



UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT – DISTRICT OF COLORADO

US Custom House
United States Bankruptcy Court
721 19th Street
Denver, Colorado 80202

Law Clerk – Term

Vacancy Announcement: 2026-1-USBC

POSITION:	Law Clerk - Term
POSITION TYPE:	Full-time, Term Limited (Mon – Fri, 8am-5pm)
SALARY RANGE:	JSP Grades 11-13 (\$82,440 – \$117,501)
OPEN DATE:	Thursday, October 9, 2026
CLOSING DATE:	Open Until Filled
DUTY STATION:	Denver, Colorado

This position will be appointed to the chambers of Judge Thomas B. McNamara, for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Colorado in Denver. The term judicial law clerk researches issues of law, attends court proceedings, and makes recommendations to the assigned judicial officer based on the law. There is daily interaction with the judicial officers and other law clerks concerning legal and court-related issues. This position also requires the judicial law clerk to answer chambers phone calls, maintain the judicial officer's calendar, and schedule hearings.

This appointment will be for an initial term of one or two years but may be extended provided that the total term does not exceed four years. Previous federal service as a Term Law Clerk may lessen the four-year total appointment. Successful candidate must be able to provide a minimum commitment of one or two years to the appointment. The preferred start date is Monday, February 2, 2026, but is negotiable.

Minimum Qualifications

To qualify for the position of law clerk, an applicant must be a law school graduate (or be certified as having completed all law school studies and requirements and merely awaiting conferment of degree) from a law school of recognized standing and have one or more of the following attributes:

- Standing within the upper third of the law school class from a law school on the approved list of either the American Bar Association or the Association of American Law Schools;
- Experience on the editorial board of a law review of such a school;
- Graduation from such a school with an LLM degree; or
- Demonstration of proficiency in legal studies, which in the opinion of the judge, is equivalent to one of the above.
- At least one year in practice or judicial clerkship. Knowledge of bankruptcy law is highly preferable.

To qualify for grade 12 in the Judicial Salary Plan (JSP), one year of legal work experience following law school graduation is required. To qualify for JSP grade 13, two years of legal work experience following law school graduation is required.

Legal work experience is defined as progressively responsible experience in the practice of law, legal research, legal administration, or equivalent experience received after graduation from law school. Major or substantial legal activities while in military service may be credited on a month-for-month basis, whether before or after graduation, but not to exceed one year if before graduation from law school.

Preferred Qualifications

It is preferred that applicants have experience in the bankruptcy field or comparable practice areas. Applicants must be highly skilled in legal research and writing, and must be able to use Westlaw, Lexis and Microsoft Office. Familiarity with electronic case filing and management systems is preferred. Applicants must be able to quickly process and resolve complex issues. Excellent verbal, written and interpersonal skills, maturity, judgment and discretion are required.

Additional Information

This position is considered a **term** appointment. Term appointments end no later than four years from the date of the appointment unless previous federal Term law clerk experience applies. Law clerks appointed to term appointments are subject to social security deductions and are eligible for health, dental, vision, and life insurance coverage. Term law clerks are not eligible to participate in the retirement system or the Thrift Savings Plan. Based on the judge's discretion, Term law clerks may or may not be placed on the Leave Act. Please visit [our website](#) for a complete federal benefits overview.

Employees must adhere to the judiciary's Code of Conduct. In addition, this position is subject to mandatory fund transfer (EFT) participation, adherence to 8 U.S.C. § 1324b(a)(3)(B) regarding hiring of lawful permanent residents, and an FBI fingerprint and/or background check. Employees of the United States Courts are not included in the government's Civil Service classification and are considered "at will" employees.

HOW TO APPLY

All qualified applicants should submit the following via [OSCAR](#):

- Application form AO78 (Download it [here](#))
- Cover letter & current resume;
- Two professional reference letters;
- Writing sample.

Incomplete applications may not be considered. Please contact our HR Division at cod_hrd@cod.uscourts.gov or 303-335-2494 with any questions.

THE FEDERAL JUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER