

Agricultural Lawyer

Description

Agriculture is one of the most regulated industries in our society today, so it is fitting that there are lawyers who specialize in laws pertaining to agriculture. These lawyers deal with water, environmental, agricultural labor, marketing, land use, pesticide use and seed issues. Additionally, they obtain licenses and permits that agricultural entities may need in order to operate, such as setting up corporations and partnerships.

Education/Training Requirements

- Bachelor's degree (required)
- A Juris Doctor (required)
- Good score on the LSAT exam (required)
- Passing a bar exam for the state practicing in (required)

Recommended High School Coursework

- Agriculture Education
- Debate
- English
- Public Speaking
- Social Sciences

Common Responsibilities

- Assist farmers in succession planning to help preserve farms for future generations
- Assist in zoning, land use cases and eminent domain issues
- Obtain licenses and permits that agricultural entities may need in order to operate
- Provide information to those in agriculture on labor and employment laws
- Provide guidance in regulatory compliance
- Understand environmental legislation vs. landowner rights
- Assist in the implementation of federal farm policies as they apply within the state
- Provide assistance in preventing fraud and deception in labeling of products
- Give general legal counsel to individuals, companies or organizations
- Identify and carry out opportunities to help protect farms from urban sprawl

Typical Employers

Agricultural lawyers may work independently or may be hired by an organization or company. You have the ability to live and work just about anywhere in the country as all regions have their own specific needs and issues they are dealing with.

Additional Resources

[American Bar Association](#)
[American Land Title Association](#)
[Food and Drug Law Institute](#)