

# GENERAL JOB SEARCH RESOURCES

## OCI+ JOB POSTING BOARD

Public interest employers contact Career Services about part-time, summer, or full-time positions. These job openings are listed on the OCI+ Job Posting Board system. To find public interest jobs on OCI+, log on to [www.eattorney.com](http://www.eattorney.com). Jobs on the Job Posting Board are sorted by type, including public interest and government positions.

## PUBLIC INTEREST, FELLOWSHIPS, AND GOVERNMENT FILES

In the Public Interest section of the Career Resource Center, there is a system of file cabinets containing information about organizations and offices offering summer internships, externships, or employment upon graduation. These files are not a complete listing of all public interest or government employers, but include organizations that typically hire law students or look for graduating law students. The files are an excellent resource on programs and projects offered by various employers. Students will find contact information and application instructions in many of the files.

## PROGRAMS, PANELS, AND WORKSHOPS

Throughout the year, Career Services hosts a wide array of programs on public interest practice and navigating the public interest job search process. Speakers often include practitioners and other experts involved in the public sector. These programs provide students with opportunities to learn about the legal profession, network, and enhance their employability. The public interest schedule culminates with Public Interest Month, a series of programs emphasizing the diversity of public interest law. Past Public Interest Month programs have included topics such as *pro bono* work in the legal field, legal aid and clinics, environmental law, criminal justice, government practice, and summer internship and externship panels. These programs are advertised through the Daily Docket, Law Bulletin, flyers, Career Service's home page, and email.

## CAREER FAIRS AND CONFERENCES

Career fairs and conferences provide opportunities to learn about legal fields, network with employers, and sometimes interview for jobs. Information about these events is posted in the Daily Docket, on the bulletin board in the Career Services Resource Center, or distributed by student organizations via email. Be careful when reading the information because there are usually deadlines for applications. Many career fairs will send a listing of participating employers to the Office of Career Services prior to the event.

There are an endless number of public interest career fairs and conferences that occur each year. For the most part, participation in these career fairs is by invitation only. A few examples of career fairs that College of Law students are invited to include:

### □ University of Illinois College of Law Alumni-Student Career Conference

At this annual event, approximately fifty alumni come to campus to discuss a wide variety of career issues including public interest related opportunities. Usually held early in the spring semester, this event provides students with excellent opportunities for networking and advice.

### □ Equal Justice Works Public Interest Career Fair and Conference

Each year in the fall, Equal Justice Works hosts an annual public interest law conference, career fair, and awards dinner to broaden, support, and recognize the efforts and participation of public interest-minded law students, lawyers, and advocates. In the past, more than 1000 students and 200 employers have participated. Students are given the opportunity to interview with employers and to chat informally with practitioners representing a variety of interests. [www.napil.org](http://www.napil.org)

### ❑ **Midwest Public Interest Law Career Conference**

Northwestern University School of Law hosts this career fair, typically in February, to bring together law students and public sector employers. Opportunities for formal interviews and “table talk” are available. This program has been described as *the* way to get a public interest job in the Midwest.

[www.law.nwu.edu/depts/career/students/pi/mpilcc.html](http://www.law.nwu.edu/depts/career/students/pi/mpilcc.html)

### **CAREER COUNSELING**

The Assistant Dean for Career Services and the Director of Career Counseling are available by appointment to discuss any career planning and employment concerns relating to public interest. Students can obtain assistance in the areas of resume and cover letter writing, interview techniques, job search strategies, and career alternatives.

The Public Interest Coordinator is also available during office hours and by appointment to provide suggestions and insight about obtaining job opportunities in the public sector.

### **BOOKS**

The Book Room located in the Office of Career Services contains an extensive library of books related to public interest law and finding public interest employment. New books are often added and can be checked out.

*Good Works – Jobs that Make a Difference: A Guide to Careers in Social Change* – This book contains a directory of social change organizations, including descriptions and contact information.

*Green Law: Public Interest Environmental Internships* – Provides descriptions and contact information for over 100 environmental internships. This material is available online at Career Education Institutes, [www.internships-usa.com](http://www.internships-usa.com). (User name: res Password: ipsa)

*NAPIL Directory of Public Interest Legal Internships* – Listings of over 325 public interest organizations, with information from the perspective employers and students who interned there.

*Washington Council of Lawyers’ Public Service Directory* – A listing of pro bono and public service organizations in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

*The Comprehensive Fellowship Guide: The Ultimate Resource for Law Students and Lawyers* This book contains a directory of fellowship opportunities with a practice area and geographical index.

*Yale Law School Fellowship Opportunities Guide* – Contains listings of thousands of Fellowship opportunities and tips on finding and applying to Fellowship programs. Also, available online at the top of the left side bar menu on the PSLawNet homepage ([www.pslawnet.org](http://www.pslawnet.org))

*Non-Profit & Education Job Finders* – The best 2,222 tools for finding jobs and getting hired in education and the rest of the non-profit sector.