

# Public Service Commission | Chief Legal Counsel



## The Position



The Chief Legal Counsel will provide legal representation and Counsel to the five-member Commission and its staff, oversee the agency's Legal Services Division, and aid our agency in maintaining high-caliber internal operations as well as regulatory oversight of some of the largest essential industries within Montana. This position offers a unique opportunity for the successful candidate to carefully examine and learn about the underlying technologies and business operations of numerous industries regulated by the Commission. The work is both interesting and meaningful as it affects virtually all citizens of the state and is critical to our efforts to serve the citizens of Montana extraordinarily well.

## Ideal Candidate



The Commission seeks a candidate with the ability to acquire and apply a high level of legal expertise in Montana and federal law related to the regulation of electricity, natural gas, telecommunications, water/sewer, and motor carrier transportation. The ideal candidate will have a strong work ethic; demonstrated success in implementing organized and effective work practices, advocacy, conflict resolution, negotiation, and in legal research and writing; and Commitment to public service (i.e., appreciation of open procedures, due process, and fairness; demonstrated concern for citizens and customers; and awareness of national, regional, and Montana public policy issues related to regulated entities).

## Education and Experience



The position requires a Juris Doctor from an ABA-accredited law school; admission to practice law in Montana (or within one year from the date of hire); five years of relevant experience in the practice of law including experience leading an organization's legal strategy and handling sensitive or controversial cases; and previous supervisory experience.

Professional background within the utility sector (electric, natural gas, motor carrier, or telecommunications) is highly desirable.

## Compensation



The salary range for this position is \$90,000 to \$110,000 depending on qualifications. The Public Service Commission provides a generous benefits package including Health, vision, dental, and pre-tax flexibility spending account; a generous paid vacation, sick leave, holidays, and exempt comp time; and a retirement plan with disability and death benefits. For more State benefit information go to: [benefits.mt.gov](https://benefits.mt.gov).



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## About the Organization

The Montana Department of Public Service Regulation (DPSR) is a small state agency with a big impact. We are headed by 5 elected commissioners (the Public Service Commission) representing every region of beautiful Montana. Commonly referred to as the PSC, our agency is staffed by a team of approximately 30 professionals in the Legal, Regulatory, and Administrative Services Divisions. The PSC is responsible for supervising monopolistic industries within Montana to ensure fair prices, responsible business practices, and sustainable, reliable service for the Montana customers who rely upon them. Regulated industries currently include privately held power, water, sewer, telecommunications, sanitation, and certain commercial transportation providers. The PSC also plays a vital role in railway and pipeline safety. The agency is developing a clear and well-defined strategic plan to enhance our operations, work environment, and value to the public. This provides a unique opportunity for the successful candidate to have a hand in shaping our operations and culture. Our team includes seasoned leaders with expertise and institutional knowledge coupled with newly elected commissioners with innovative ideas for the organization. Learn more about the PSC at: [psc.mt.gov](http://psc.mt.gov).



**ENSURING THE AVAILABILITY OF RELIABLE, AFFORDABLE ENERGY IS ONE OF THE PRIMARY FUNCTIONS OF THE PSC**

## TO APPLY

- For more information and to apply go to: <https://bit.ly/2PheOhn>
- All applicants must provide the following: Responses to the four (4) supplemental questions; your resume including three work-related references with contact information; a cover letter; and two legal writing samples, not to exceed 15 pages each (e.g., legal briefs you have submitted to a state or federal court or similar writing samples).
- The position is open until filled.

## About the Community - Helena

The Public Service Commission makes its home in the city of Helena. Helena is located in Lewis and Clark County, situated less than three hours from Yellowstone National Park and just over three hours from Glacier National Park. Helena is both the capital of Montana and the county seat for Lewis and Clark County.

Helena is known as the Queen City of the Rockies and has a rich history originating from a gold rush boom that fueled the development of the beautifully preserved Victorian architecture that makes up the city's historic district. Helena's community life in the City is abundant and alive with theaters, museums, fairs, rodeos, and art centers.



**BIKE HELENA CITY PARK TRAILS**

The Helena area has a robust public school system, and is proudly home to Carroll College, a private liberal arts institution and Helena College, a two-year public satellite location of the University of Montana.

Being ideally located for outdoor enthusiasts, near the wide Missouri River and the rugged Rocky Mountains, Helena provides opportunities for hunting, fishing, swimming, camping, water-skiing, and boating. Downtown Helena offers access to the second largest city park, second to New York's Central Park, with 1738 acres of open and undeveloped parkland, including Mount Ascension Park and Mount

Helena City Park with more than 90 miles of hiking, running, and biking trails. For more information about Helena go to: [helenachamber.com/overview](http://helenachamber.com/overview).



**FLOAT THE MISSOURI RIVER**



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## HELENA QUICK FACTS



**Population:**  
**33,124**



**Median Household  
Income: \$61,324**



**Median Home  
Value: \$244,300**

ALL DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION WAS SOURCED FROM THE U.S. CENSUS BUREAU.

## About Montana

Living in the great state of Montana brings great opportunity! Montana has several local nicknames that speak to what you can expect, including "Big Sky Country" and "The Treasure State", and slogans that include "Land of the Shining Mountains" and more recently "The Last Best Place". Overall, Montana is populated by just over 7 people per square mile, meaning traffic jams are essentially nonexistent - except when summer tourists fill our parks or an occasional herd of animals blocks a road.

Montana contains numerous mountain ranges in the western half of the state, while vast prairies and badlands are predominant in the East. Montana is comprised of seven large city districts: Billings, Bozeman, Butte, Missoula, Great Falls, Helena, and Kalispell. Many nearby towns provide abundant opportunities for small town living.

The economy is primarily based on natural resources including ranching, grain farming, oil, gas, coal, hard-rock mining, and logging. The health care, service industry, and government also add to the state's economy. The state's fastest-growing industry is tourism. Nearly 13 million tourists annually visit Glacier National Park, Yellowstone National Park, Beartooth Highway, Flathead Lake, Big Sky Resort, and other Montana tourist attractions.



VISIT GLACIER NATIONAL PARK



SKI WITH THE MONTANA SNOW GHOSTS



ROAD TRIP TO YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

For questions or assistance contact Mandi Hinman at (406) 444-6175 or by email at [MHinman@mt.gov](mailto:MHinman@mt.gov)

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