70130-3404  
[www.lsba.org/lift](http://www.lsba.org/lift)





# Louisiana State Bar Association

## LIFT Rural Justice Incubator Project

### Application

Legal Innovators for Tomorrow (LIFT) is a legal incubator program designed to support new lawyers build viable and sustainable public interest-focused law firms that serve unmet civil legal needs. Through a collaborative partnership with Acadiana Legal Service Corporation (ALSC), participating attorneys in this project will provide civil legal services to low- and moderate-income Louisianians living in underserved, [rural communities](#).

This incubator program is for new or transitioning attorneys starting their own solo law firm. During the 12-month program, incubator attorneys receive *free access to case management software* and *legal research programs, training, mentorship*, and *court shadowing opportunities* as they work alongside experienced ALSC legal practitioners. In exchange for the training and incubation of their practice, attorneys agree to provide pro bono representation for which they will receive \$30-\$50 per hour from ALSC based on the case type and hours of representation provided. The types of cases may include Successions, Family Law, Advance Directives, Bankruptcy, Social Security Disability, Child In Need of Care (CINC), Housing, and Consumer related issues.

Louisiana licensed attorneys with 0-7 years practice experience who plan to develop or have begun to develop a solo or small law practice and are committed to providing legal representation in any of the parishes identified are encouraged to apply. Please send your completed applications in **one PDF file** to Amy Duncan at [amy.duncan@lsba.org](mailto:amy.duncan@lsba.org).

### Applicant Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Law School: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Admission to the Louisiana Bar: \_\_\_\_\_ Bar No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Other bar admissions and dates (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Years of Practice Experience (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Date you are available to begin your practice: \_\_\_\_\_

List any history of improper conduct or reported incidents to the bar: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**The following documents must be included:**

1. A statement of no more than 1000 words indicating why you want to be a solo or small-firm practitioner, why you should be selected to participate in this LIFT Incubator Program, and how you expect to serve people living in underserved, rural communities. Also, include an instance(s) when you have demonstrated entrepreneurial initiative or proved your ability to be a successful entrepreneur.
2. A current Resume
3. Business Plan no more than 3 letter-sized pages that includes<sup>1</sup>:
  - a. Area(s) of your proposed practice focus (e.g., family law, consumer law, criminal defense, small business organizations, etc.), your preparation for the area(s) of practice, and how you will handle potential competition in the practice area(s).
  - b. Business Summary including mission, objectives, and strategy for building a solo or small law practice.
  - c. Operations Summary describing operating procedures, staffing and other resources required to carry out your practice.
  - d. Marketing Initiatives you will employ during the first 12 months including plans for client development and any existing relationships with client community.
  - e. Financial Analysis including sources of capital to pay for practice expenses and estimated budget with first year income and expense projections (1 page max.).

Please initial each statement below indicating your agreement:

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that eligibility to enter or continue in the LIFT Program requires that I continue to be a member of the Louisiana Bar in good standing. I agree to notify the Program Director immediately of any change in my status or of any action by the Louisiana State Bar Office of Disciplinary taken against me.

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree to carry at all times while I am part of the LIFT Program malpractice insurance and to pay for any tail if the policy is a claims-reported policy.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have read the requirements of the program and, if selected as a participant in the LIFT Program, I agree to abide by and remain compliant with all the rules governing the program.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that if chosen to participate in LIFT, I will receive training from third parties who may make suggestions and recommendations regarding application and software usage in my practice and that these recommendations may or may not be endorsed by the Louisiana State Bar Association. I am to use my own discretion when deciding to incorporate these items into my practice.

\_\_\_\_\_ All statements in this application and accompanying attachments are true to the best of my knowledge and reflect realistic projections based on information reasonably available to me. I understand that any material misstatements herein may be the subject of termination of my participation in the LIFT Program should I be selected.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

<sup>1</sup> For more information and a general guide to business plan writing *see* SBA.GOV, "Create Your Business Plan available at <https://www.sba.gov/business-guide/plan-your-business/write-your-business-plan>