POSTGRADUATE JOB SEARCH GUIDE
For Alumni of Columbia Law School

A Job Search Tool from the Office of Public Interest/Public Service Law and Careers

Below are resources for your search for a public interest, government, or human rights job. We highly encourage you to speak with an adviser at the Office of Public Interest/Public Service Law and Careers (the PI/PS Office) for guidance on your search process.

Get Started

→ PI/PS Office advisers are available to help plan your job search, review application materials, and conduct mock interviews. Make an appointment on Symplicity.*

→ Our Public Interest Job Search Toolkit provides guidance on updating your materials, fine-tuning your networking and interviewing skills, and more. You will find additional resources on our job search tools page, such as our International Supplement for graduates seeking international jobs, our L.L.M. Supplement, and guides on applying for postgraduate fellowships and to specialized employers.*

Connect

→ The PI/PS Office Alumni Newsletter includes public interest news, events for graduates, and information on fellow alumni on the move. Sign up today!

→ LinkedIn is a great tool for tapping into the Columbia network. Connect with Graduate Adviser Tory Messina, PI/PS Office Dean Erica Smock, and other PI/PS Office advisers. Join the Public Sector Alumni- Student Connections Group, where you will find job listings from fellow graduates and from the Washington Council of Lawyers Public Interest Jobs Clearinghouse.

→ Columbia LawLink enables connections and community-building through search and messaging capabilities. Connect with Columbia Law School graduates in fields and organizations of interest who look forward to sharing their experiences. Students also use LawLink to reach out to alumni for advising and mentorship.

*If you have trouble accessing Symplicity or our online resources, please email PIPS@law.columbia.edu.
Find Positions

→ The Public Sector Alumni-Student Connections LinkedIn Group includes job postings and recommendations from alumni and well-known professors. Updated regularly, you will find job openings and networking contacts all in one place.

→ Symplicity, the Law School’s job website, lists postgraduate jobs shared by employers seeking Columbia graduates.*

→ PSJD.org is the go-to resource for the public interest legal job market. Search for employers and jobs by location, subject matter, or other terms. PSJD also aggregates local and state government opportunities. Getting full access to PSJD.org requires creating an account.

→ Idealist.org is an online platform to connect people who want to do good with opportunities for action and collaboration. It lists both legal volunteer and paid jobs with nonprofits and government employers in the United States and internationally.

→ USAJobs connects job seekers with federal employment opportunities across the United States and around the world.

→ The Clinical Legal Education Association offers information about clinical teaching and job postings. The Columbia Careers in Law Teaching Program is a resource for graduates pursuing careers in academia, including clinical law teaching and fellowships.

→ The Association of Corporate Counsel is an international bar association for in-house attorneys. Their job postings include openings at nonprofits.

→ Philanthropy News Digest lists jobs at nonprofits, including legal jobs.

→ Inside Higher Ed and HigherEdJobs host jobs boards for opportunities at law schools and other colleges and universities, in roles that include teaching, administration, and traditional legal counsel.

→ International and intergovernmental organizations often publish their own listings. Go directly to the websites of the United Nations (including the U.N. Development Programme and U.N. Volunteers), the World Bank, the International Criminal Court, and Amnesty International to check out opportunities.

→ The Schell Center at Yale Law School manages an email listserv of jobs for law graduates.

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