

PLEASE
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**2017-2018 TRYOUT APPLICATION
UC HASTINGS MOOT COURT**

**Returning
Team Member**

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. Your 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 6 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 will argue before a panel of current Hastings Moot Court Team members. This tryout consists of a 5-minute oral argument based on a competition problem from the 2016-2017 academic year, an interview after your argument. **3L TRYOUTS WILL TAKE PLACE FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 2017. IF YOU CANNOT MAKE THIS DATE, YOU MUST GET APPROVAL FROM THE MOOT COURT DEPARTMENT TO TRYOUT ON APRIL 10-12.** 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 4, 2017. This deadline is firm. There are no exceptions for late applications unless prior permission is obtained from Toni Young.

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, 2017, 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 Stewart Katzen or Jessica Do, Student Co-Chairs of the Moot Court Board, via email at skatzen@uchastings.edu or jessicabdo@uchastings.edu, with any questions or concerns. If you have any questions about HAP, please contact Stephen Tollafield, 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 use by 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	Environ Law	Corporations	IP/Trademark/ Copyright/Pate nt	Labor or Employment Law	Internat'l Law*	Crim. Pro. and/or Crim. Law	Immig. Law
Grade										

LW&R Teacher and TA: _____

Moot Court Teacher and TA: _____

Did you receive any awards in Moot Court? _____ If so, please explain: _____

Appellate Advocacy Teacher and TA: _____

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

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. Describe your relevant writing experience. Please include any published works.
2. Describe your experience in oral advocacy, debate, mock trial, moot court, or the dramatic arts.
3. Describe any work or other experience that you feel is relevant to success in Moot Court.
4. Provide your expected 2017-18 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. Are you a team player? Describe one example of a time you had to work with a team to meet a goal.
8. How do you normally handle stress? Please describe your time management skills.
9. Do you meet deadlines without fail?
10. Are you available to work on evenings, weekends, and holidays for a Moot Court Competition? If there are **any** potential conflicts, please describe.
11. Which competitions would you be interested in doing?
12. What is your most compelling personal attribute as a Moot Court Competition team member?
13. Are you willing to contribute to the Moot Court Department in other ways (becoming a TA for LWR/Moot Court/Appellate Advocacy, student coaching, judging practices)?

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

HASTINGS APPELLATE PROJECT

2017 - 2018 Application Information

The Hastings Appellate Project is an advanced 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 in teams of two with experienced Supervising Attorneys. The student teams work together on an opening brief and a reply brief, and other research, correspondence, and court filings. Students must attend a weekly one-hour meeting during the Fall Semester. The Ninth Circuit provides limited time for each side's oral argument, so although both advocates will practice, prepare for, and attend the oral argument, only one team member will present the argument to the court.

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 or after Commencement.** If you plan to take long vacations during your third year, HAP may not be the right commitment for you.

Also, please note that cases may settle or otherwise be dismissed prior to oral argument. Although we hope that all students get the full experience of taking their case to the argument stage, there's a chance that any case will reach an alternative resolution that results in a more limited representation for the client.

HAP students may receive academic units (either as independent study credit or as research assistant credit) through individual arrangements with the Records Office. HAP participants must make their own arrangements to receive academic credit through the Records Office no later than the close of Add/Drop for any semester in which credit is sought. As an alternative, HAP students may count their time spent on HAP towards pro bono recognition at graduation.

HAP students are expected to provide support for other HAP teams and to actively participate in the department and intercollegiate teams. Specifically, we expect HAP students to be board members, serve as Teaching Assistants, coach intercollegiate teams, and judge intercollegiate team and HAP practices. Active participation is required for HAP students to receive credit or pro bono hours.

Lastly, please note that HAP is an alternative to intercollegiate moot court teams. The unpredictability of real-life client representation demands your full attention, so **you will not be eligible for moot court team placement through the April 2017 intercollegiate team tryout process if you accept a position on HAP.** Additionally, to avoid any appearance of impropriety, HAP students are not permitted to concurrently extern or clerk at the Ninth Circuit or at the Department of Homeland Security.

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

TRY-OUT 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 work and availability 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 to a different team.

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 will determine whether I am on a team, and which team I am assigned to.

Or

_____ I have already completed Appellate Advocacy during Fall 2016.

If I am seeking a position with the Hastings Appellate Project, my signature below further certifies that I have read and understand the description of the Hastings Appellate Project included with 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

2017-2018 U.C. Hastings Intercollegiate Moot Court Competition Team
Moot Court TA Reference Sheet

Applicant's name: _____ TA's name and email: _____

Was the applicant regularly prepared for class and for oral arguments? Did the applicant's presentation demonstrate out of class preparation?

Did the applicant turn assignments in on time?

Did the applicant miss any classes without providing a valid excuse?

What are the applicant's strengths and weaknesses in brief writing? (I.e. How would you rate his/her: (1) ability to cite properly, (2) substantive arguments, (3) ability to take and apply criticism?)

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

How much assistance did you give the applicant in formulating arguments, structuring their brief, editing, etc.?

What are the applicant's strengths and weaknesses in oral argument? (I.e. How well does the applicant think on his/her feet? How comfortable is he/she at the podium?, etc.)

What is the applicant's attitude/receptiveness to feedback? Was the applicant professional and courteous to the instructor, TAs, and fellow students? Does the applicant work well with others?

Does the applicant seem dedicated/interested in competing for a Moot Court Team? How so? Did the applicant ever express interest in trying out for a team during the semester?

Do you think the applicant would perform well on a team? Why or why not?

Additional comments/opinions:

Date: _____ **TA Signature:** _____

*****TAs: Please deliver to Mary Duann-Kelly in Room 452 by Wednesday, April 12, 2017*****