

Community Economic Development Clinic

COMMUNITY INNOVATION & EQUITY PROJECT

The Community Innovation and Equity Project (CIEP) of the Community Economic Development Clinic at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law provides free transactional legal services to small businesses, under-resourced entrepreneurs, community-based enterprises, and nonprofit organizations across Colorado. CIEP students work in three focus areas: supporting the small businesses and community organizations that strengthen the fabric of rural communities; advancing equity in technology; and community education about the rights of small business owners and their workers in immigration enforcement actions.

CIEP welcomes applications for pro bono clients and partners in need of assistance with business law and community development legal needs. In addition to representing clients, student attorneys may also provide free community education workshops on issues related to rural community economic development and small business operations.

Practice and Community Education Project Areas

- New business formation and legal structure
- Formation of nonprofit corporations and associations
- Governance advice for nonprofit entities and for-profit entities (including trainings for boards of directors)
- Review, drafting, and negotiation of contracts, commercial leases, and other documents
- Applications for tax exemption and maintenance of tax-exempt status
- Legal audits (organizational check-ups)
- Business licensing, permitting, regulatory, and zoning advice
- Community-oriented real estate and commercial finance transactions for compatible redevelopment activities
- Economic development programs

CIEP is funded by a generous grant of restricted funds designated exclusively for community redevelopment legal assistance from the Colorado Lawyer Trust Account Foundation (COLTAF).

Learn more at law.du.edu/cedc



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