

# COMMUNITY INNOVATION AND EQUITY PROJECT

## Fall 2021 (SEMESTER-LONG CLINIC) Professor Patience Crowder

The Community Innovation and Equity Project (CIEP) of the Community Economic Development (CED) Clinic is a transactional (non-litigation) clinic where students work in three issue areas: supporting the small businesses and community organizations that strengthen the fabric of rural communities; advancing equity and representation in technology; and community education about the rights of small businesses in immigration enforcement actions. CIEP students provide community workshops and free transactional legal services to nonprofit corporations, small businesses, artists, and other community-based enterprises.

Like the year-long CED Clinic, CIEP is centered on community economic development practices by working with community-based organizations seeking to improve their economic and social conditions through projects that are supported and led by community members.

### What are the benefits of taking this clinic?

Students will learn transactional practice skills that are transferable to all types of transactional practice, including client counseling, drafting, research and planning, project management, advocacy, and understanding group dynamics. Client work may include drafting corporate formation documents; assisting nonprofit organizations with applications for recognition of tax exemption and maintenance of tax-exempt status; drafting contracts; acting as general counsel to nonprofit corporations and small businesses; working with federal, state, and local government agencies; and assisting with community-based revitalization efforts and other economic development projects. In addition, students may research issues related to public policies that affect clinic clients and provide community education workshops on substantive law issues.

### Are there any prerequisites?

Legal Profession is a pre- or co-requisite.

### Are classes required?

Classes will meet weekly on Tuesdays from 4:30PM-7:00PM. In addition, students must attend the **mandatory** orientation that will occur on the Thursday and Friday, August 12<sup>th</sup> and August 13<sup>th</sup>, preceding the first day of classes of their respective CIEP semester.

### How many credits will I receive?

Students must enroll for a semester and will earn a total of 6 credits. Students must participate in the classroom component and conduct client work. Half the credits count as in-class credits; half count as out-of-class credits.

### What kind of time commitment is involved?

CIEP requires a substantial time commitment. Students should plan to spend an average of 20 hours per week participating in the class seminar and working on client matters with the expectation that some client work will require attendance at meetings that occur in the evening or during the weekend. *For these reasons and to avoid potential conflicts of interest, students are generally not permitted to enroll in an externship, any other experiential advantage courses, or work while enrolled in CIEP Clinic.*

### Where Can I get more information?

Clinical Faculty Information Session, Tuesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m., Zoom: <https://udenver.zoom.us/j/84998064343> Current Clinical Student Panel, Wednesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m., Zoom: <https://udenver.zoom.us/j/86725248970>

### How and when do I apply or register?

**Online Applications Open starting at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup> – 11:59 p.m., Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021.** Applications for the 2021-2022 year will be available at: <http://law.du.edu/forms/student-law-office-clinical-programs/apply/>