



Apply Now for the Position of Trial Unit Assistant Federal Defender, Northern District of Georgia

Apply below.

① Information for Applicants

About Us

The Federal Defender Program, Inc. (“FDP”) is a private, non-profit law firm devoted to uplifting our clients and their causes through excellence in federal criminal defense. Guided by compassion and dedication, we provide exceptional client-centered representation through a multi-disciplinary, team-based approach. Our teams—attorneys, investigators, paralegals, social workers, and administrative professionals—work collaboratively in pursuit of the best possible outcomes for every client.

Our Vision

We aspire to create a world in which the quality of justice does not depend on one’s resources, background, or identity. We fight to make this vision a reality for every client, every day, so that this country’s founding ideal of “Liberty and Justice for All” will one day ring true.

About the Role

Assistant Federal Defenders represent clients across the Northern District of Georgia charged with federal criminal offenses ranging from misdemeanors to capital felonies. Applicants must possess the ability to communicate effectively with clients, witnesses, colleagues, staff, court, and agency personnel as part of their employment.

Responsibilities

- Representing clients in trial and appellate courts
- Meeting with, counseling, and collaborating with clients and team members (investigators, paralegals, social workers, mitigation specialists)
- Reviewing discovery and developing litigation strategies
- Planning and conducting team meetings
- Interviewing fact and expert witnesses
- Preparing pleadings and legal memoranda
- Interacting effectively with court personnel and agency staff
- Participating in weekly case strategy roundtables
- Assisting CJA panel attorneys

The position requires travel for investigation, litigation, training, and sometimes meeting with out of district clients. Defender attorneys may not engage in the private practice of law.

Qualifications

- Demonstrated commitment to public defense and client-centered advocacy
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Strong ability to work collaboratively with clients, colleagues, and staff
- Bar membership in good standing (membership in the State Bar of Georgia will be required)
- U.S. citizenship or authorization to work in the United States

ABOUT OUR FUNDING

The FDP is a Community Defender Organization and operates under the authority of 18 U.S.C. § 3006A(g)(2) (A). We are fully funded by the Administrative Office of the United States Courts. *We are not a government agency, and as such, are not government employees.*

Our Commitment to an Inclusive Workplace

We believe that valuing and respecting all people, leaning into difference, and honoring each other's lived experiences enhances our ability to represent clients from every background. We know that the best legal representation occurs through a diverse, collaborative, and inclusive workforce. We are committed to cultivating a culture of acceptance and belonging as it fosters a more creative and productive environment and one that we all want to work in. We value hard work, diversity, teamwork, creativity, flexibility, and fairness.



The Northern District of Georgia encompasses the Atlanta, Gainesville, Newnan, and Rome Divisions of the United States District Court.

Salary and Benefit Details

The starting salary will be based on experience and qualifications of the applicant, as well as the guidelines issued by the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts. The position offers paid vacation, paid sick time, paid holidays, health insurance, life insurance, and participation in our 401k.

How to Apply

Interested applicants must apply online by providing the information requested on the subsequent pages of this form. Required uploads include a cover letter discussing your interest in the position, CV, a relevant writing sample such as a motion or brief, and contact information for two references. Please answer all questions to be considered. You will only hear from us if you are granted an interview. [APPLY HERE](#)

PREFERENCE WILL BE GIVEN TO CANDIDATES WHO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS BY SEPTEMBER 24, 2025.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

- The position is contingent on the availability of federal funding.
- Only those granted an interview will be contacted.
- Current and future positions may be filled from this vacancy announcement.
- Failure to follow these procedures will cause your application to be automatically declined.
- We hire without regard to race, creed, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, height, weight, veteran status, military obligations, or marital or parental status.
- We do not tolerate any form of discrimination or harassment in any personnel decisions or employee interactions.
- We are interested in applicants' talent, intelligence, dedication, and desire to see that all people are treated fairly and respectfully, no matter the allegation or circumstance.
- The FDP is an equal opportunity employer.
- Applicants who apply without submitting all documents will not be considered.
- Rolling interviews will be conducted.
- This position is open until filled.
- Interested applicants are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.
- All responses will remain confidential.

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