



**NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, DELHI  
PROJECT 39A**

**March 9, 2022**

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS - MENTAL HEALTH PROJECT - ASSOCIATE  
(RESEARCH)**

**Position:** National Law University, Delhi (“University”) through Project 39A is seeking to engage on a contractual basis, one (1) Associate (Research) for its work on mental health and criminal law. The project will inquire into the appreciation of mental health concerns of the accused at various stages of the trial process by conducting doctrinal as well as empirical research. The Associate (Research) will be responsible for designing and implementing the aforementioned project, along with other research tasks.

**About Project 39A:** Project 39A (hereinafter ‘P39A’) draws inspiration from Article 39-A in the Indian Constitution on equal justice and signals the broadening of its work on the criminal justice system in India. It undertakes litigation, research and outreach relating to forensics, torture, legal aid, forensic mental health and death penalty (for more information on P39A, visit [www.project39a.com](http://www.project39a.com)).

**About P39A’s work on Mental Health and Criminal Justice:** P39A’s work on mental health and the death penalty has indicated the need to examine broader issues pertaining to mental health within the criminal justice system, including in prison. There is a need to conduct empirical and doctrinal research to better understand the jurisprudence on mental health and criminal justice and integrate it with rights of persons with psychosocial disabilities. Given these barriers and lacunae, P39A’s work on mental health and criminal law has an empirical and doctrinal research component as well as a capacity building component.

**Responsibilities:**

- A. Contribute to developing and implementing current and future research work on mental health and criminal justice.
- B. Undertake doctrinal analysis of Indian as well as comparative law on mental health and criminal law.
- C. Undertake fieldwork to interview prisoners, prison authorities and mental health professionals, if required.
- D. Engage with legal and philosophical works and contribute to academic writing.

- E. Produce academic writings on issues of mental health and criminal law.
- F. Engage with various Central and State agencies involved in the administration of the Indian criminal justice system.
- G. Engage with various stakeholders to disseminate the work of P39A.
- H. Present the work of P39A at appropriate fora.
- I. Participate in and contribute to the overall research efforts at P39A.
- J. Undertake administrative or any other work that may be necessary to further the aims of P39A.

**Qualifications:**

- A. LL.B is a mandatory requirement and LL.M would be preferable.
- B. Two years of work experience will be preferable.
- C. Previous engagement with mental health law will be preferable.
- D. Familiarity with concepts in mental health would be an advantage.
- E. Experience in empirical research would also be considered an advantage.
- F. Apart from English, proficiency in at least one Indian language is mandatory.

**Compensation:** Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience and will be in the range of Rs. 55,000 – 65,000 per month. Exceptions may be made commensurate with relevant experience and expertise.

**Application Process:** Applicants must fill the online form available [here](http://www.project39a.com) (accessible on [www.project39a.com](http://www.project39a.com)) and upload two documents-

- (a) Curriculum Vitae,
- (b) Statement of Purpose of not more than 750 words outlining the likely contributions to our work.

**Deadline:** Applications must reach us no later than midnight of 31st March, 2022. Applications received after this date will not be considered. Applicants shortlisted for interviews will be informed within 10 days after the deadline. If you do not hear from us within 10 days, please assume that your application has not been successful. Unfortunately, we cannot respond to individual queries on the status of applications.

**Note:**

- 1. P39A ensures access to legal representation for prisoners regardless of the offence.
- 2. National Law University, Delhi is an equal opportunity employer.
- 3. National Law University, Delhi reserves the right to conduct interviews and not fill these positions.
- 4. National Law University, Delhi is unable to cover the costs of travel and accommodation for attending the selection interviews.
- 5. The position shall be paid under the grants received by P39A, National Law University, Delhi.