

## EXPECTATIONS OF PARTNERS

Thank you for your interest in the Legal Skills in Social Context (LSSC) program. If your proposed project is accepted, a contact person designated by your organization will work with a small team of first-year law students closely supervised by an LSSC professor. Using both conventional legal research methods as well as investigative field research, the team will produce high-quality work product for your organization. To further this partnership, your organization will collaborate with your student team via several in-person or virtual meetings and e-mail conversations. From September through mid-March, your organization should expect to:

- Provide appropriate background materials about your organization’s mission and programs, its history with the issue proposed for the project, and any relevant legal materials and research that you have assembled about this and other related projects.
- Work with an LSSC professor prior to the start of the academic year to agree on a scale and scope of the project that are appropriate for the time frame and the level of effort that can be brought to the project. Together, you will detail the objectives and develop a work plan that identifies major benchmarks and key progress dates. Project scoping may require your participation in identifying and notifying field contacts for interview purposes.
- Meet with the student law office and LSSC professor at three critical stages of the project either in person at Northeastern University School of Law or virtually. The first meeting is typically held in early fall to introduce and discuss the early phases of the project. The second meeting is to provide a deeper discussion of the project’s implementation. The final meeting is held at the end of March or early April when the team delivers an oral presentation of findings and recommendations. Additional meetings may be scheduled as needed.
- Respond to questions from the team. The team will establish an agreement with you about the content and frequency of regular progress reports along with expectations about your feedback.
- Review and comment on drafts of the team’s work product, as needed.
- Complete a short survey about your experience with the program.

While your primary role throughout the project is that of a partner, this program is an important part of the learning experience for law students at Northeastern University. Therefore, we hope that you will also offer your guidance as a “mentoring practitioner” or “mentor expert” during the course of the academic year.

**Your project will be our students’ first experience of real lawyering to serve social justice. You and your organization’s project are our partners in training future practitioners. Thank you!**