

# Attorney Advisor (International)

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Office of the Secretary

Office of the General Counsel, Commercial Law Development Program



## Summary

The Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) of the Office of General Counsel, U.S. Department of Commerce, is seeking individuals with exceptional analytical, organizational, and interpersonal communication skills to join our outstanding team of international technical assistance Attorney-Advisors.

This is a Public Notice. Please read this Public Notice in its entirety prior to submitting your application for consideration.


[Learn more about this agency](#)

## Overview

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Accepting applications

### Open & closing dates

 05/02/2023 to 06/02/2023

### Salary

\$112,015 - \$172,075 per year

### Pay scale & grade

GS 13 - 14

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### Location

FEW vacancies in the following location:

 **Washington**

**Remote job**

No

**Telework eligible**

Yes—as determined by the agency policy.

**Travel Required**

25% or less - You may be expected to travel for this position.

**Relocation expenses reimbursed**

No

**Appointment type**

Permanent -

**Work schedule**

Full-time -

**Service**

Excepted

**Promotion potential**

14

**Job family (Series)**

[0905 Attorney](#)

**Supervisory status**

No

**Security clearance**

[Secret](#)

**Drug test**

No

**Position sensitivity and risk**

[Noncritical-Sensitive \(NCS\)/Moderate Risk](#)

**Trust determination process**

[Credentialing](#)

[Suitability/Fitness](#)

**Announcement number**

OS-OGC-23-PNF-11945072

**Control number**

723256800

# This job is open to

[? Help](#)**The public**

U.S. Citizens, Nationals or those who owe allegiance to the U.S.

**Clarification from the agency**

Applications will be accepted from all U.S. Citizens.

## Duties

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This Attorney-Advisor position on the Energy Transition team will support investment into sustainable renewable energy, distributed energy, and transmission and distribution networks. This work will involve advising foreign governments around the world on the policies, laws, regulations, contracts, and standards for them to rapidly adopt new clean power generation, transmission and distribution infrastructure; incorporate solar, wind, hydrogen, geothermal, and storage resources into a grid; and structure financeable power projects in accordance with international best practice. This work will also engage foreign governments to transition to low and zero-carbon energy sources and to mitigate emissions and decarbonize existing energy sources such as through CCS and carbon markets.

This Attorney-Advisor will consult with senior foreign government officials; assess development needs and barriers to investment; and design, implement and evaluate legal reform technical assistance programs that meet the host countries' economic development needs and are in line with U.S. energy and climate policy goals; collaborate across US Government agencies and support the US State Department's Power Sector Program and Energy and Minerals Governance Program and USAID's Power Africa program. For more about CLDP's Energy Transition team and what we do, please see our website here. As examples of what this Attorney-Advisor would do, see our Understanding Power series [Here](#).

The attorney in this position may also be required to perform other duties as assigned.

## Requirements

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# Conditions of Employment

## Conditions of Employment

- Must be a U.S. citizen.
- Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree from an ABA-accredited law school.
- Provide proof of an active bar membership in good standing of the bar of a state, a territory of the United States, the District of Columbia, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. On-line information is allowed as long as it shows that applicant is in "active" status.
- Successfully pass a background investigation. This may include a credit check, a review of financial issues, as well as certain criminal offenses and illegal use of possession of drugs.
- Required to submit a Confidential Financial Disclosure Report, OGE Form 450
- Complete a 2-year trial/probationary period- Registered for Selective Service, if applicable ([www.sss.gov](http://www.sss.gov)).
- If you receive a conditional offer of employment for this position, you will be required to complete an Optional Form 306, Declaration for Federal Employment, and to sign and certify the accuracy of all information in your application.

## Qualifications

Qualification requirements in the vacancy announcements are based on the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Qualification Standards Handbook, which contains federal qualification standards. This handbook is available on the Office of Personnel Management's website located at: <https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/classification-qualifications/general-schedule-qualification-standards/>

Applicants must possess one year of specialized experience equivalent in difficulty and responsibility to the next lower grade level in the Federal Service. Specialized experience is experience that has equipped the applicant with the particular competencies/knowledge, skills and abilities to successfully perform the duties of the position. This experience need not have been in the federal government.

Experience refers to paid and unpaid experience, including volunteer work done through National Service programs (e.g., Peace Corps, AmeriCorps) and other organizations e.g., professional; philanthropic, religious; spiritual; community, student, social). Volunteer work helps build critical competencies; knowledge, and skills and can provide valuable training and experience that translates directly to paid employment. You will receive credit for all qualifying

experience, including volunteer experience.

To qualify at the **GS-13/14**, applicants must have acquired the amounts of skills and experience indicated below:

**GS-13:**

- At least two years of relevant legal experience in the energy sector, most helpfully power generation and transmission. In this position, Attorney-Advisors will be expected to be able to converse with a variety of stakeholders on the structuring of rules relating to investment into power and energy, and primarily but not exclusively renewable power, distributed generation, and transmission infrastructure projects.
- Drafting or review of transactional documents in the energy sector, in particular the power sector. Knowledge of, or familiarity with, clauses to lower emissions and decarbonize operations and supply chains preferred. Examples include power purchase agreements, renewable energy certificate or emissions credits sales and purchase agreements, host government instruments in the mining or other related sectors, as well as project finance documents.
- Working with foreign governments and/or development finance institutions is strongly preferred.

**GS-14:**

- At least four years of relevant legal experience in the energy sector, most helpfully power generation and transmission. In this position, Attorney-Advisors will be expected to be able to converse with a variety of stakeholders on the structuring of rules relating to investment into power and energy, and primarily but not exclusively renewable power, distributed generation, and transmission infrastructure projects.
- Drafting or review of transactional documents in the energy sector, in particular the power sector. Knowledge of, or familiarity with, clauses to lower emissions and decarbonize operations and supply chains preferred. Examples include power purchase agreements, renewable energy certificate or emissions credits sales and purchase agreements, host government instruments in the mining or other related sectors, as well as project finance documents.
- Working with foreign governments and/or development finance institutions is strongly preferred.
- Knowledge of additional languages is preferred but not required.

## Education

Applicants must possess a Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree or equivalent from an accredited law school. Official or unofficial transcripts must be submitted with your application package.

See Qualifications Above.

## Additional information

This position does not confer non-competitive conversion to the competitive service. Acceptance of an excepted service appointment from applicants in the competitive service will require a written statement of understanding when voluntarily leaving the competitive service.

### Benefits

## How You Will Be Evaluated

You will be evaluated for this job based on how well you meet the qualifications above.

You will be evaluated for this job based on how well you meet the qualifications above. Applicants will be rated based on their education, experience, demonstrated legal research and writing abilities, and performance during the interview process. Basis for evaluation: If eligible and meeting basic qualifications, your application package will be evaluated in conjunction with your resume and supporting documents for the required knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs) to successfully perform the duties of this position:

- Knowledge of research strategies and techniques sufficient to research the most complex legal issues.
- Knowledge of the controlling statutes, regulations, and case law pertaining to the subject matter of the particular issue sufficient to develop legal opinions whether through the litigation process or administratively, which may alter the state of the law in the particular area or expand the charter of the agency.

Please be advised that Department of Commerce Attorney positions are in the Excepted Service. As such, these positions are not covered by the usual civil service hiring procedures. You will be evaluated for this job based on how well you meet the qualifications stated herein. We will perform an initial review of applications to determine basic eligibility and minimum

qualifications for the position and numeric scores will not be assigned. There are no numerical rating systems through which to apply veterans' preference; however, the Office of the General Counsel favorably considers veterans preference eligibility in hiring. Applicants eligible for veterans' preference are encouraged to include that information in their cover letter or resume. If selected, additional information may be required.

## Benefits

## Required Documents

## How to Apply

## Fair and Transparent

# Required Documents

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A complete application consists of the following:

- **Cover letter.** Address demonstrated interests and qualifications as it relates to the position.
- **Resume showing relevant experience.** Your resume should list your educational and work experience, including the dates (mm/dd/yyyy) and provide the hours per week, if less than 40. For work in the Federal Service, please include the pay plan and grade level for the position(s).
- **Copy of law school transcript.** (Unofficial copy is sufficient, but official copy must be submitted before appointment). You are not required to submit official documents at this time; copies are sufficient.
- **Certificate of bar membership and proof of good standing.** Prior to receiving an offer, you will be asked to provide a certificate of bar membership and proof of good standing.

**Failure to provide documents, if selected, may result in lost consideration.**

**Please DO NOT put your SSN on pages within your application package. Privacy Act - Privacy Act Notice (PL 93-579): The information requested here is used to determine qualifications for employment and is authorized under Title 5 U.S.C. 3302 and 3361.**

**If you are relying on your education to meet qualification requirements:**

Education must be accredited by an accrediting institution recognized by the U.S. Department of Education in order for it to be credited towards qualifications. Therefore, provide only the attendance and/or degrees from schools accredited by accrediting institutions recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

Failure to provide all of the required information as stated in this vacancy announcement may result in an ineligible rating or may affect the overall rating.

## How to Apply

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**To be considered for this position, please submit a current resume and cover letter to Kenyon Weaver at [KWeaver@doc.gov](mailto:KWeaver@doc.gov) with the subject line "Attorney-Advisor (Energy Transition)."**

### Agency contact information

 Anna Belton

#### Email

[abelton@doc.gov](mailto:abelton@doc.gov)

#### Address

Office of the Secretary  
1401 Constitution Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20230  
US

[Learn more about this agency.](#)

### Next steps

[Read more](#)



# Fair & Transparent

The Federal hiring process is set up to be fair and transparent. Please read the following guidance.

[Equal Employment Opportunity \(EEO\) Policy](#)

[Reasonable accommodation policy](#)

[Financial suitability](#)

[Selective Service](#)

[New employee probationary period](#)

[Signature and false statements](#)

[Privacy Act](#)

[Social security number request](#)



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