



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT District of New Mexico

Honorable William P. Johnson, Chief Judge
Mitchell R. Elfers, Clerk of Court

Office of the Clerk

333 Lomas Blvd. NW, Suite 270, Albuquerque, NM 87102

Telephone: 505-348-2000

NOTICE OF JOB OPPORTUNITY

Vacancy Announcement #: 24-LC/JSP-2

ANNOUNCEMENT DATE:	February 9, 2024
CLOSING DATE:	June 30, 2024 or Until filled <i>Job commences August 1, 2025</i>
POSITION:	Term Law Clerk, 1-2 Year term
STARTING LEVEL/SALARY:	JSP 11/Step 1 to JSP 13/Step 10 \$72,553 to \$134,435 annual (2024 pay tables) Depending on Qualifications
LOCATION:	Las Cruces, New Mexico

POSITION OVERVIEW

This position is located in the Las Cruces division of the U.S. District Court for the District of New Mexico and is assigned to the Honorable Gregory J. Fouratt. The Law Clerk provides legal support to Judge Fouratt by conducting legal research, attending hearings and settlement conferences, and preparing legal documents. Duties include drafting orders, memoranda, and opinions; case management; court calendar monitoring; and other duties as assigned. A law clerk in this position will primarily work on civil matters.

Successful candidate must comply with the requirements of the Judicial Conference of the United States Courts and the *Guide to Judiciary Policy*.

This announcement is for a Full-time Term law clerk position of one or two years, starting **August 1, 2025**. Term will end July 31, 2026 or July 31, 2027 (negotiable).

MINIMUM REQUIRED EXPERIENCE/QUALIFICATIONS

This position requires a Juris Doctor degree. To qualify for the position of a Law Clerk on the staff of a federal judge, a person must be a law school graduate (or be certified as having completed all law school studies and requirements and merely awaiting conferment of degree) from a law school of recognized standing, and have one or more of the following attributes:

- ◆ Standing within the upper third of the law school class from a law school on the approved list of either the American Bar Association or the Association of American Law Schools;

- ◆ Experience on the editorial board of a law review of such a school;
- ◆ Graduation from such a school with an LLM degree; or
- ◆ Demonstrated proficiency in legal studies, which in the opinion of the Court, is the equivalent of one of the above.

For salary purposes, term law clerks normally qualify for appointment to the grade of JSP-11. To qualify for appointment to a JSP 12 or above, an individual must 1) be a member in good standing of the bar of a state, territory, or Federal Court of general jurisdiction, and 2) have legal work experience after graduation from law school.

COURT PREFERRED EXPERIENCE/QUALIFICATIONS

- 1) Standing within the upper quarter (25%) of the law school is strongly preferred;
- 2) Law review experience is preferred, but not required; and
- 3) The successful candidate will either already have an appreciation for the American Southwest or demonstrate the capacity to obtain such appreciation.

PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

The successful candidate should possess good judgment, good analytical skills, and a strong work ethic; demonstrate tact, initiative, and ability to work independently; and maintain a professional appearance and demeanor at all times. The candidate must also be able to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

- ◆ Employees must be United States Citizens or eligible to work in the United States.
- ◆ Employees of the United States District Court are Excepted Service appointments; Excepted Service appointments are “at will” and can be terminated with or without cause by the court.
- ◆ Employees are required to adhere to a Code of Ethics and Conduct.
- ◆ Selectees are subject to an FBI fingerprint check or investigation and may be subject to periodic updates. An individual may be hired provisionally pending successful completion of the necessary records checks.
- ◆ Travel expenses for an interview will not be reimbursed.
- ◆ The court provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities.
- ◆ This position is subject to EFT (direct deposit of salary earnings).

BENEFITS

A generous benefits package is available to full-time excepted employees, including

- ◆ A minimum of 11 paid holidays, although the clerk will have to work some of them.
- ◆ Optional participation in Federal Employees Health Benefits plans, including dental and vision insurance; Federal Employees Group Life Insurance; Flexible Benefits Program
- ◆ Retirement benefits*: FERS and Thrift Savings Plan (TSP)
* *Only if transferring from a previously covered position without a break in service.*
- ◆ Credit for prior government service

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Qualified applicants must submit a **current résumé, cover letter, two writing samples, three recommendations**, and a **Law Grade Sheet** by email to FourattChambers@nmd.uscourts.gov.

PLEASE USE "2025 LAW CLERK – HONORABLE GREGORY J. FOURATT"
IN THE SUBJECT LINE

Applications **must** be submitted in **ONE PDF** document.

Illegible or incomplete applications may result in loss of consideration for the position. ZIP files and links to file sharing services (DropBox, OneDrive, etc.) will not be accepted. PDF size is limited to 10 MB. Documents that cannot be downloaded by the court cannot be considered.

Only qualified applicants will be considered for this position and are encouraged to apply. Only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted. Interviews may be conducted remotely via videoconference; travel for any in-person interviews will be at applicant's expense. The U.S. District Court reserves the right to amend or withdraw any announcement without written notice to applicants. If a subsequent vacancy of the same position becomes available within a reasonable time of the original announcement, the court may select a candidate from the original qualified applicant pool.

THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER