

## **Frequently Asked Questions - Identifying Opportunities**

As you think through the four pillars of the 1L Career Foundations program, you might have some questions about certain aspects of the legal profession or your law school experience. Please consult these FAQ documents to help put the things you are learning in context. Each FAQ document will focus on one aspect of the 1L Career Foundations program. Please feel free to reach out to OCS or OPICS for more information.

### **Where can I find positions to apply to?**

Students typically find summer positions in one of three ways: (1) by applying to job postings; (2) through recruitment programs; and (3) through networking and direct outreach.

Aside from [Symplicity](#), some of our favorite resources for job postings are included on our [Find Jobs and Research Employers](#) page - click on the relevant industry (Private Sector, Public Interest, etc.) for links to job sites. We also host recruitment programs for 1Ls, including the Public Sector Recruiting Program (PSRP) in January, which is a major source of 1L summer jobs. We also encourage you to consider your network - friends, family, Georgetown Law alumni, undergrad alumni, professors, and more - when looking for summer internships. [LinkedIn](#) and the [Hoya Gateway](#) are fantastic resources for making connections. Check out our [Networking and Relationship Building page](#) for additional tips and resources.

### **To how many 1L summer positions should I apply?**

There is no right number of summer job applications you should send. It is always better to send more than just a few applications. Your chances of an offer for a particular position will vary depending on the type of position and on how early you apply. Some popular federal agencies and judicial internships tend to hire in the late fall and early winter, and will fill their ranks quickly. Law firms tend to begin their hiring processes in December and will continue through January and February (See our Career Exploration FAQ for more on opportunities with law firms). There will be many opportunities to apply throughout the early winter and through the spring. The ongoing coronavirus pandemic may affect hiring timelines, so be sure to pay attention to communications from the JD Careers team through the year. The rule of thumb is to apply to any position that sounds of potential interest to you, and keep applying until you receive and accept an offer!

It's worth noting that many 1L employers do not have the luxury of extensive human resources or recruiting resources. In many cases, hiring is done by an attorney juggling a number of other job responsibilities. This has at least two impacts for the job seeker: 1) not all positions will be posted, as doing so takes additional time and effort on the part of the employer; and 2) not all submitted applications will be given an exhaustive review, and some may not be reviewed at all. For these reasons, it's important to do more than apply to curated job postings, and it's important to do some networking to supplement written materials that you do submit.

### **When should I begin applying to jobs?**

This will vary student to student, but in almost all cases we don't anticipate a need to submit applications until mid-November at the earliest.

Your academic performance, acclimating to law school, and your own wellness should be high priorities early in the fall semester and through to finals. Some students begin sending applications to certain positions near or after Thanksgiving, but many more students wait until Winter Break to begin applying. Information on the 200+ employers participating in the annual Public Sector Recruiting Program (PSRP) will be available in December; and the deadline to submit applications is in early January. Job postings on recommended databases and individual employers websites will continue through the winter and early spring. Speak to your OPICS or OCS advisor to strategize on an application timeline based on your specific career goals.