

Legal Counsel, Corporate

"Contributions are valued by depth of analysis and expertise, not rank. SWIB values winning the race for performance, mastering what others consider hard and a lifelong commitment to learning." – Executive Director/CIO David Villa

OUR AGENCY

Make a Difference

SWIB provides forward-thinking professionals opportunities to grow, develop and build excellence with a global investor making a difference in the lives of Wisconsin public employees.

With more than \$117 billion in total assets, SWIB is one of the world's largest institutional investors. As an independent state agency, SWIB is responsible for managing assets of the Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS) in addition to six separately managed funds. SWIB generates returns for more than 622,000 participants. SWIB has long been considered an investment industry leader because of its ability to grow and protect the WRS assets that its constituents count on for a more secure financial future.

Be a World Class Leader

The WRS is nearly 100 percent funded, making it one of the country's best funded public employee retirement systems. It is the 8th largest public pension fund in the U.S. and 25th largest public or private pension fund in the world. SWIB's performance for the WRS beat the one-, five- and ten-year benchmarks as of Dec. 31, 2017. As an innovative organization SWIB is committed to professional development. Approximately 50 percent of SWIB's investment professionals are Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) charterholders.

About the Team

The Legal Division at SWIB supports SWIB's mission to be a trusted and skilled global investment organization contributing to strong financial futures for the beneficiaries of the funds entrusted to us. We work to ensure that SWIB maintains the highest ethical standards and operates in compliance with applicable legal and regulatory requirements and SWIB policies and procedures. SWIB's Legal Division works hand-in-hand with our colleagues throughout the organization, including Investment Management, Trading, Operations, IT, Data Management, Finance and Risk, Internal Audit, Compliance and Human Resources.

SWIB's new Legal Counsel will join a talented team of experienced asset management attorneys. The Legal Counsel position will play an integral role in an ever-changing, fast-paced environment and will provide legal services relating to contract negotiations, private markets transactions, agency policies, procedures, and public records law under the supervision of the Chief Legal Counsel.

Essential activities:

Provide counsel to SWIB on legal issues related to investment management, procurement, operations, and agency governance, which shall include the following responsibilities:

- Prepare, review and negotiate contracts with investment managers, banks, consultants, service providers and vendors.

- Assist in the preparation and evaluation of RFPs and RFIs for service providers.
- Provide legal support for private markets investments.
- Interpret and apply applicable federal and state law.
- Draft, review, recommend and interpret legislative proposals, administrative rules, internal policies and investment guidelines.
- Prepare responses to requests for documents under the public records law and provide advice regarding compliance with the open meetings law.
- Conduct legal research and prepare memoranda as assigned.
- Engage and supervise outside counsel on assigned matters.
- Research and provide support for tax and regulatory filings.
- Perform miscellaneous job-related duties, as assigned.

The ideal candidate:

- J.D. required.
- 6-8 years' experience post-J.D. as either in-house counsel at an asset management firm or institutional investor or within a law firm practice primarily servicing asset managers or institutional investors.
- Experience drafting, reviewing and negotiating a wide variety of service provider contracts (including consultants, banks, IT, software/licensing, investment managers, etc.)
- Understanding of legal principles relating to securities law. Understanding of the financial markets and investment instruments in both the public and private markets.
- Ability to understand and balance the competing interests of diverse constituencies and an appreciation of the role of in-house counsel in protecting the interests of the organization.
- Excellent attention to detail.
- Familiarity with basic accounting, financial reporting, investment, pension and government agency concepts.
- Ability to identify unique and creative solutions to complex problems.

SWIB Offers:

- Competitive McLagan-base salary
- Meaningful performance-based incentive compensation
- A comprehensive benefit package
- Educational and training opportunities
- Tuition reimbursement
- Challenging work in a professional environment

The position requires U.S. work authorization and residency in, or willingness to relocate to, the Madison, Wisconsin area. SWIB is prepared to offer relocation assistance as needed. Must be admitted to practice law in Wisconsin or willing to secure admission after hiring.

Join HIGHER PERFORMERS

Home to Top Talent

SWIB's professionals shape sophisticated investment management strategies, drive forward looking technologies and deliver strong internal asset management. SWIB's internal team invests approximately 60

Mission Driven

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percent of its assets under management. As a result, Institutional Investor recognizes SWIB as “home to top talent in American public investing.”

“The organization has earned a reputation for investment excellence in part by running much of its portfolio successfully in-house versus outsourcing to Wall Street” – Institutional Investor.

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