



## **Disability Law Intensive Program Placement at ARCH Disability Law Centre**

Since 2013, ARCH Disability Law Centre (“ARCH”) has been providing practical legal experience to Osgoode Hall law students through the Disability Law Intensive (“DLI”). The DLI program offers second and third year law students a unique opportunity to develop their legal skills while learning about disability rights issues as they intersect with many areas of law, including human rights law, through both a policy and law reform rotation and a test case litigation and direct client services rotation.

### **About ARCH Disability Law Centre**

ARCH is a specialty legal clinic that practices exclusively in disability rights law. ARCH is dedicated to defending and advancing the equality rights, fundamental freedoms and inclusion of persons with disabilities. In order to carry out its mandate, ARCH provides a range of legal services. ARCH provides legal advice to persons with disabilities in Ontario through its Summary Advice and Referral (“SAR”) program, and represents clients and disability organizations in precedent setting cases before various tribunals and courts. ARCH also has an extensive law reform practice, working on a variety of initiatives related to advancing the rights of persons with disabilities. ARCH also delivers public legal education to disability communities across Ontario (including in person or via live webcast), and conducts community development projects to support its law reform work.

**Learn more at [www.archdisabilitylaw.ca](http://www.archdisabilitylaw.ca)**

### **DLI Placement at ARCH**

Students will develop legal skills by participating in ARCH’s day to day legal work. Students will participate in two distinct rotations during the academic year as noted above. Students will be placed in either rotation for the first semester, and switch to the other rotation during the second semester. Students will spend two full days a week at ARCH.

Due to the nature of ongoing litigation and law reform projects, it is difficult to predict the precise work students will be involved in. The type of work students will do is also dependent on the current stage of the files assigned to them. Some examples of work that students may be involved in are provided below.

## **Client Services Rotation**

### **1. Intake and SAR program (primarily conducted over the telephone)**

- Conduct initial interview of clients and gather relevant information
- Conduct research for follow-up with client
- Develop client interview, research and docketing skills

### **2. Litigation**

- Legal research on complex legal questions and matters
- Participate in drafting of submissions, letters to opposing parties, and legal opinion letters
- Participate in case strategy meetings with staff lawyers, meetings with clients or opposing parties, mediation or hearings

## **Law Reform and Policy Rotation**

### **1. Law Reform Project**

- Conduct legal research and draft memos on complex legal issues
- Participate in drafting of submissions and materials
- Attend meetings with community partners, coalitions, and government or public officials
- Participate in strategy meetings with staff lawyers
- Participate in consultations with ARCH's communities

### **2. Public Legal Education Workshops**

- Develop and deliver at least one public legal education workshop

***\* ARCH provides appropriate disability-related accommodations to the point of undue hardship to DLI students with disabilities, as per ARCH's Accommodation Policy.***