

## POSTGRADUATE JOB SEARCH GUIDE

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Below are resources for your search for a public interest, government, or human rights job. We highly encourage you to speak with a Social Justice Initiatives (SJI) adviser for advice navigating the search process.

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### Connecting to Your Community

[SJI advisers](#) are available to provide advice on navigating the search process, review application materials, and conduct mock interviews. That includes our NYC-based advisers as well our remote network of advisers, who can provide insight into local job markets and public interest organizations in their area.

The quarterly *SJI 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 Law School network. Join the [Public Sector Alumni-Student Connections Group](#) and connect directly with SJI Graduate Adviser Tory Messina, SJI Dean Erica Smock, and other SJI advisers. LinkedIn also includes 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. You can connect with Columbia Law School graduates in fields and at organizations that interest you and who look forward to sharing their experiences. Columbia LawLink also helps our students reach out to interested alumni for advising and mentorship.

Our *Public Interest Job Search Toolkit* is a useful resource for guidance on updating resumes, drafting cover letters, fine-tuning networking and public interest interviewing skills, and more. You will find it on SJI's [Job Search Tools](#) page ([law.columbia.edu/SJI-publications](http://law.columbia.edu/SJI-publications)), along with other resources for graduates, such as the "International Supplement" to the *Toolkit*, for those seeking international jobs, and the "LL.M. Supplement."

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### Tracking Job Positions

When looking for a position, there is no substitute for networking with people who work at organizations and in jobs that interest you; however, the following websites can help you learn what opportunities are out there and what roles most interest you. Most let you sign up for alert emails based on your criteria.

[The Public Service Jobs Directory \(PSJD\)](#) is the primary 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.

[Simplicity](#)<sup>\*</sup>, the Law School's job website, lists postgraduate job postings shared by employers specifically interested in Columbia graduates.

[Idealist.org](#) is an online platform with a mission to connect “idealists”—people who want to do good—with opportunities for action and collaboration. It lists both legal volunteer and job opportunities 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 Law School [Careers in Law Teaching Program](#) is a resource for graduates pursuing careers in academia.

[The Association of Corporate Counsel](#) is an international bar association comprised solely of in-house attorneys. They post job listings, including for nonprofit organizations.

[Philanthropy News Digest](#) job listings are a service of the Foundation Center and focus on jobs, including legal jobs, at nonprofits.

[Inside Higher Ed](#) and [HigherEdJobs](#) have jobs boards with opportunities for those who wish to work at law schools and other colleges and universities in roles that include teaching, administration, and traditional legal counsel.

International and intergovernmental organizations often post their own job listings. Go directly to the websites of the [United Nations](#), the [U.N. Development Programme](#), [U.N. Volunteers](#), the [WorldBank](#), the [International Criminal Court](#), and [Amnesty International](#) to check out their opportunities. In addition, the [Leitner Center for International Law and Justice](#) at Fordham Law School publishes a newsletter with job listings for law graduates.

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<sup>\*</sup> If you need assistance with Symplicity, email [careerservices@law.columbia.edu](mailto:careerservices@law.columbia.edu).