



## Claire Hawley

ASSOCIATE

KANSAS CITY, MO

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### OVERVIEW

Claire brings an observer's keen eye and insight to solve problems for clients.

After her undergrad years, Claire earned a grant to work with the Illinois Network of Charter Schools and worked with the legal team there. Her early successes in that position opened her eyes to the power of the law to make real change happen for people.

In law school, Claire found herself drawn to the research and writing involved in the practice of law. Today, she views every legal challenge for her clients in higher education as a complex puzzle to be solved.

*Claire did a phenomenal job preparing and presenting a webinar on the intersection of free speech and religious liberty to dozens of member districts across the country. Claire explained how the U.S. Constitution, state law, and federal law apply to religious accommodations for staff and students, which is a topic of critical importance for K-12 education professionals. Demonstrating her extensive knowledge on the subject, Claire presented the information in a manner that was not only engaging but also easily comprehensible.*

— General Counsel at K-12 Coalition  
of School Districts

### Service

Higher Education

# HUSCH BLACKWELL

Her interest in the field is lifelong. Growing up as the daughter of an educator gave Claire an inside view into the challenges and triumphs faced by instructors and administrators. She's excited to work with colleges and universities during a period of rapid transformation.

## Recognition

- Education Law Association, August Steinhilber Award for Best Brief Writing in the Appellate Courts, 2023

## Education

- J.D., University of Missouri School of Law
  - William M. Howard Award in Legal Writing
  - Excellence in Legal Research Award
  - *Missouri Law Review*, Senior Lead Articles Editor
  - Order of the Coif
- B.A., University of Chicago
  - Smith Scholarship
  - Lawrence A. Kimpton Fellow
  - Political Science, with Honors

## Admissions

- Missouri



2023 Pro Bono Contributor