

Brooklyn Law School's Public Service Newsletter

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Info Sessions

More external events!

Check out all of the Public Service Law Center's resources on BLS Connect!

Programs on the Public Interest Legal Career (PILC) Fair

Join us tomorrow,
Tuesday, November 5th in the
Student Lounge to learn all about
the PILC Fair. Then, meet us on
Zoom Wednesday, November 13th
for guidance on applying for
internships through
the PILC Fair portal.

Note: All full-time 1Ls will be registered for the fair by the PSLC.

More info on the next pages.



INS & OUTS OF THE PUBLIC INTEREST LEGAL CAREER FAIR

The Public Interest Legal Career (PILC) Fair provides a forum for public service employers and students to connect through formal interviews (for summer internships and postgrad jobs) and information "tables". This year's fair will take place remotely on February 6–7, 2025. The interview application portal will open November 15th

TUESDAY, NOV. 5 12:45 - 1:45 PM Student Lounge Lunch will be served



Learn all about the PILC Fair and get advice from upperclass students on applying for interviews and making the most of this important event!

Questions? Email publicservice@brooklaw.edu

Sponsored by the Public Service Law Center



Applying for PILC Fair Interviews: Guide to the Portal

Learn how to navigate the Public Interest Legal Career Fair website and online system to apply for summer internships and postgrad jobs.

Wednesday, November 13th 12:45-1:45pm
Zoom Link on BLS Connect & Canvas

Questions?

Email publicservice@brooklaw.edu

Centrification and its impact on the Housing Crisis

Wednesday, November 13 6:00 pm. | Subotnick 10

The Public Service Law Center and the Housing Justice Clinic present a panel discussion on community lawyering featuring:

- Professor Michael Grinthal,
 TakeRoot Justice
- Amy Collado, Bushwick Housing Independence Project
- Sam Chiera, Communities
 Resist
- Maoly Hernandez, Legal Services NYC



RSVP

The Practice of Consumer Law, the Promise of Economic Justice

Join for a conversation about Careers in Consumer Protection featuring:

Ted Mermin, Executive Director of the Berkeley Center for Consumer Law & Economic Justice

David Nahmias, Staff Attorney with the Berkeley Center for Consumer Law & Economic Justice and leader of Consumer Law Advocates Scholars & Students (CLASS) Network

Elena Gonzales ('09), Senior Litigation Counsel at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

November 14th 1:55pm-3:45pm Subotnick, 10th Floor

Light refreshments will be served

Questions? Email publicservice@brooklaw.edu



The Edward V.
Sparer Public
Interest
Community
presents:

Panelists include

debt experts from

Debt Collective,

Student Borrower

Protection Center,

Legal Aid

Attorneys Union,

and Community

Service Society

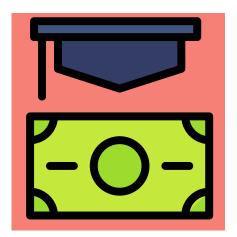
of NY

LET'S TALK ABOUT BOILDER



WEDNESDAY, NOV. 20 SUBOTNICK 10TH FLOOR

Join us for a discussion on public service loan forgiveness, debt cancellation, and the future of student loans



OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS

TO RSVP, EMAIL MARVA.SKEENE@BROOKLAW.EDU

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED!



Diversity Networking Forum

November 21 5 - 7 PM EST

Join advocates from NYLAG for a discussion about opportunities in public interest law, how to pursue them and how to afford it in NYC.

Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP 767 5th Ave, New York, NY 10153 Located in the General Motors Building

NYLAG

The Annual Diversity Networking Forum is on Thursday, November 21st, from 5:00 - 7:00pm. Attendees can let security know they are looking for Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP and they will direct them upstairs and to the room.

RSVP

The Public Interest Law Diversity Networking Forum is a space for current law students and recent grads to learn about careers in public interest law, how to pursue them, and how to afford it all. This panel discussion will highlight important information for law students and give them an opportunity to speak with our staff about how to navigate challenges and obstacles along this career path.

New York State Excelsior Service Fellowship Program

Excelsior Service Fellows work full time at host executive-branch agencies and authorities, advancing the operational and legal aspects of important policy initiatives. Fellows will also participate in a Professional Development program focusing on leadership development and the fundamentals of New York State government. After completing the Excelsior Service Fellowship Program, exceptional fellows may continue to serve New York State. More than 60% of prior classes of Excelsior Fellows were offered permanent positions with the State post-fellowship.



Fellowship Placements

Candidates are encouraged to note their areas of interest and any preferred placement agencies; however final placements will be dictated by budget and the needs of state government. Law school graduates will be placed in legal assignments unless they expressly request otherwise. While some opportunities exist in New York City and elsewhere in the state, most agency placements are located in Albany.

Sample placements include:

- NYS Executive Chamber
- Department of Environmental Conservation
- Empire State Development
- Office of Children & Family Services
- Department of Health

Program Requirements

- Candidates must have earned their graduate degree or an advanced degree (i.e., JD) in the 2024-25 academic year. Generally, this means August 2024–May/June 2025.
- Candidates must be eligible to work for New York State without employer sponsorship.

Application Process

Applications and nominations for the 2025 New York State Excelsior Service Fellowship Program will be administered by participating partner schools. Interested applicants should submit the following materials to the Public Service Law Center (publicservice@brooklaw.edu): resumé, transcript, personal statement, and two references/letters of recommendation. (See Symplicity #75494 for additional details)



ny.gov/ExcelsiorFellowship

There will be **virtual information sessions** this fall, the links can be found below. **Please save one of the following dates!**

Option 1: Wednesday, November 13, 5:00-6:00pm Meeting number (access code): 1613 89 9078 Meeting password: MMruJiQP322

Option 2: Tuesday, November 19, 12:00-1:00pm Meeting number (access code): 1619 64 5517 Meeting password: TVmMFgMH222

Option 3: Tuesday, December 3, 4:30 – 5:30pm Meeting number (access code): 1618 06 5986 Meeting password: Sc3fapFsW57





Spring & Summer Internships for Upperclass Students

As always, this is just a sampling of what's out there. You'll see lots more spring and summer internships on Symplicity in the coming months.

You can always look at our <u>Online Job Search Resources Guide</u> to find more.

Spring Internships on Symplicity

American Civil Liberties Union (several projects, including Disability Rights #75432, Women's Rights #75439, Reproductive Freedom #75433)

Church World Service, Unaccompanied Minor Program (immigration legal services #75393)

Emerald Isle Immigration Center (immigration legal services #75381)

Legal Aid Society - Health Law Unit (#75412)

NYC Department of Buildings (Construction Professional and Zoning Compliance #75344; Internal Affairs & Discipline #75343; Loft Board #75334)

NYC Department of Design & Construction, Town+Gown - Reforming Clean Water Act (#75326)

Catholic Migration Services (immigration legal services #75303)

NYC Office of Technology and Innovation (#75279)

Brennan Center for Justice (Paid! 75233)

Kids in Need of Defense, Newark (immigration legal services #75244)

NJ Office of the Attorney General (Policy & Legislation #75205; Civil Rights Housing Unit #75204)

NYC Administration for Children's Services (#75190)

NYS Appellate Division, Second Department (#75284)

NYS Homes and Community Renewal - Tenant Protection Unit (#75368)

NYS Office of the Attorney General (Paid! Internships #75480; Externships #75481)

Office of the Appellate Defender (#75274)

US Court of Appeals, Second Circuit - Mediation (#75471)

Summer Internships on Symplicity

NOTE: 2Ls can also apply for summer internships and 3Ls for postgrad jobs at the PILC Fair in February.

American Civil Liberties Union (several projects, including Reproductive Freedom Paid! #75444, Disability Rights Paid! #75443)

Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (#75271)

Civil Rights Corp. (DC) - Litigation Intern (Paid! 75482)

Fair and Just Prosecution (San Francisco) (#75038)

Family Justice Law Center (#75074)

Federal Community Defender for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania - Non-Capital Habeas Unit (#75242)

Juvenile Law Center (#75278)

Knight First Amendment Institute at Columbia University (#75325)

Legal Momentum (women's rights #75180)

Legal Services NYC (civil legal services #74827)

Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office (#75421

National Center for Youth Law (Oakland, DC) - Law & Policy Clerk (Paid! 75324)

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (MD) (#75309)

Office of the Appellate Defender - Summer Honors Intern (#75276)

State of Alaska, Dept. of Law (Paid! #75036)

Suffolk County District Attorney's Office (#75299)

U.S. Department of Labor, Office of the Solicitor, Region II (#75289)

Post Grad Opportunities



As always, this is just a sampling of what's out there. You'll see lots more post grad opportunities on Symplicity in the coming months. Take a look at our Online Job Search Resources Guide to find more and be sure to check out our guide to postgraduate fellowships.

The public service job search differs from a private-sector job search in some key ways. Visit our <u>page on public service application tips and resources</u> for help drafting public service cover letters and preparing for interviews. If you are hoping to work in public service postgrad, make an appointment with the PSLC to plan a strategy!

NYS Excelsior Service Fellowship Program (#75494)

Constitutional Accountability Center - Fellowship Sponsor (#75461)

Colorado State Public Defender - Deputy State Public Defender (#73862)

Connecticut Bar Foundation - 2025-2026 Herbert & Nell Singer Fellowship (#74825)

Justice Catalyst - Jonathan W. Cuneo COSAL (Anti-Trust) Fellowship (#74327), Justice Catalyst Fellowship (#74120)

Lawyers Alliance for New York - Business/Transactional Law Fellowship Sponsor (#75090) **Legal Aid Society** - Housing Justice Tenant Defense Fall 2025 Law Graduate (#74111), Juvenile Rights (74110)

Legal Services NYC - Fall 2025 Housing Staff Attorney (#75073)

Monroe County Public Defender's Office (Rochester, NY) - 2025 Law Graduate/Assistant Public Defender (#75042)

National Association of Consumer Advocates - 2-year Consumer Law Fellowship (#75199)

National Center on Philanthropy and the Law - John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur

Fellowship (#75311); 2025-2026 Fellowship in Nonprofit Law (#74457)

NJ Office of the Public Defender - Fall 2025 Class (#75399)

NYC Administration for Children's Services - Fall 2025 Child Welfare Attorney (#74508)

NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene - Public Health Legal Fellowship (#75109)

Social Justice Legal Foundation (Los Angeles, CA) - Impact Litigation Fellowship (#75188)

Suffolk County District Attorney's Office - Fall 2025 Assistant District Attorney (#74953)

Interviews & Follow-up

Review our <u>Public Service Interviewing Guide</u>, with tips for how to put your best foot forward in an interview and follow up afterwards. Also take a look at this great guide to researching employers, prepared by Prof. Kathleen Darvil of the BLS Library!

Look out for PILC programs coming up in the next few months!

Head to the <u>PILC</u> website to learn more!

FEBRUARY 6-7 **2025**

9:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

MORE THAN

300

PUBLIC INTEREST

EMPLOYERS

SUMMER + ENTRY-LEVEL POSITIONS

VIRTUAL TABLE
TALK

THE 48TH ANNUAL NTEREST LEGAL CAREER

STUDENTS FROM PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law Brooklyn Law School Columbia Law School Cornell Law School **CUNY School of Law** Fordham University School of Law Hofstra University School of Law New York Law School New York University School of Law Pace University School of Law Quinnipiac University School of Law Roger Williams University School of Law **Rutgers Law School** Seton Hall University School of Law St. John's University School of Law Syracuse University College of Law **Touro Law Center** University at Buffalo School of Law University of Connecticut School of Law

Yale Law School



THE BRAVE HOUSE

is a community of support for young immigrant and refugee women and gender-expansive youth, ages 16-24, in New York City, with a focus on survivors of gender-based violence. The non-profit provides free legal aid, community events, and holistic services, including leadership training, one-on-one advocacy, mental health support, job and school assistance, support for new and expecting moms, and much more.





Help support the Brave House as they start off the season of giving with a night of performances by talented female violinists, meaningful connections, remarks from Brave House members, and fun!

This event is free and open to the public!

RSVP Here

By attending the event, you're helping to disrupt cycles of violence against women, expand educational and career opportunities for immigrant youth, defend human rights, and amplify the voices of those too often unheard.

Performances by: Coco Mi, Gaby Despres, Nikki Alipour, Katherine Kyu
Hyeon Lim & more!

Learn more from The Brave House's 2024 Impact Report.



Apply for a scholarship or submit to a writing competition!

New York State Bar Association (NYSBA)

The NYSBA has several scholarships and writing competitions open for application now. Check out the postings on Symplicity or read more about each of the below open applications here.

Albert S. Pergam International Law Writing Competition International Section

Deadline: November 8, 2024

Diversity Mentorship Program
Dispute Resolution Section

Deadline: December 31, 2024

Phil Cowan – Judith Bresler Memorial Scholarship Entertainment Arts and Sports Law Section

Deadline: April 1, 2025

New York Business Law Journal

The New York Business Law Journal is hosting their *Student Writing Competition* (cash prizes at \$2,000, \$1,500, and \$1,000). Students can submit their note & comment work, or papers written for business law related courses for consideration. *Community economic development pieces are encouraged and welcome to be submitted!* Please send questions/ submissions to edeba@albanylaw.edu.

Deadline: December 1, 2024



Hon. Harold Baer Jr. and Dr. Suzanne Baer Equity & Inclusion Internship Program



The New York County Lawyers Association is proud to share details regarding the 2025 Hon. Harold Baer & Dr. Suzanne Baer Equity and Inclusion in the Judiciary Internship Program.

The Program

Established in 1989 by Honorable Harold Baer Jr. and his wife, Dr. Suzanne Baer, the Equity and Inclusion Internship Program provides a unique opportunity for diverse law students to be introduced to the judicial system during a paid summer internship. The program is administered by NYCLA's Committee on Racial and Ethnic Diversity and accepts first and second year law students from the law schools in New York County.

Program Requirements and Compensation

*Interns are required to attend an orientation and reception in late spring, during which they will meet their judges. *Participation in a writing workshop and three evening meetings is mandatory. In addition, interns must become members of NYCLA and join the Committee on Racial and Ethnic Diversity. Other requirements include volunteering to interview candidates for subsequent programs, serving as junior mentors to subsequent interns and volunteering at a fundraising event for the program. At the end of the summer, interns will be asked to complete written evaluations of their experiences.

Interns will receive \$500 per week for the eight-week internship. If the intern has funding from any other source, please let us know. The availability of outside funds will not affect their chances of being awarded an internship; however, outside funding may enable NYCLA to offer more internships in the future.

Application Requirements

The selection process is conducted by volunteers from the Committee on Racial and Ethnic Diversity. All applicants must submit a resume, a one or two page statement of interest, and a legal writing sample by 11:59pm, November 22, 2024.

Please submit a singular PDF document following the requested naming format: Last Name_First Name_Date of Application. For example: Cutts_Azelia_112224. Submissions must be sent electronically via Google Forms.

Deadline:

11:59 pm, November 22, 2024.

Submission in MMDDYR format. For example: Cutts_Azelia_112224.

You may send questions to acutts@nycla.org.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS: VOTER PROTECTION AND LEGAL SAFEGAURDS



Understanding voter rights and protections is key to safeguarding democracy. Whether you're voting for the first time or a seasoned voter, staying informed about your rights can ensure a fair and transparent election process. Here's what you need to know...

- Your Right to Vote
 - All eligible U.S. citizens have the fundamental right to vote. If you're registered and meet your state's requirements, you have the right to cast your ballot without intimidation, coercion, or unnecessary barriers. If you encounter any issues at the polls, you are entitled to assistance from poll workers.
- Voter Intimidation and Protection
 Federal law prohibits voter intimidation, which can take many forms, including threats, coercion, or misleading information intended to prevent you from voting. If you experience or witness voter intimidation, report it immediately to the Election Protection Hotline: 1–866–OUR–VOTE (1–866–687–8683).
- Accessible Voting

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), polling places must be accessible to all voters, including those with disabilities. If your polling place is not accessible, or if you require assistance, you have the right to receive help from a person of your choice or from a poll worker.

Provisional Ballots

If for any reason your name is not on the voter roll at your polling place, or if there's a question about your eligibility, you can request a provisional ballot. This allows you to vote while your eligibility is verified.

- Legal Resources and Support
 - Voter Protection Hotline: 1-866-OUR-VOTE
 - Election Protection Website: <u>866ourvote.org</u>
 - New York Voting Information: New York State Board of Elections
 - Disability Voting Rights: ADA National Network

Staying informed ensures we all contribute to a fair, democratic process. Share this information widely and make sure your voice is heard this election season!

Questions? Email publicservice@brooklaw.edu

2024 General Election – What's on the Ballot in NYC?

NEW YORK STATEWIDE BALLOT PROPOSAL

Ballot Proposal 1 - Adds Certain Protections to the State Bill of Rights

The proposal adds an anti-discrimination provision to the State
 Constitution that prohibits discrimination on the basis of ethnicity,
 origin, age, disability, and sex — including sexual orientation, gender
 identity, pregnancy, and pregnancy outcomes. It would also protect
 New Yorkers who seek access to reproductive healthcare from
 discrimination on that basis.

Your Vote:

- A "YES" vote adds these protections to the State Constitution.
- A "NO" vote leaves these protections out of the State Constitution.



NYC GENERAL ELECTION PROPOSALS

Proposals 2-6 impact NYC's local government and were advanced by a Charter Revision Commission led by Mayor Adams. These proposals could significantly impact the responsiveness, transparency, and accountability of city government to New Yorkers.

Ballot Proposal 2: Cleaning Public Property

• This proposal would amend the City Charter to expand and clarify the Department of Sanitation's power to clean streets and other City property and require disposal of waste in containers.

Ballot Proposal 3: Additional Cost Estimates for Proposed Laws and Budget Deadlines Updates

 This proposal would amend the City Charter to require fiscal analysis from the Council before hearings and votes on laws, authorize fiscal analysis from the Mayor, and update budget deadlines.

Ballot Proposal 4: More Notice and Time Before Votes on Public Safety Legislation

 This proposal would require the City Council to give 30 days notice before voting on laws that impact the Police, Correction, or Fire Departments.

Ballot Proposal 5: Capital Planning

• This proposal would amend the City Charter to require the City to assess the cost of maintaining city facilities, infrastructure, and investments and publish these assessments in capital planning reports.

Ballot Proposal 6: Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBES), Film Permits, and Archive Review Boards

 This proposal would amend the City Charter to establish the Chief Business Diversity Officer (CBDO), authorize the Mayor to designate the office that issues film permits, and combine archive boards.

For more on these proposals and their potential impact on NYC, visit the following links:

• <u>NYC Votes</u> (initiative of the New York City Campaign Finance Board), <u>NYC Council</u>, <u>NYCLU</u>, <u>The City</u> (nonprofit, nonpartisan, digital news platform serving New York City)

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' <u>FAQ document</u>.

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 <u>pro bono projects</u>, BLS clinics, many internships/externships, and the <u>Pro Bono Scholars Program</u>.

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 <u>required affidavit</u> 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?

The <u>courts' FAQ</u> is very straightforward, so you should be able 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 <u>HERE</u>. OR EMAIL PUBLICSERVICE@BROOKLAW.EDU WITH QUESTIONS!



PRO BONO NET

LOOKING FOR A WAY TO FULFILL YOUR PRO BONO REQUIREMENT?

LiveHelp's Winter 2024 Application is now open!

Pro Bono Net has opened the LiveHelp Operator Volunteer application period for the schedule to start this December.

The last day to apply is

November 17th, 2024. The application and more information about the program are available here.

PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD PRO BONO LOG

250-499 HOURS

PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

> 500-999 HOURS



SILVER AWARD

1000+ HOURS

GOLD AWARD

REMINDER: Log your pro bono hours here!

WHAT CAN I LOG?

Hours worked during law school in internships at government agencies (NOT judges) or nonprofit organizations, all work for BLS pro bono projects, work in BLS clinics.

WHY SHOULD I LOG?

You will receive a BLS Public Service Award. Graduating students receive awards based on the hours they log.

The Public Service Awards are presented to graduating students at a ceremony each spring. An award is a great addition to your resume to show your commitment to public service!

*** The BLS Pro Bono Log has no relation to the New York State bar pro bono requirement. For info on the NYS requirement, visit the Public Service Law Center's BLSConnect page!

QUESTIONS?

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

<u>Make an appointment with us!</u>

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

Check out all our resources on <u>BLS</u>
Connect!

