

ACLU Pennsylvania

Volunteer Opportunities

This list is not meant to be comprehensive, so ask if you have an interest in something that isn't listed!

Legislative Action Network

This is a group of supporters interested in being trained to do phone calls and in-person visits with local officials, showing up to town halls and other public events on various issues, writing letters to the editor (talking points will be provided!), and phone banking and canvassing to our members.

Rapid Response Team

Sometimes we need people to take action quickly. This includes showing up at rallies or other actions, writing support letters to clients and others experiencing harassment simply for being who they are, and possibly phone banking.

Advocacy/Policy Research

Within the *Campaign for Smart Justice* and the *Courts and Costs* projects, there are tasks such as court observing, campaign research/bird-dogging, speaking to impacted communities.

Tabling/Outreach

We're looking for people to spend a few hours a month staffing an ACLU table at various events. Many events are on weekends. We will provide a brief training (webinar or in person). You don't have to be an expert on civil liberties or the ACLU to table!

Event/Program Planning

Are you a party planner or great with logistics? Help plan and produce membership events and community education programs like "Civics for Grown Ups", advocacy trainings, social events, and Know Your Rights programs.

Young Leadership Outreach Team (Philadelphia and Pittsburgh)

This is a group of people generally in their 20s and 30s helping the ACLU-PA build the next generation of leadership to protecting civil liberties and educating citizens. The group organizes activities and programs related to the ACLU.

Fundraising

Help our Development department by identifying and researching potential donors, plan events, and solicit prospective donors for contributions to the Foundation.

House Parties

Want to host a house party? This is a great way to increase awareness about the ACLU and help raise some money! We offer event support and will provide a staff or board member to speak about our work.

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Speakers' Bureau

We are asked to speak at a variety of activities, from school classes to community groups, on a range of topics, including "know-your-rights" trainings and general "what is the ACLU" talks. We will train speakers and provide outlines for talks.

Legal Observers

The chief purpose of Legal Observing is to help to ensure the free and safe exercise of First Amendment rights for protests, marches, and civil disobedience actions. Legal Observers attend rallies, marches, sit-ins, and other protest events to observe and record incidents, arrests, and official misconduct. (Training is required and will be scheduled.)

Legal Research

Those with legal research skills support the legal team on various projects.

Intake (Philadelphia office only)

Interview people who call the ACLU help-line and write summaries of their civil rights complaints, read and summarize complaints received in writing, research facts about complaints, make recommendations about complaints, review complaint facts with legal staff, and file and maintain intake documents. 8 hour per week commitment during the fall, winter, and spring. Summer internships require 35 hours a week.

Intake Legal Reviewers/Supervisors (Philadelphia office only)

Attorneys review responses to complaints and give feedback to Intake volunteers in collaboration with the Intake Attorney. This is an ongoing 2-4 hour weekly commitment.

Social Media Boosters/E-Activists

This is a remote and low-commitment option that requires a swift response to make the biggest impact online. Sign up to receive emails and social media notifications when we have a social media post or event that we want to boost with likes, comments, shares, and RSVPs.

Administrative Support/Office Work

We occasionally need assistance in our office with scanning documents, filing, and other administrative tasks. We are creating an email list to send out ad hoc office tasks, including data entry, envelope stuffing, some internet research, paralegal file organizing and scanning, etc. Many tasks can be done from home! We also need event volunteers occasionally, including help with spreading the word ahead of time.

Special Skills

If you have a special skill (graphic design, photography, IT security experience, language skills, etc.), please let us know!