



GETTING INVOLVED WITH NORTHWESTERN LAW

Each year, the Center for Career Strategy and Advancement hosts several programs that are designed to educate our students about the practice of law and prepare them for their future legal careers.

These programs are also an excellent way for our employer partners to increase their on-campus visibility while creating meaningful attorney-student relationships at a very early stage in the students' careers.

Listed below are brief descriptions of each of the Career Center programs. If you would like to become involved in any of these events, please contact Irene Reed, Associate Director, at 312-503-1282 or by email at i-reed@law.northwestern.edu.

Alumni Coaching Program

When: Mid-May through Late-July

When to Contact Us: Mid-March through Late-April

Target Audience: Rising 2Ls

Purpose: To provide a mock callback interview for rising 2Ls in advance of the fall recruiting season.

The Alumni Coaching Program takes place during the summer months when students are away from school at their summer jobs. The Career Center matches each student with an attorney for a mock interview, and students and attorneys set up a mutually agreeable time to meet.

This program gives students the chance to experience the feel of a callback interview, and also provides students with an automatic "alumni contact" at each participating employer. The Alumni Coaching Program is particularly useful for both students and employers because students obtain early contact with employers with whom they may interview during fall OCI. In addition, since meetings take place at the attorney's place of employment, students have an opportunity get an immediate feel for the employer's environment and unique culture. The Alumni Coaching Program is also structured to foster professional ties between current students and Northwestern Law alumni.

Mock Interview Program

When: Early November

When to Contact Us: Mid-September to Mid-October

Target Audience: 1Ls

Purpose: To prepare students for legal interviews in advance of their 1L job search.

Mock interviews take place at the law school, and are structured to mirror the OCI process. Each student is paired with an attorney from a private, government or public interest employer for a 20 minute mock interview, followed by 10 minutes of feedback.

Students are required to research their mock interview employers in advance of the interview, which gives them specific knowledge about the employer. Our fall mock interview program is generally the “first look” that 1Ls have with employers, and can give them an immediate contact person within each participating law firm. Last year, 289 students participated in the mock interview program.

Career Night

When: Mid-November

When to Contact Us: Late-September to Late-October

Target Audience: 1Ls

Purpose: To introduce 1Ls to less well known practice areas (such as ERISA, wealth management, etc.) and to give students contact with practicing attorneys to whom they can direct questions. This is also an opportunity for 1Ls to practice their networking and mingling skills.

During Career Night, attorneys from more than 40 practice areas engage in “table talk” with students about the nature and substance of their practice area, and how the practice of law in their specialty operates at their place of employment. Although employer marketing materials are not allowed, attorneys are encouraged to discuss their practice area in detail, and should refer to deals and transactions that they work on through their employer. Participating attorneys should also encourage the students they meet to keep in touch with them, and can follow up with further meetings to continue building a professional relationship.

Law 101 Career Panels

When: Mid-September through late-October

When to Contact Us: Late July to Late-August

Target Audience: 1Ls

Purpose: To introduce 1Ls to broad legal practice areas.

Note: There are a limited number of private employer positions for this series.

Law 101 is a series of five panel discussions, focusing on **litigation**, **transactional practice**, **intellectual property**, **clerkships** and **international law**. Each panel consists of 4-5 attorneys who each practice in the same general area, but have opted to do so in a variety of employment settings (*i.e.*, private law firm, public interest, and government). Panelists describe their practice area in detail, including their typical day, the types of deals and/or cases they work on, and their career development to date. Panelists are encouraged to draw on personal experiences and to identify the unique opportunities afforded through their employer and/or practice setting. After the program panelists can

speaking one-on-one with interested students, and are encouraged to pass out their business cards. Panelist profiles are also distributed to all students via posters, emails, and at the event.

The Strategizer: The Career Center Newsletter.

When: Monthly, August through April

When to Contact Us: No specific deadlines; one month in advance of issue

Target Audience: All students

Purpose: Monthly newsletter disseminates information and career advice to students

Each month, the Career Center puts out an electronic newsletter called *The Strategizer*. *The Strategizer* provides a summary of events, as well as career-oriented articles, tips, and advice. Typically, our articles reflect items of concern to the students during the particular month when it is issued.

We encourage all of our employers to consider providing content for *The Strategizer*. In particular, we would like to begin a “practice area” series where employers provide brief, explanatory paragraphs about various practice areas. *The Strategizer* is distributed to the entire law school community and is read regularly by all students. In particular, this is a great way to emphasize any particularly strong practice areas or growing practice groups in your office.