



Kentucky Department of Public Advocacy

CURRENT JOB OPENINGS: <https://dpa.ky.gov/career/>
Recruiter: Patti Heying, Patti.Heying@ky.gov and dpacareers@ky.gov

Explore the beautiful Bluegrass State!

<https://www.kentuckytourism.com/>

- **LAW CLERK:** An attorney-track full-time position for a law graduate or soon-to-be grad who is taking or has recently taken the bar exam. A Law Clerk is promoted to a Staff Attorney I upon receiving a bar license, including a "Supervised Practice" license (see below). Starting Salary: \$51,000 with full state benefits.
- **STAFF ATTORNEY I:** An entry-level full-time position for those licensed to practice law. Starting Salary: \$58,200 with full state employment benefits. After a 6-month probationary period, salary increases 5%.

Law Clerk Frequently Asked Questions . .

When am I eligible to apply for Law Clerk positions?

If you have already graduated or will graduate by June 2026, you may apply for Law Clerk positions immediately.

What is the interview and hiring process?

You will participate in two interviews at the Career Fest. After the event, we will contact you within a week providing location opportunities in DPA. If you want to pursue those opportunities, you will complete a state application and apply for the recommended position(s) on the Kentucky Personnel Cabinet website. You will then have a final virtual interview with the directing attorney of the specific office(s) to which you have applied. We anticipate final offers will be made within two weeks of the interview. If you need a decision from us earlier, please let us know!

If I'm hired, when am I expected to start working for DPA?

All May 2026 graduates will begin work for DPA on Monday, August 17, 2026 unless an exception is approved. Start dates for December 2025 grads or those who have already graduated will be negotiated individually.

What is the "Supervised Practice License"?

DPA Law Clerks who have graduated law school and applied to take the Kentucky Bar Exam or are awaiting exam results may apply for a Supervised Practice License. The application process is on the Kentucky Bar Admissions site <https://www.kyoba.org>, under "Non-Bar Exam Admission" / "Alternate Types of Admission". A Supervised Practice license allows law school graduates to practice law while awaiting bar results.

If I take the exam in another state, what happens when I pass the bar exam?

Kentucky offers several ways to practice while transferring your UBE score or waiting to take the Kentucky bar exam. Those who took the UBE in another state may apply to transfer the score (passing score of 266). Those licensed outside Kentucky may be eligible for a [Limited Practice License](#), allowing practice as a public defender. To learn more, go to the Bar Admissions website at <https://www.kyoba.org>, under "Non-Bar Exam Admission." DPA will reimburse the cost of UBE score transfer.

What happens if a Law Clerk does not receive the exam result they want?

Generally, DPA allows Law Clerks and Supervised Practice Attorneys who take the July bar exam after graduation to remain in their positions on the condition that they take the next available exam. Those who do not receive a passing score on a second attempt or after a first attempt in February will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. If a Supervised Practice Attorney does not pass the bar a second time, DPA does not have the option of keeping that person in an attorney position because the Supervised Practice license will be revoked per the rules governing that license.

What happens in the first year with the Kentucky DPA?

Every newly hired lawyer in DPA is supported by their individual office and the agency. In their office, every new lawyer is supported by ASWs (Alternative Sentencing Workers / Most are social workers), investigators, administrative staff, and experienced lawyers including their supervisor. Every newly hired lawyer is also paired with an out-of-office mentor. The first year of practice in DPA also includes over 4 weeks of training which includes District Court, Defending Children, Circuit Court, and a Litigation Practice Institute (Faubush).

Ky Department of Public Advocacy Trial Division

Trial Regions, Offices, Counties Covered

Offices are physically located in the first county listed in bold print

Office	Counties Covered
Bluegrass Region	
Cynthiana	Harrison , Nicholas, Pendleton, Robertson
Frankfort	Franklin
Georgetown	Scott , Bourbon, Woodford
LaGrange	Oldham , Henry, Trimble
Lexington North	Fayette
Lexington South	Fayette
Shelbyville	Shelby , Anderson, Spencer
Central Region	
Bowling Green North	Warren , Butler, Edmonson
Bowling Green South	Warren , Allen, Simpson
Shepherdsville	Bullitt , Nelson
Elizabethtown	Hardin , Breckinridge, Grayson, Larue, Meade
Glasgow	Barren , Hart, Metcalfe, Monroe
Owensboro	Daviess , Hancock, Ohio
CTB (Capital Trial Branch)	
Capital East	Fayette office; Statewide service
Capital West	Shelby office; Statewide service
Eastern Region	
Pineville	Bell
Harlan	Harlan
Hazard	Perry , Knott, Letcher
London	Laurel , Clay, Knox, Leslie, Whitley
Pikeville	Pike
Prestonsburg	Floyd , Johnson, Martin, Magoffin
Northern Region	
Burlington	Boone , Carroll, Gallatin, Grant, Owen
Catlettsburg	Boyd , Carter, Greenup, Lawrence, Lewis
Covington	Kenton
Maysville	Mason , Bracken, Fleming
Morehead	Rowan , Bath, Elliott, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan
Newport	Campbell
Southern Region	
Columbia	Adair , Casey, Clinton, Cumberland, Green, Marion, Taylor, Washington
Danville	Boyle , Lincoln, Mercer
Nicholasville	Jessamine , Garrard
Richmond	Madison , Clark, Jackson,
Somerset	Pulaski , McCreary, Rockcastle, Russell, Wayne
Stanton	Powell , Breathitt, Estill, Lee, Owsley, Wolfe
Western Region	
Henderson	Henderson , Crittenden, Union, Webster
Hopkinsville	Christian , Logan, Todd
Madisonville	Hopkins , McLean, Muhlenberg
Murray	Calloway , Graves, Marshall
Paducah	McCracken , Ballard, Carlisle, Fulton, Hickman, Livingston
Princeton	Caldwell , Lyon, Trigg
Louisville Region	
	Jefferson

