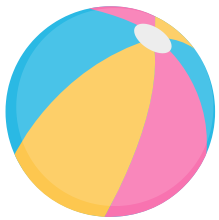
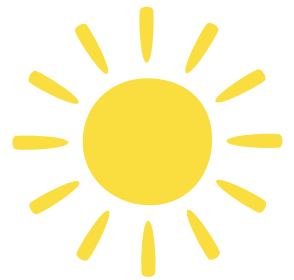


JUNE 30, 2025

In Your Interest



Brooklyn Law School's Public Service Newsletter Summer Edition



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COME VISIT US THIS SUMMER IN THE PSLC!

We are open all summer to help you with planning your next year, applying for fall internships or post-grad positions and anything else you need! Check out our [public service timelines!](#)

You can find us in person Monday-Thursday in the PSLC. Schedule a meeting: publicservice@brooklaw.edu

Summer Legal Theory Institute



Sponsored by the Edward V. Sparer Fellowship Program

Exploring the juncture of legal theory and legal practice, in collaboration with Sparer and the Public Service Center, the Summer Legal Theory Institute has been meeting biweekly this summer--and it's not too late to join! Students and colleagues have unpacked the cross sections of identity, representation, cooptation, and the transformation of narratives framing our experiences of legal systems and practice. As we continue to explore the bridge between knowledge and praxis, we will be hosting the last two sessions next month. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Refreshments provided at each session! Each discussion is open to all Brooklyn Law students.

July 8 • July 22

6:00–8:00 PM

Subotnick Center

Registration is required



Questions?

legaltheory@brooklaw.edu

For Rising 3Ls: Postgraduate Fellowships Summer Information Session and Q&A

Postgraduate fellowships are a great way for public interest lawyers to launch their careers – and now is the time for rising 3Ls to be thinking about proposals!

Join us for an overview of the many types of fellowships available, including project-based opportunities like Equal Justice Works, as well as subject-specific fellowships in areas such as reproductive justice, international human rights, and more.

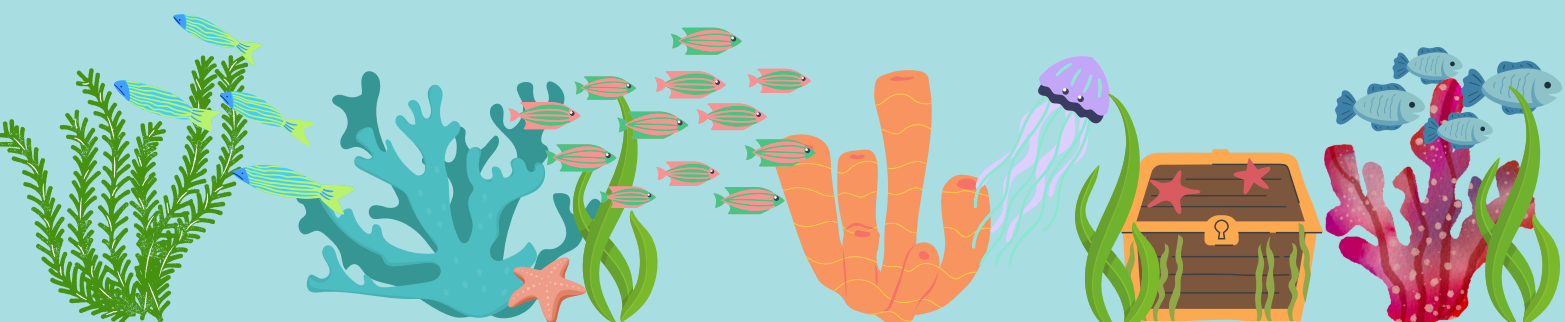
Many preliminary deadlines are happening now so we strongly suggest that anyone thinking about fellowships attend this session and also make an appointment with the PSLC to discuss your own fellowship path.

Fellowships Information Session

Thursday, July 3, 2025

1:00-2:00pm

Zoom link on BLS Connect



Public Service Recruitment Week

PSRW will be September 8-12, 2025!

PSRW is a week of virtual interviews for 2L summer internships and post-graduate jobs in public service. Many employers will be participating, including Legal Services NYC, The Bronx Defenders, Brooklyn Defender Services, the Queens District Attorney, the NYC Law Department and the NYC Department of Education!

Look out for an email from the PSLC via Symplicity the week of July 7th with instructions on how to participate.



For Rising 3Ls: The NY State Pro Bono Scholars Program

The NY State Pro Bono Scholars Program (PBSP) is a statewide program established by the New York Court of Appeals that allows students in their final year of law school to sit for the February Uniform Bar Exam.

Following the bar exam, Scholars engage in two activities for academic credit and, if they pass the bar exam and complete the PBSP satisfactorily, graduate with the rest of their class and are admitted to the New York bar in June.

From early March to late May 2026, Scholars will work full-time providing qualifying direct legal services to individuals who would not otherwise have access to justice. Scholars must also complete the requirements of the law school's academic component. Scholars must complete 520 hours total of qualifying pro bono work and academic work. During the spring semester, Scholars will be enrolled at the law school, paying tuition.

Please see the courts' **[Pro Bono Scholars Guide](#)** for a description of the program and the kinds of pro bono work that is eligible. Read more about the program details, important deadlines and BLS requirements on **[BLS Connect](#)**.

You can find a non-exhaustive list of employers participating the Pro Bono Scholars Program **[here](#)**.

To Apply:

We strongly recommend applying earlier but submit an application to publicservice@brooklaw.edu no later than August 15, 2025, and attach a current resume; a transcript; and a letter stating why you are interested, what kind of work you would like to do, and your preferred or confirmed host organization.

**Questions about the PBSP should be addressed to
publicservice@brooklaw.edu**

Tips for Succeeding at Your Public Service Internship

Here are some tips for impressing your supervisors, getting the most out of your internship and doing right by your clients:

Treat your internship like a job. Be on time and present during your set schedule. Let your supervisor know in advance if you'll be late or absent.

Know your deadlines. Clarify due dates and ask about priorities when juggling multiple assignments.

Speak up early. If you're falling behind or facing issues, inform your supervisor right away.

Ask smart questions. Find the right balance between taking initiative and getting needed supervision. Asking questions is important to ensure that you're on the right track, but think carefully about your questions before asking them and try to find your own answer. Then, if and when do you consult your supervisor, present your own answer as a possibility. Even if they do not agree with it, your supervisor will likely appreciate your efforts and initiative.

Respect your supervisor's time. Don't drop in unannounced, always ask for regular check-ins or a good time to meet.

Be professional in emails. Use a respectful tone, correct formatting, and proofread before sending.

Dress appropriately. If you are going to court, wear a suit or similar attire.

Protect client confidentiality. Never leave sensitive information on an answering machine or discuss a case with anyone unless your client has specifically consented. If you are disposing of documents with personal information about a client (such as Social Security numbers), shred rather than recycle them.

Take your work seriously. Your cases matter. Treat clients with respect and meet deadlines diligently.

Stay engaged. Do not spend time doing non-work related tasks on your phone or computer—your supervisor will notice. One way to avoid down time is to ask up front if there are any long-term back-burner research projects for you to work on at quiet moments. Carefully follow any procedures established by your employer for maintaining case notes and files.

Proofread! Any and all submissions should be clean, clear, and typo-free.



What is the NYS Pro Bono Requirement?

The New York Court of Appeals (22 NYCRR 520.16) requires that people seeking admission to the New York State Bar have completed 50 hours of pro bono legal work. Students are strongly advised to complete these hours while in law school, as it can be difficult to find opportunities after you graduate--especially if you are working full-time.

The rule requires each applicant to perform "At least 50 hours of law-related pro bono work." Work performed for credit, stipend, or even a salary may count if it meets all of the other requirements for qualifying work. For more information about qualifying work, see the courts' [FAQ document](#).

HOW DO BLS STUDENTS SATISFY THE NYS PRO BONO REQUIREMENT?

BLS students can satisfy the pro bono requirement in several ways, including many (not all) of our [pro bono projects](#), BLS clinics, many internships/externships, and the [Pro Bono Scholars Program](#).

You can receive credit for the hours.

Even pro bono work for which you are paid a salary can count.

HOW DO I DOCUMENT THAT I HAVE COMPLETED THE NYS PRO BONO REQUIREMENT?

You must complete the [required affidavit](#) as part of your application materials for the New York bar. You do not need to submit this affidavit or any other documentation of pro bono work to BLS for purposes of bar admission. The requirement is a condition of bar admission, not law school graduation, and is imposed on individual applicants to the bar, not by or on law schools.

I'M NOT SURE IF I'VE SATISFIED THE NYS PRO BONO REQUIREMENT. HOW CAN I FIGURE THAT OUT?

Check the [courts' FAQ](#) to determine if you've fulfilled the requirement. However, ultimately only the NYS courts can determine for sure whether something counts, and we can only advise you based on other students' experience. There is an email on the FAQ that you can consult with questions.

READ MORE ABOUT THE NYS PRO BONO REQUIREMENT ON OUR BLS CONNECT PAGE [HERE](#). OR EMAIL PUBLICSERVICE@BROOKLAW.EDU WITH QUESTIONS!

EXAMS FOR NEW YORK STATE BAR ADMISSION (FOR 2LS/3LS)

If you plan to practice law in New York, you will need to take **three tests**: the Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam (MPRE), New York Law Exam (NYLE), and Uniform Bar Exam (UBE).

1. Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam (MPRE)

The MPRE is a multiple-choice exam typically administered three times each year. **You should take the MPRE during your 2L or 3L year.**

2. New York Law Exam (NYLE)

The NYLE is administered online (but not on demand). It is typically offered three times each year. **You should take the NYLE during your 3L year.*****

****You may not register for the NYLE until you have completed the **New York Law Course (NYLC)**. The NYLC is an online, on-demand course on New York law.*

3. Uniform Bar Examination

The UBE is what people mean when they refer to "the bar exam" in NY. It is typically administered twice a year (February and July) . **You can only take the UBE after graduation (except for Pro Bono Scholars)**. The UBE is now accepted in several states.

NYLE & UBE FAQ:

<https://www.nybarexam.org/UBE/UBE.html>

QUESTIONS?

Need help or advice on jobs,
internships, fellowships,
resumes/cover letters, interviewing,
or pro bono?

Make an appointment with us!

Public Service Law Center
Monday-Friday, 9 am-5 pm
publicservice@brooklaw.edu

[Check out all our resources on](#)
[BLS Connect!](#)

