



## Investigating Email Access Barriers for Seniors

Summer Associate Project Exchange

### Single or Multiple Opportunities

Single

### Organization Name

Legal Counsel for the Elderly (LCE)

### Background

Legal Counsel for the Elderly (LCE) is investigating the racial impact of email and technology requirements on low-income seniors' access to government benefits.

### Scope of Work

Research the racial impact of email/technology requirements on low-income seniors' access to government benefits like LIHEAP.

### Timing

End of summer deadline.

### Jurisdiction

District of Columbia

### Contact Information

Please contact Paul Lee (plee@step toe.com) and Natallya Velev (natallya.velev@ropesgray.com) if you'd like to be assigned to this project.

### Description

Legal Counsel for the Elderly (LCE) is investigating the racial impact of email and technology requirements on low-income seniors' access to government benefits. LCE discovered that the DC Department of Energy & Environment

prioritizes emailed applications for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) over those submitted by fax or mail. This policy disadvantages seniors of color who are also low-income and do not have email addresses, limiting their ability to secure funds needed to pay utility bills. The project will research how such technology requirements create barriers to access to justice and perpetuate racial inequities in benefits distribution. The desired work product is a memo analyzing the impact of email and other technology requirements on seniors of color's access to government benefits.

Subtasks (0)

Reminders(0)

