

EQUAL JUSTICE WORKS®

Helping Lawyers Help Community

How to Launch a Public Interest Career

Equal Justice Works

Spring 2008

www.equaljusticeworks.org

What exactly is a public interest law career?

Non profit

Government

**Legal aid
provider**

**Pro bono
project**

**Public interest
law firm**

Policy advocacy

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How do I figure out which job is right for me?

- *Passion*
- *Skills*
- *History*
- *Expectations*

What should I be doing while I'm in law school to improve my chances of getting the job I want when I graduate?

- Learn the skills
- Get the experience
- Put your foot in the door

How do I get my foot in the door?

- *Network*
- *Network*
- *Network*



Who do I need to know and where do I find them?

Faculty

Students

Lawyers

Organizations

Alumni

Career Services

Public Interest Law Opportunities

- *Fellowships*
- *Pro Bono Legal Corps*
- *Summer Corps*

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Equal Justice Works Conference and Career Fair

October 9 – 10, 2008

Omni Shoreham Hotel

Washington, DC

- Annual Conference and Career Fair
- Attended by over 1000 students, 130 law school professionals and 150 employers.
- Positions listed on www.equaljusticeworks.org in the spring. Apply early!
- Conference sessions range from educational debt to alternative public interest law careers.

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Tips to a Successful Career Fair

- Have a career services professional look over your résumé.
- Apply to job interviews early!
- You must apply to each employer individually.
- Check back on the Equal Justice Works website often, as new employers are added daily.
- Come to the interviews prepared.

What is a Loan Repayment Assistance Program and why is it important to public interest and government lawyers?

- Law school programs
- State programs
- Employer programs
- Federal programs

What should I look for in an LRAP?

- ✓ Eligible employment
- ✓ Income calculation
- ✓ Qualifying debt
- ✓ Schedule of forgiveness
- ✓ Length of eligibility
- ✓ Funding source

The E-Guide to Public Service in America's Law Schools

An innovative new online resource for law school applicants, law students, attorneys, professors, alumni and others.

ejw.newsweek.com

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Additional Resources and Tips

- Conduct Informational Interviews (professors, practitioners, pro-bono attorneys, etc.)
- Research PSLawNet, Idealist, other web public interest resources for leads
- Hone your language skills
- Volunteer at a legal services or advocacy organization
- Be involved in a Student/Community organization

*For more information,
contact . . .*

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