



Office of the Inspector General

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Recruitment Bulletin

Attorney Advisor Office of the Counsel to the Inspector General Social Security Administration, Office of the Inspector General

Opening Date: May 18, 2026

Closing Date: June 5, 2026

Position Information: Attorney-Advisor, GS-905-11-12-13-14 (Full Time-Excepted Service Permanent). This is not a career ladder position. Selectee may be hired as a GS-11, GS-12, GS-13, or GS-14 dependent upon experience.

Salary: **GS-11** \$85,447-\$111,087; **GS-12** \$102,415-\$133,142; **GS-13** \$121,785-\$158,322; **GS-14** \$143,913-\$187,093 (Washington-Baltimore-Arlington, DC-MD-VA-WV-PA locality pay range.

Location/Relocation Expenses: Woodlawn, Maryland. This is not a remote job. Relocation expenses are not authorized.

About Us: The Social Security Administration (SSA), Office of the Inspector General (OIG), Office of Counsel to the Inspector General (OCIG), provides comprehensive legal advice and representation to the SSA OIG in support of the OIG's mission to prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse in SSA's programs and operations.

Job Description: OCIG attorneys handle matters covering a broad spectrum of Federal law issues, including but not limited to authorities under the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended and related authorities, disclosures under the *Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)* and the *Privacy Act*, contract review, audit development and review, personnel advice and litigation, eDiscovery, fiscal law, administrative law, ethics, procurement, criminal law, and civil monetary penalties authorized under section 1140 of the *Social Security Act*. A legal career with OCIG provides an outstanding opportunity to work on novel issues of federal law in a collegial, collaborative environment, with myriad opportunities for training and growth.

Required Qualifications: Applicants must have graduated with a Juris Doctorate (JD) or Bachelor of Laws (L.L.B), from a law school accredited by the American Bar Association and must be an active member in good standing of the bar of a state or territory of the United States, the District of Columbia, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Active bar membership must be maintained to remain in this position.

GS-11, applicants must meet one of the following criteria:

- A. At least 1 year of professional legal experience equivalent to the GS-9 grade level or higher in the Federal service, **OR**
- B. A second professional law degree (LL.M.), which requires one full year of graduate study **OR**
- C. Superior law student work or activities as demonstrated by one of the following:

1. Academic standing in the upper-third of the law school graduating class. Please note that standing must be indicated on your transcript or other documentation from your law school.
2. Work or achievement of significance on your law school's official law review.
3. Special high-level honors for academic excellence in law school, such as election to the Order of the Coif.
4. Winning of a moot court competition or membership on the moot court team that represents the law school in competition with other law schools.
5. Full-time or continuous participation in a legal aid program as opposed to one-time, intermittent, or casual participation.
6. Significant law office clerk experience while attending law school equivalent to 6 months of full-time work (dates of employment and hours worked are required).

GS-12, applicants must meet the following criteria:

Must have one of the GS-11 requirements above plus one additional year (i.e., 52 weeks, full time) of professional legal experience or experience as a practicing attorney

To qualify for the GS-13, applicants must meet the following criteria:

Must have one of the GS-11 requirements above plus three additional year (i.e., 52 weeks, full time) of professional legal experience or experience as a practicing attorney At least 3 years of professional legal experience, with at least one year of experience equivalent to the GS-12 grade level or higher in the Federal service.

To qualify for the GS-14, applicants must meet the following criteria:

Must have one of the GS-11 requirements above plus four additional year (i.e., 52 weeks, full time) of professional legal experience or experience as a practicing attorney At least 4 years of professional legal experience, with at least one year of experience equivalent to the GS-13 grade level or higher in the Federal service.

Applicants for the GS-13 and GS-14 must have expertise in at least one of the following areas:

1. Personnel and employment law.
2. Preparing pleadings, briefs, motions, affidavits, or other materials involving legal issues in civil, criminal, or administrative litigation.
3. The Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended; disclosures under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and the Privacy Act; fiscal law; contracts; administrative law; ethics; procurement or criminal law.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Possess the legal skills and sound judgment necessary to evaluate the sensitive issues that arise while providing legal guidance to management.
- Experience analyzing complex legal problems, analyzing lawsuits or requests for records for legal sufficiency, and providing expert legal advice based on facts and legal research.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills, including the ability to articulate critical issues accurately and precisely.
- Excellent interpersonal skills with the ability to develop positive working relationships in a wide variety of situations.
- A demonstrated ability to work both collaboratively and independently in a demanding environment.
- Demonstrated initiative, outstanding organizational skills, and the ability to manage multiple diverse, evolving, and challenging projects and priorities.

How to Apply:

Application packages for all candidates must be sent electronically to OIGHR@ssa.gov and received in the mailbox no later than 11:59pm on June 5, 2026 to be considered.

Applicants must submit the following documents:

1. Cover letter, not to exceed two (2) pages demonstrating how your knowledge, skills, and abilities render you best qualified for the position.
2. Resume (**2 pages maximum**). Per [OPM's new resume guidance](#), resumes longer than two pages will not be reviewed. Please ensure that your resume contains your full name, address, phone number, email address, and employment information. Each position listed on your resume must include: From/To dates of employment (MM/DD/YYYY-MM/DD/YYYY or MM/DD/YYYY to Present); agency/employer name; position title; Federal grade level(s) held for each Federal position, if applicable; hours, if less than full time; and duties performed. In addition, any experience on less than a full-time basis must specify the percentage and length of time spent in performance of such duties.
3. Law School Transcript. Unofficial transcripts are acceptable. If selected, official transcripts are required. Transcripts are required to substantiate possession of the required and claimed education. Unofficial transcripts (including screen prints from your school's web portal) are acceptable for initial application; however, your transcript must show a degree and conferred/awarded date prior to the closing date of this announcement. Self-prepared transcripts will not be accepted. Official transcripts are required at the time of appointment.
4. Proof, dated within the previous year, that you are an active member in good standing of the bar of a state or territory of the United States, the District of Columbia, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Judicial status is acceptable in lieu of "active" status in States that prohibit sitting judges from maintaining "active" status to practice law. Being in "good standing" is acceptable in lieu of "active" status in States where the licensing authority considers "good standing" as having a current license to practice law. Below is a list of acceptable documents. To be considered, at least one of the following three documents is required. Any document **must include the state and status and be dated within one year of announcement**:
 - Letter or certificate of good standing; **OR**
 - A copy of your Bar card with the current year if it reflects a date that is within one year of the announcement; **OR**
 - A Screen print from a Bar website that reflects your active Bar membership
5. All current and former federal employees **must** submit a copy of their last SF-50 (Notification of Personnel Action) showing the highest grade held and a copy of their most recent performance appraisal showing the official rating of record and signed by a supervisor, or a statement why the performance appraisal is unavailable.

NOTE: Failure to submit the required documents above with your application package will result in your application being removed from consideration.

Other Information:

- This position is being filled by an alternative hiring process and is not in the competitive civil service. This is an **excepted service position** being filled on a full-time basis. Flextime and/or alternate work schedules may be available.
- This position may be eligible for episodic telework, as determined by agency policy.

- Male applicants born after December 31, 1959, must certify that they have registered with the Selective Service System, or are exempt from having to do so under the Selective Service Law.
- Applicants must be a United States Citizen and submit to and pass a background investigation.
- A two-year trial period may be required.
- OIG provides reasonable accommodation for applicants with disabilities. If you require reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please send the reasonable accommodation request to OIGHR@ssa.gov. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

NOTE: Applications will be maintained for consideration for 6 months from the date received.

The U.S. Government does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, genetic information, disability, age, membership in an employee organization, retaliation, parental status, military service, or other non-merit factor.