



Confederated Tribes and Bands
of the Yakama Nation

Established by the
Treaty of June 9, 1855

Re: ANNOUNCEMENT OF EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY WITH THE YAKAMA NATION OFFICE OF
LEGAL COUNSEL; STAFF ATTORNEY I - \$98,031.60 STARTING ANNUAL COMPENSATION

Dear Prospective Applicant:

The Yakama Nation Office of Legal Counsel (“OLC”) is excited to offer the opportunity to work as in-house legal counsel for the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation (“Yakama Nation”). Our team of seven staff attorneys provides high quality, cost effective, culturally competent civil legal services to the Yakama Nation Government and its departments, programs, and commercial enterprises at the direction of the Yakama Nation Tribal Council. We intend to grow our team to ten staff attorneys.

OLC’s legal practice is broad in both scope and substance. We litigate in Yakama, federal, state, and local forums, negotiate contracts, provide guidance to Yakama Nation on matters of self-governance, facilitate government-to-government consultations, and provide other general civil legal services. Our Staff Attorneys assert and defend the Yakama Nation’s inherent sovereign and Treaty-reserved rights and interests related to fish and wildlife, natural resources, cultural resources, healthcare, employment, taxation, economic development, and land use planning, to name a few.

We are looking for an applicant with a demonstrated interest in advocating for the sovereign rights and interests of original, free, and independent Nations and Peoples. Applicants should be comfortable working in a fast paced and collaborative team environment, and have established legal writing and research skills. Applicants must also be licensed in the State of Washington, or have the ability to become licensed within one year, and be willing and able to work daily from OLC’s offices at the Yakama Agency in Toppenish on the Yakama Reservation. The Yakama Nation is an Indian preference employer.

Applications should include a cover letter, resume, 5-7 page writing sample, law school transcripts, and list of at least three professional references. Please submit your application materials to both the Yakama Nation Human Resources Department at <https://yakama.isolvedhire.com/jobs/>, with a courtesy electronic copy to OLC at jobs@yakamanation-olc.org. Applications will be reviewed in the order they are received.

Respectfully,

ETHAN JONES, LEAD ATTORNEY
YAKAMA NATION OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL

Enclosures: Staff Attorney I Job Announcement
Yakama Nation Application for Employment

Post Office Box 151, 401 Fort Road, Toppenish, WA 98948 (509) 865-5121

**YAKAMA NATION HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
JOB ANNOUNCEMENT**



Announcement # 2021-218 **Issue Date:** 09-15-201 **Closing Date:** 09-22-21

Staff Attorney I
(2) Position
Office of Legal Counsel
Hourly Wage: \$46.95/Regular/Full-Time

Serves as Legal Counsel to the Yakama Nation Tribal Council and the Yakama Nation Government as a whole, including all departments and programs. Representation includes: assisting Lead Attorney, Staff Attorney III's, and Staff Attorney II's to appear before tribal, state, and federal courts, and other hearing bodies. Services encompass many different subject matter areas without specialization in any particular field other than Federal Indian Law. Dependent upon supervisory approval and the current needs of the office, this position may be suitable for flexible work hours.

Examples of Work Performed:

- Responsible to provide a full range of legal services needed by the Yakama Nation Tribal Council, Tribal Programs and departments, as well as Yakama Nation enterprises as directed and where there is no conflict of interest. Provide legal advice on questions related to federal, state and tribal law, the Treaty of 1855 and Tribal Sovereignty.
- Assists the Lead Attorney, Staff Attorney III's and Staff Attorney II's, to provide legal advice, consultations, and presentations; performs legal research, reviews contracts and other legal documents; drafts memos, resolutions, letters, agreements, codes, contracts, policies, and any necessary pleadings.
- As assigned, serves as co-counsel on cases in Yakama Nation, federal or state courts.
- Researches and analyzes material on recent developments in Indian Law, information is reviewed with Lead Attorney to determine the effect on the Yakama Nation and presented to Tribal leadership.
- Provides any and all other related duties as assigned by the Lead Attorney, Executive Committee, and/or any other Tribal Council Committee.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Advanced verbal and written communication skills.
- Ability to research, formulate, and present legal issues, ideas and arguments.
- Ability to prioritize, organize, and manage a caseload in a diligent and productive manner.
- Knowledge of and skill in the use of computers and assorted Apple and related software, including Lexis Nexis.
- Knowledge of Indian law, legal codes, court procedures, precedents, federal/state statutes and regulations, case law, executive orders, and civil procedures.

Minimum Requirements:

- Graduate from an accredited law school with a demonstrated interest in Federal Indian law or related fields. Admission in and have good standing to the Washington State Bar (or ability to obtain admission within first year of employment). Submission of cover letter, updated resume, legal writing sample(s) and law school transcript.
- Required to pass a pre-employment drug test.
- Required to pass pre-employment background check.
- Enrolled Yakama Preference, but all qualified applicants are encouraged to apply.
- Must possess a valid Washington State Driver's License with the ability to obtain a Yakama Nation tribal driver's permit.

Preferred Requirements:

- Prefer 1 to 2 years as a practicing attorney, preferably in Indian law.