

Global Pro Bono Guide 2026

Pro Bono Practices and Opportunities in Honduras

Introduction

Honduras does not impose explicit restrictions on legal professionals providing pro bono services. However, lawyers must be members of the territorial law society where they practise and adhere to the regulations set by the bar association. These regulations include the Organic Law of the Bar Association and the Code of Ethics of the Legal Practitioner. The Code of Ethics emphasises a moral obligation to consider a client's financial capacity, which may involve reducing fees or providing services free of charge. Additionally, law schools encourage students to engage in pro bono work as part of their academic training.

At a glance

Minimum pro bono hours requirement for lawyers?	Specific pro bono licence required?	May foreign lawyers practice pro bono?	Insurance required for law firm pro bono?	Insurance required for in-house pro bono?	Rules to limit advertising pro bono work?	Does pro bono work count to CLE credit?	Limitations for in-house lawyers to do pro bono?
Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No

The landscape

Professional regulation	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the laws or rules that regulate the provision of legal services, including any licensing required to provide legal services. Please highlight any differences for lawyers working as in-house counsel. 	<p>In Honduras, the provision of legal services is primarily regulated by the Organic Law of the Honduran Bar Association (<i>Ley Orgánica del Colegio de Abogados</i>¹) and the Code of Ethics of the Honduran Legal Professional (<i>Código de Ética del Profesional del Derecho</i>²), which outlines the requirements for obtaining a law degree, passing the bar exam, and obtaining a professional licence to practise law.</p> <p>Lawyers must register with the Honduran Bar</p>

¹ See International Labour Organization, *Ley orgánica del Colegio de Abogados de Honduras*, https://natlex.ilo.org/dyn/natlex2/r/natlex/fe/details?p3_isn=33483&cs=1qCN_h7m96o8kkMAk_v4s4xPxslipxoc7nFBoj9GiJipPCy-HSs5gdKbWDH1fuWKRyW_LBXY6ThXqO7rvTXljbQ (last viewed on 10 November 2025).

² See The International Commission of Jurists – ICJ, CODIGO DE ETICA DEL PROFESIONAL HONDUREÑO, <https://www.icj.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Honduras-codigo-etica-legal-professionals.pdf> (last viewed on 10 November 2025).

	<p>Association (<i>Colegio de Abogados</i>³) to be authorised to provide legal services, ensuring adherence to professional standards and ethical guidelines. In terms of authorisation to provide legal services, there are no differences for lawyers working as in-house counsel. However, in-house lawyers are required to be members of the provincial/territorial law society in which they practise and are regulated by the rules of the Honduran Bar Association.</p> <p>In-house counsel may be prevented from providing pro bono services by the terms of their employment. For instance, there is limited scope for counsel at the service of the State, who are prevented from exercising the profession while holding the office.</p>
Regulatory landscape for pro bono	
<p>2. Describe the laws or rules that regulate the provision of pro bono legal services.</p>	<p>In Honduras, pro bono legal services are guided by principles established by the Code of Ethics of the Honduran Legal Professional (<i>Código de Ética del Profesional del Derecho</i>), which encourages lawyers to provide free legal assistance to those in need.</p> <p>There are no explicit regulations or limitations on providing pro bono legal services in Honduras, nor minimum fees required for them. Nonetheless, the Honduran Bar Association promotes its practice as a professional responsibility.</p>
<p>3. Do lawyers need a license to provide pro bono legal services (beyond usual local qualification to practice law)?</p>	<p>To perform pro bono legal services in Honduras, lawyers are required to have valid, up-to-date Honduran Bar Association licence.</p>
<p>4. Do foreign-qualified lawyers need any additional license to provide pro bono services (beyond their foreign qualification to practice law)?</p>	<p>Foreign lawyers who wish to practise pro bono in the country must be members of the Honduran Bar Association.</p>
<p>5. Are lawyers required by such rules to work a minimum number of pro bono hours? If so, how many?</p>	<p>There is no minimum number of pro bono hours required to be performed by lawyers.</p>

³ See <https://www.colegiodeabogados.hn/> (last viewed on 10 November 2025).

<p>6. Are aspiring lawyers required to complete a minimum number of hours of pro bono legal services to become licensed lawyers?</p>	<p>In Honduras, to graduate with a university degree in law, it is necessary to complete 40 hours of pro bono services under the supervision of a designated member of the university or a professional.</p>
<p>7. Aside from mandatory targets (if any), are there aspirational pro bono hours targets for lawyers set by the local bar association, regulatory body or other body?</p>	<p>No, there are no target number of hours mandated by law, the Honduran Bar Association or regulations.</p>
<p>8. Do lawyers receive any “Continuing Legal Education” (CLE) or equivalent credit for pro bono hours worked?</p>	<p>No, Honduran regulations do not provide for any CLE or equivalent credit for pro bono hours worked.</p>

Insurance and advertising

<p>9. Do lawyers need professional indemnity legal insurance cover for pro bono legal services they provide? Does the requirement differ for in-house lawyers?</p> <p>If insurance is required, can lawyers meet the requirement by working under the cover of another pro bono provider, e.g. in partnership with a private law firm or organization working on the same pro bono project?</p>	<p>No, there are no requirements to have insurance coverage.</p>
<p>10. Are there any rules that limit or prohibit advertising of pro bono successes or soliciting new pro bono clients?</p>	<p>No, there are no rules that limit or prohibit the advertisement of pro bono successes or soliciting new pro bono clients. However, these activities are subject to the internal policies of the lawyers, law firms, and non-governmental organisations providing such services.</p>

Pro bono practice and culture

<p>11. What are the main areas of law which require or present opportunities for pro bono? What are the major unmet legal needs?</p>	<p>The main areas which present pro bono opportunities are labour law, immigration law, family law and civil matters related to properties, non-governmental organisations and entrepreneur advisory. Criminal law matters for illegal associations are also a major area of unmet legal needs.</p>
<p>12. Who are the main providers of pro bono legal services?</p>	<p>Some public institutions, non-governmental organisations, law school students through their</p>

	universities, private law firms and international corporations are the main providers of pro bono legal services in Honduras.
13. Are there any noteworthy examples of how innovative technology or artificial intelligence is being used to enable access to pro bono or otherwise as part of pro bono cases or matters?	While law firms are looking for ways to implement the use of innovative technology and artificial intelligence in connection with the provision of pro bono legal services in Honduras, currently there are no specific publicly available examples.
Sources of Pro Bono Opportunities and Key Contacts	
14. Describe notable sources of pro bono matters or resources in your jurisdiction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USAID • AHK Honduras⁴ • World Vision⁵ • Local Chambers of Commerce⁶ Local entrepreneur fairs
15. Is there any public or private organization with which a local or foreign lawyer can register to be made aware of pro bono opportunities?	Yes, the Bar Association, for example, will notify registered lawyer of possible pro bono work opportunities.
16. Are there any awards, lists or rankings related to pro bono work?	No. Awards related to pro bono work are handled internally by law firms.

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Name of Individual at Local Counsel: Graciela S. Cruz Raudales

Learn more

[Navigate the full Global Pro Bono Guide](#) to explore the global landscape and pro bono practices and opportunities across 100+ jurisdictions.

⁴ See <https://zakk.ahk.de/es/honduras> (last viewed 10 November 2025).

⁵ See <https://www.worldvision.hn/se-voluntario> (last viewed 10 November 2025).

⁶ See <https://www.ccit.hn/nucleoespana> (last viewed 10 November 2025).