

Guide to Fall Public Sector* OCI 2023

Every fall, public interest organizations, government offices, and public interest firms visit Columbia to interview 2Ls/3Ls for summer/postgraduate jobs. Students apply in advance; from these applications, employers select students to interview on their OCI date(s). This year, interviews will take place online rather than in person.

** For Private Sector OCI, watch for emails from the Office of Career Services; dates and instructions differ from those of Public Sector OCI.*

The deadline to apply for Public Sector OCI has passed, but employers are reviewing late applications on a rolling basis through August 15 at 5 p.m.

To apply, please upload your cover letter(s) and resume to your Symplicity documents, labelled to correspond to the correct employer(s), and email Rebecca Hinde at rh2523@columbia.edu to alert her. After August 15, please email Rebecca to see which employers are still accepting late applications.

Public Sector OCI Timeline (All times EDT)

August 7 at 5 p.m.	Deadline to apply for interviews
August 19 at 12 p.m.	Most application results available on Symplicity (Occasionally an employer needs more time to make selections)
Cancellation Period	You can cancel an interview on Symplicity until noon the day before the interview (or noon the Friday before for Monday interviews)
August 22-October 3	OCI interviews take place on the employers' assigned dates

Frequently Asked Questions

Symplicity says I need to complete my summer employment survey first. How do I do that?

- Log into [Symplicity](#).
- Go to the "My Account" tab in the left-hand sidebar.
- Select "Evaluations," then "Add New."

When and where do the actual interviews take place?

Each employer has been assigned a date between August 23 and October 3. You can see the dates on Symplicity.

Interviews will take place online via Flo Recruit. If you are selected to interview, you will receive information on Flo Recruit.

When do I need to apply by?

The student application deadline is August 8 at 5 p.m. *Please see note about late applications, above.*

What materials do I need to apply?

Each application will consist of your resume and, in most cases, a cover letter for that employer. Some employers may ask you to also submit your materials on their website; read carefully.

When will I find out if I got selected to interview and, if I did, what time the interview will be?

We will have most employer decisions by August 19. (Occasionally employers request additional time to make their selections.) Those who are selected to interview will receive a time slot at that time.

Can I schedule the interview around my classes/job?

When you are in the OCI module, use the "Class Schedules/Conflicts" tab to block off periods during which you are *not* available. *You should make yourself as available as possible, however, since interview slots are limited.*

What if I get an OCI interview but then accept another offer before the interview date?

You can cancel on Symplicity until noon the day before or, for Monday interviews, noon the previous Friday.

I need help with my materials/interviewing skills/deciding what to apply for...

[SJI advisers](#) can review materials, do mock interviews, and more. Reach out!

Additional Questions?

Rebecca Hinde (she/her)

Social Justice Initiatives | 212-854-3535 | rh2523@columbia.edu

Please direct questions about Private Sector OCI to the Office of Career Services at careerservices@law.columbia.edu.