



# CALL FOR VOLUNTEERING LAWYERS

2022 AUGUST

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**LEGAL AID UNIT**  
Faculty of Law, University of Colombo

The Legal Aid Unit (LAU) provides clinical legal experience to the LLB undergraduates of the Faculty of Law through casework, while offering free legal advice to people who need legal aid.

The LAU also intends to develop and deliver community legal education and policy reform activities in order to empower and support marginalized communities.

The main goal of the LAU is to build the capacities of the law students to promote social justice and human rights of disadvantaged communities with the support of volunteering lawyers and Faculty academics.

The LAU strategy is built on the spirit of volunteerism, and the Unit operates with minimal resources. The LAU encourages undergraduates and lawyers, in particularly the alumni of the Faculty of Law to contribute to the delivery of its services. The volunteers of the LAU will be provided with letters of reference when they complete their programme.



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## VOLUNTEERING AT LAU •

The LAU invites lawyers with minimum 3-years of practicing experience to submit Expressions of Interest (EOI) to join the volunteering pool of lawyers. The volunteering lawyers will be requested to provide legal advice through telephone or face-to-face consultation sessions in order to assist people who need legal aid.

The LAU is a clinical legal education Unit; therefore, up to 5 law undergraduates join the volunteering lawyer when the lawyer conducts the consultation with the clients. Senior law undergraduates will be available to assist the lawyer by taking notes, drafting letters, etc.

## COMMITMENTS •

The LAU expects the volunteering lawyers to commit minimum 2 hours per month to provide legal advice at telephone/online or face-to-face consultation sessions, which are mostly conducted during weekday evenings. The LAU also encourages the volunteering lawyers to take up pro-bono cases.

The selected volunteer lawyers will be invited to a short online or face-to-face induction session, where they will be provided with information on LAU and its service methods. The lawyers who have completed the induction will be placed on a roster, depending on their availability and their area of expertise. The roster will be available online to be viewed by all LAU volunteers. Rostered lawyers may exchange sessions with their peers in the event that they are unable to attend their allocated consultation session.

Volunteering lawyers are recruited for 12 months, and they are encouraged to remain in the volunteering pool thereafter. Due to limited resources, the LAU is unable to pay any fees, travel allowance, etc. to volunteers.

## APPLICATIONS •

Those who are interested in becoming a volunteering lawyer are invited to complete an online EOI form via the following link:

<https://forms.gle/uQjdSVcfGKfkoGRCA>