



School Justice Project

2025 SJP Social Worker Job Description

School Justice Project (SJP) is seeking a Social Worker to join the team April 2025. Applicants must be a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker (LICSW) with relevant experience working in the District of Columbia and prior supervisory experience of interns.

Organization Overview: SJP is a special education legal services organization in Washington, DC serving students with disabilities ages 17-22 who are involved in DC's juvenile or criminal legal systems. SJP works to build racial justice by increasing educational equity and decreasing mass incarceration. SJP uses special education law to ensure that older, court-involved students with disabilities have access to a quality education. SJP uses three strategies to achieve its mission: 1) Direct Representation, 2) Systemic Advocacy & Policy, 3) Community Outreach & Legal Training. For more info, visit www.sjpd.org.

Position Description: The Social Worker will primarily work with SJP's clients, both during incarceration and throughout reentry, to assist them with navigating benefits and services in DC. The Social Worker will also work with SJP's special education attorneys to assist them with case needs, hearing preparation, and advice. A majority of the Social Worker's time will be spent meeting with clients and assisting them with obtaining resources in the field. The Social Worker will regularly consult with and advise attorneys on their cases.

The Social Worker responsibilities include:

Supporting Clients to Facilitate Case Work

- *Communicate consistently and clearly with clients via phone, email, text, and in person.*
- *Identify barriers that are impeding a client's ability to engage in their legal case.*
- *Complete non-legal tasks to further clients' legal cases (e.g., identifying resources, attending legal and non-legal resource intake meetings with clients, scheduling medical appointments, applying for public benefits, assisting with daycare or housing or other non-legal needs).*
- *Locate and provide information to clients about community resources.*
- *Provide community trainings with SJP attorneys.*
- *Attend community organization meetings, stakeholder meetings, and other events as needed.*

Support Attorneys in Case Work

- *Consult and advise attorneys on case work and client needs.*
- *Request, track, obtain, and review records held by external entities.*
- *Observe meetings and hearings and prepare written reports for attorney use when needed.*
- *Communicate with attorneys about information that affects case work.*

Supervise Social Work Interns

- *Identify, hire and directly manage one to two Social Work interns during academic terms.*
- *Assign cases to Social Work interns and regularly review case progress with the intern and attorney assigned to the case.*

Qualifications: Applicants should have a demonstrated commitment to social justice, racial justice, education, and juvenile & criminal legal systems reform. SJP values building a diverse and inclusive team, and individuals with personal/lived experience with the legal systems and/or the communities SJP serves are strongly encouraged to apply. Qualifications include:

- Experience working within the legal system and/or client advocacy, particularly in the legal services setting.
- Familiarity with special education and/or DC's criminal legal systems.
- Specialized knowledge or training in trauma and attachment principles in social work practice.
- Experience with assessments and working within multi-disciplinary teams.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Strong ability to build and maintain productive and ethical relationships with diverse groups of people and/or individuals.
- Ability to be flexible, excellent time-management and organizational skills.
- Demonstrated capacity to work independently and collaboratively.
- Keen problem-solving skills, ability to troubleshoot, and creative and analytical thinking.

Required Skills and Experience

- Three or more years of post-MSW experience as a Social Worker directly working with clients.
- Experience working with children, young people and/or families in DC.
- Master of Social Work from a Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) approved school/university.
- Current DC Social Work License at the LICSW-level.
- One or more years of post-MSW experience supervising Social Work interns.

Compensation: 2025 SJP Social Worker salaries range \$85,000-\$100,000 depending on experience. SJP offers a generous benefits package that includes:

- Health insurance
 - Full health insurance coverage for one plan in DC's open insurance market, DC Health Link. Employees may decide to supplement the cost by choosing other plan options
 - Health insurance starts on first of the month following hire
- 401(k) offered through the Voya ABA Retirement Fund Program
- Fifteen (15) days paid vacation annually (calendar year; use or lose), twenty (20) days paid after the third year of employment
- Five (5) paid wellness days (calendar year; use or lose)
- Five (5) days paid sick leave (calendar year; rollover)
- Twelve (12) weeks paid extended family, medical, or parental leave
- SJP observes all federal and DC holidays. This accounts for approximately ten (10) days of office closures
- SJP has office closures during the following periods:
 - SJP is closed the day preceding, the day of, and the day following Thanksgiving
 - SJP is closed the week of December 25th and the week of December 31
 - SJP is closed from July 3-July 5
- Paid day off for the employee's birthday
- SJP pays for DC licensure and dues required for employment
- Sabbatical eligibility after 5 years of full-time employment

- Employees have extensive professional development funds at their disposal, including federal rate meal and travel per diems

How to Apply: Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Applicants must submit a cover letter, resume, writing sample, and list of three references (name, address, contact information, and statement of relationship to the Applicant) to: Claire Blumenson, Executive Director & Co-Founder, at jobs@sjpdc.org AND info@sjpdc.org, with the subject “2025 SJP Social Worker.”