

You can now earn New York Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Credits for pro bono work done through the Bar's Volunteer Lawyers Project (VLP). VLP has been approved by the CLE Board as an Approved Pro Bono CLE Provider.

Your pro bono work through VLP will earn you CLE credits at a rate of 1 CLE credit for every 6 hours of pro bono work. These credits may be used to cover up to a maximum of 6 CLE credits per 2 year reporting period in any category other than ethics.

"Newly Admitted Attorneys" may not use pro bono CLE credits to satisfy their CLE requirements as a "Newly Admitted Attorney", but like other attorneys, may carry over pro bono CLE credits into the next reporting period under the normal carry over rules.

The new regulations are now posted on the CLE Board's web site. You can reach the page where the rules are posted by going directly to <http://www.courts.state.ny.us/probonocred.html>

It is important that you keep track of your pro bono hours on each VLP case, since if you want CLE credit, you will need to affirm the number of hours of pro bono work that you provided. A blank Attorney Affirmation Form will be sent to you for each current and future VLP case that you handle. You can also download an Attorney Affirmation Form by **clicking here**.

Only after you provide us with a completed and signed Affirmation, will we be able to issue you a Letter of Participation, which you will be able to use like a CLE Certificate to show the credits that you have earned.

This CLE credit is available retroactively for any pro bono work done through VLP as far back as January 1, 2000. For cases begun prior to January 1, 2000, credit may be provided for only pro bono work performed after January 1, 2000. You may obtain a printout of what our records show by e-mailing cbiqgie@wnylc.com or calling VLP at 847-0662 and leaving a message.

VLP can provide CLE credit for all types of cases that VLP handles except representing not for profit groups which do not have as a primary purpose to assist low income people. VLP currently has a need for attorneys willing to handle divorces, Family Court matters, bankruptcies and Immigration law matters. Contact VLP to volunteer.