

**2016-2017 TRYOUT APPLICATION
UC HASTINGS MOOT COURT**

Returning
Member

PLEASE
ATTACH
PHOTO
HERE

Name

Phone

Tryout Date

Tryout Time

Application For (check one):

- Intercollegiate Competition Team only Hastings Appellate Project (HAP) only
 Please consider me for a position on either a Competition Team or HAP

Thank you for trying out! Hastings has a longstanding tradition of excellence in written and oral appellate advocacy, and our success is attributable to the quality, talent, and hard work of our team members.

Please complete this application and return it to 198 McAllister, 4th Floor. Application must include:

- This form, including a passport-size photograph of yourself;
- Two copies of your resume;
- Two copies of an excerpt of your Appellate Advocacy or Moot Court brief argument, not to exceed 5 pages (include an additional cover page briefly describing the main issues of the case); and
- A signed copy of the tryout agreement, included on page 4 of this application.

Additional requirements for HAP:

- A cover letter explaining your interest and qualifications for the Hastings Appellate Project.
- All materials (cover letter, form, resume, writing sample) must be emailed to tollafie@uchastings.edu in addition to submitting hard copies to the Department.

In addition to this application, you are required to argue before a panel of current Hastings Moot Court Team members. This tryout consists of a 5-minute oral argument based on competition problems from the 2015-2016 academic year, as well as an interview after your argument. **3L TRYOUTS WILL TAKE PLACE FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 2016. IF YOU CANNOT MAKE THIS DATE, YOU MUST GET APPROVAL BY THE MOOT COURT DEPARTMENT TO TRYOUT ON APRIL 11-14.** Tryout sign-up sheets are posted on the 4th Floor outside of Room 431 in the 198 Building. You may sign up for a tryout time upon submitting a complete application. Make sure to note your tryout day and time on the top of this form.

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE MOOT COURT DEPARTMENT NO LATER THAN 4 P.M. ON TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 2016. This deadline is firm. There are no exceptions for late applications unless prior permission is obtained from Toni Young, Director of LW&R and Moot Court.

You will receive a phone call and/or an email regarding the results. All new team members will receive invitations to attend the Moot Court Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, April 19, 2016, when the teams will be announced.

Please address any questions regarding the tryouts or the tryout process to Toni Young (Room 446), Daniel Duan (Room 454), or Mary Duann-Kelly (Room 452). You may also contact Isabel da Roza, Jennifer Gottschalk, or Mona Razani, Student Co-Chairs of the Moot Court Board, via email at mona.razani@uchastings.edu, jennifer.gottschalk@uchastings.edu, or isabel.daroza@uchastings.edu with other questions and concerns with other questions and concerns. If you have any questions about HAP, please contact Stephen Tollafie, tollafie@uchastings.edu, (415) 581-8987.

Very truly yours,

Toni Young, Assistant Dean, Legal Writing & Research/Moot Court

I declare under penalty of perjury that the information contained in this application is true and correct, and that the writing sample I have submitted is my own, independent work product. My signature authorizes the Records Office to release my G.P.A., Appellate Advocacy grade, and Legal Writing & Research grade to the Moot Court Department for the use of the Intercollegiate Competition Selection Committee for the purpose of selecting team members.

Printed Name

Signature

Date

MOOT COURT COMPETITION INFORMATION SHEET

Name: _____ Phone: (_____) _____

Address: _____

G.P.A.: _____

If applicable, please provide:

	LW&R	App. Ad.	Con. Law	Enviro Law	Corporations	IP/Trademark/ Copyright/Patent	Labor or Employment Law	Internat'l Law*	Crim. Pro. and/or Crim. Law	Immig. Law
Grade										

Other Relevant Coursework Pertinent to Competitions of Interest & Grades: _____

Appellate Advocacy Teacher and TA: _____

Did you receive any awards in Appellate Advocacy? _____ If so, please explain: _____

What competition(s) were you on this year? Please include your teammates, coaches, and results.

Any clinical placements, externships, or study abroad planned for next year? _____ If so, please describe when, where, and which semester: _____

Answer the questions below on a separate piece of paper and attach your answers to the application. Please respond to these questions honestly and in full.

1. Have you written a note for a journal? If so, for which journal? Was it published? What was the topic?
2. Has your approach to writing a brief with partners changed now that you have done it once in App Ad and at least once on a team? Give specific examples.
3. What was the aspect of competing on a moot court team that you found most difficult and most rewarding?
4. Provide your expected Fall and Spring (if available) course/work schedules.
5. Describe your expected outside time commitment for next year (work, journal, org leadership, etc.).
6. What type of legal career/area of law would you like to pursue upon graduation?
7. Did you work with a BE during the writing process? Have you been a BE? What do you think the role of a BE should be? Just editing? Just researching? Writing after someone else did the research? Full collaboration?
8. How do you respond to constructive feedback on your writing from a peer/teammate? Give examples.
9. How do you normally handle stress? Please describe your time management skills.
10. Please describe your work habits.
 - a. Do you frontload your research writing? Do you outline before writing?
11. Describe any inflexible commitments (vacations, weddings, etc....) you have planned over the next year.
12. Which competitions would you be interested in doing and which would you **not** do?*
13. What is your most compelling personal attribute as a Moot Court Competition team member?

* If you are trying out for a place on the Jessup Competition team, then please note this when answering Question #11 above and use the designated international competition brief for your oral argument tryout.

HASTINGS APPELLATE PROJECT

2016 - 2017 Application Information

The Hastings Appellate Project is an advanced lawyering skills opportunity for accomplished 3L student advocates. Through collaboration with the Pro Bono Program of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, HAP participants are appointed as pro bono counsel for low-income appellate litigants. Past HAP cases have involved novel and complicated issues in immigration, foreclosure defense, employment discrimination, and civil rights.

HAP participants work on teams of two under the supervision of Gary A. Watt, HAP Director, partner at Archer Norris LLP and UC Hastings Adjunct Professor, and Stephen Tollafie, Professor and Associate Director of LW&R/Moot Court. The student teams work together on an opening brief and a reply brief, and other research, correspondence, and court filings. Students are expected to attend a weekly one-hour meeting during the Fall Semester. Students are also expected to provide support for other HAP teams. The Ninth Circuit allots limited time for each side's oral argument, and only one team member will present the oral argument, although both will practice and prepare.

Please note that while the Ninth Circuit is generally accommodating to student counsel schedules, and while HAP strives to be sensitive to the many demands on your time, **the briefing and argument preparation schedule will require work over the holiday break, spring break, weekends, and potentially during exam periods.** If you plan to take vacations during your third year, HAP may not be the right commitment for you.

HAP students may receive academic units (either as independent study credit or as research assistant credit) through individual arrangements with the Records Office. As an alternative, HAP students may count their time spent on HAP towards pro bono recognition at graduation.

Lastly, please note that HAP is an alternative to intercollegiate moot court teams. The unpredictability of real-life advocacy demands your full attention, so **you will not be eligible for moot court team placement through the April 2016 intercollegiate team tryout process if you accept a position on HAP.** Additionally, to avoid any appearance of impropriety, HAP students are not permitted to extern or clerk at the Ninth Circuit; of course, externships at other courts are fine.

Thank you for your interest! If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Tollafie, tollafie@uchastings.edu, (415) 581-8987.

TRYOUT AGREEMENT

I understand that if I am selected to compete on a Moot Court team I will be required to devote significant amounts of time to the team which may require sacrificing time during winter break or spring break. I understand that team placements are tentative and that an offer to be on a specific team does not guarantee that I will actually compete on that team and I understand that I may be moved as the circumstances require.

Please check one of the following:

_____ I also understand that my participation on a team is contingent upon my successful completion of Appellate Advocacy in the fall. Furthermore, I understand that my placement is contingent on my performance in Appellate Advocacy.

Or

_____ I have already completed Appellate Advocacy during Fall 2015.

If I am seeking a position with the Hastings Appellate Project, my signature below further certifies that I have read and understand the above description of the Hastings Appellate Project on page 3 of this Application and that I agree to abide by those terms and the program's other participation requirements should I be offered a position with HAP.

Printed Name

Signature

Date