



JUS 261 Module Two Short Paper Guidelines and Rubric

Judges are key personnel not only in the judicial process of hearing cases, but in judicial administration and management of court schedules and caseloads. In this short paper, you will examine state and federal judges—who they are and what they do, as well as the differences and similarities between state and federal judge’s jobs. This will help you to more fully understand the judicial administration challenges of both state and federal court systems. Reference your textbook reading and module resources in your submission.

Compare and contrast the roles, qualifications, and duties of state judges and federal judges.

Specifically, the following **critical elements** must be addressed:

- **Job Qualifications and Description—State Judges:** Using research, create a job description for state judges.
- **Job Qualifications and Description—Federal Judges:** Using research, create a job description for federal judges.
- **Opinion:** Assess the relative difficulty and caseloads of state and federal judges. Who do you think has a more difficult job? Why? Consider in your answer the caseload and types of cases that state and federal courts handle, and the amount of public and media scrutiny state and federal judges receive.

Guidelines for Submission: Your short paper must be submitted as a one- to two-page Microsoft Word document with double spacing, 12-point Times New Roman font, one-inch margins, and at least three sources cited in APA format.

Instructor Feedback: This activity uses an integrated rubric in Blackboard. Students can view instructor feedback in the Grade Center. For more information, review [these instructions](#).

Critical Elements	Exemplary (100%)	Proficient (85%)	Needs Improvement (55%)	Not Evident (0%)	Value
Job Qualifications and Description: State Judges	Meets “Proficient” criteria and includes specific examples based on research	Creates a job description for state judges using specific details based on research	Creates a job description for state judges but description is inaccurate and/or lacks specific details or support from research	Does not create a job description for state judges	30
Job Qualifications and Description: Federal Judges	Meets “Proficient” criteria and includes specific examples based on research	Creates a job description for federal judges using specific details based on research	Creates a job description for federal judges but description is inaccurate and/or lacks specific details or support from research	Does not create a job description for federal judges	30

Opinion	Meets “Proficient” criteria and includes specific evidence, considering the caseload and types of cases that state and federal courts handle, and the amount of public and media scrutiny that state and federal judges receive when stating opinion	States opinion of which type of judge has a more difficult job, using specific evidence to support opinion	States opinion of which type of judge has a more difficult job but lacks specific evidence to support opinion	Does not state opinion of which type of judge has a more difficult job	30
Articulation of Response	Submission is free of errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, and organization and is presented in a professional and easy-to-read format	Submission has no major errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization	Submission has major errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization that negatively impact readability and articulation of main ideas	Submission has critical errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization that prevent understanding of ideas	10
Earned Total					100%