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I. INTRODUCTION

“People have to feel needed. Frequently, we just offer a job and ‘perks.’ We don’t always offer people a purpose. When people feel there is a purpose and they’re needed, there’s not much else to do except let them do the work.” Maya Angelou, (1928-2014)

The purpose of this Guide is to introduce you to Fordham’s public service programs and resources at the law school. We hope it is relevant to all students, including those of you who came to law school to do public interest work, those who want to be involved in volunteer advocacy and legal work with non-profit organizations while in school, those who want hands-on, practical work as soon as they begin law school, and those you are interested in pro bono work while exploring possibilities in the public and private sector. There are opportunities to get involved in activities that serve a wide range of interests and allow for varying time commitments.

*The Law School offers:*

A home - the Public Interest Resource Center, with support for student-initiated public interest groups;

Centers, Institutes, course offerings, symposia and seminars in a wide range of public service areas;

In-house clinics which combine public interest law practice with academic credit;

Courses for credit and externships with non-profit organizations, government agencies, and judges;

Specialized career counseling and resources tailored for public service; and

Mentoring by faculty with a record of public interest accomplishments.

*Fordham Law School’s mission is to educate attorneys to work "in the service of others."*

Public service legal work can make law school and your entire career incredibly meaningful. Your role as a legal advocate can begin immediately. Public service work provides meaningful opportunities to make a difference and help you develop and build the array of skills essential to lawyering. It makes a big difference in your experience, especially during your first year, to be part of a supportive community of students, faculty and administrators who share your interests and goals. The public service community at Fordham Law will be more dynamic and vibrant with your participation. In addition, doing some forms of public service work while in law school will fulfill your 50 hour pro bono requirement for admission to the NYS bar. (See Public Service Job Search Guide, III. Pro Bono Requirement for New York State Bar Admission)
“Make a career of humanity…and you will make a greater person of yourself, a greater nation of your country, and a finer world to live in.” Martin Luther King, Jr.

II. WAYS TO GET INVOLVED IN PUBLIC SERVICE

A. Student Organizations Involved in Public Service

i. Public Interest Student-Run Volunteer Groups

a. Public Interest Resource Center (PIRC)
   Lower Level Room 101 (PIRC student groups)
   Lower Level Room 100 (PIRC administrative staff)
   Tel (212) 636-6952
   Fax (212) 636-7189
   pirc@law.fordham.edu
   http://law.fordham.edu/pirc
   http://www.facebook.com/pircfordhamlaw

PIRC is the home of student-initiated pro bono and community service groups. PIRC groups are a great way to:

• Get involved in advocacy and community service around issues you care about
• Build and put into practice legal skills that help people in need
• Explore your areas of interest
• Develop leadership skills
• Meet public interest lawyers and build your professional network
• Be part of a vibrant, public interest community of students
• Enhance your law school experience

Below is a list of current PIRC student groups. To learn more about each, go to PIRC’s homepage (http://law.fordham.edu/pirc) and click on the menu Student Groups. The page will both list and link to each PIRC groups’ webpage(s).

Learn more about PIRC Groups:

► The groups’ websites will give you a brief snapshot of the mission and work
► Talk to student members of the groups at upcoming PIRC/SBA Student Group Fair September 2nd, 2015, 4:30 to 6 PM in the Skadden Conference Center
► Come to orientations, trainings, panels, programs and activities

Look for announcements:
In The Weekly Brief, the weekly email newsletter of the Office of Student Affairs
PIRC-UP!, the weekly email bulletin from PIRC to the law school community

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PIRC’s Facebook page: [http://www.facebook.com/pircfordhamlaw](http://www.facebook.com/pircfordhamlaw)

Posters & flyers on the bulletin board of PIRC groups (located between the PIRC Office and the cafeteria) and bulletin boards throughout the Law School  
**Email the groups:** Contact information is in the Directory of this Guide and on each group’s webpage

**Worried about time commitments during your first year?** There are many ways to get involved no matter how much time you have available. PIRC student leaders are happy to talk with you about their activities and give you a realistic idea of how much time they require. Come to the PIRC/Student Bar Association (SBA) student group fair. Student groups will be in the Skadden Conference Center to talk with you about what they do, distribute flyers, and answer questions. Email sign-up sheets will be available so the groups can keep in touch with you about their upcoming orientations, trainings and programs.

PIRC student groups are dynamic. Each year, **new groups form** around cutting edge areas and the majority of new groups are started by **first year students**. The Law School provides support to students who seek new directions and want to put them into action. Interested in work that’s not currently being taken on by an existing PIRC student group? Contact PIRC’s Director of Student Organizations and Publicity, Leah Horowitz at [lhorowitz2@law.fordham.edu](mailto:lhorowitz2@law.fordham.edu) or stop by the PIRC office.

**Alternative Winter/Spring Break Service Projects:** Our winter and spring breaks provide a great opportunity to be involved in projects in areas of great need outside of the New York metropolitan area and work in a team with other Fordham students. Several PIRC student groups organize one week pro bono and community service trips during winter and/or spring breaks and no prior experience is necessary to join the delegations. Habitat for Humanity builds homes, Universal Justice works with NGOs/human rights organizations in developing countries, Environmental Law Advocates has done environmental justice work in Florida, and other groups have organized trips to respond to emergency needs (Haiti, post-earthquake, US Gulf Coast post-Hurricane Katrina). Information on upcoming trips will be posted on Law School bulletin boards. You can also directly contact the PIRC student group (we’ve included a Directory in this Guide; the group’s website may contain updated contact information) or the PIRC Office.

**PIRC Student Groups (2015-2016)**

**Advocates for Sexual Health and Rights (ASHR):** Advocates for and build awareness about the sexual health and legal rights of marginalized populations, including sex workers, LGBT people (with a strong emphasis on transgender rights), people with disabilities, and communities impacted by HIV/AIDS, both in New York City and globally, provide law students with opportunities to gain practical experience in this field. [shradvocates@gmail.com](mailto:shradvocates@gmail.com)
**Anti-Trafficking Legal Advocacy Society (ATLAS):** Dedicated to creating awareness about human trafficking, through speaker events, screening of documentaries, and substantive projects. Fordham.atlas@gmail.com

**Consumer Law Advocates (CLA):** Raises awareness about the legal issues surrounding the field of consumer debt and assists attorneys at the Manhattan Consumer Legal Advice Resource Office (CLARO) project, a free, weekly walk-in clinic providing assistance to consumers being sued by creditors in civil court. fordhamclaro@gmail.com

**Domestic Violence Action Center (DVAC):** Advocacy and assistance to survivors of domestic violence seeking orders of protection (Courtroom Assistance Project), uncontested divorces (Uncontested Divorce Project), and legal information and support (Womenslaw.org) under supervision of attorneys. Education and advocacy within Law School community, and community service activities. dvac.fordham@gmail.com

**Environmental Law Advocates (ELA):** Education and advocacy on environmental issues both on and off campus. Legal research opportunities in support of attorneys practicing in the field. ELA@law.fordham.edu

**Farm to Fordham:** Provides opportunities for students to work alongside community activists to make our food system more socially just, environmentally responsible, and economically sound. Organizes both policy-oriented legal projects and hands-on grassroots activities and coordinates a CSA to deliver organic food to the law school weekly: farmtolawschool@gmail.com

**Fordham Health, Education, Advocacy and Law Society (Fordham H.E.A.L.S.):** Aims to raise awareness and involvement in health related issues and policy, and to encourage health and wellness for Fordham's future attorneys by developing pro bono and community service projects related to health issues such as access to health care, mental health law, disability, health insurance, HIV/AIDS and more. fordhamheals@gmail.com

**Fordham Law Advocates for Voter Rights (FLAVR):** A nonpartisan group dedicated to promoting political empowerment and is involved in monitoring elections, restoring voting rights, community outreach. flavr.fordham@gmail.com

**Fordham Law Defenders:** A community of Fordham law students who are pursuing or strongly considering careers in public defense. FLD organizes discussions, collaborates with practitioners and alumni, and shares resources and tactics. FLD supports students seeking to excel as zealous and careful defenders of indigent people who are facing accusations, court-involvement, and loss of freedom. fordhamlawdefenders@gmail.com

**Fordham Student Sponsored Fellowship, Inc. (FSSF):** Organizes an amazing annual Public Service Auction—The 25th Annual Public Service Auction will be held on March 3, 2016--which raises money (matched by the Law School) to fund summer fellowships for
students work with non-profit organizations and government agencies during the summer.  

FSSF@law.fordham.edu

**Habitat for Humanity at Fordham Law School (HFH):** Organizes volunteer trips--weekend trips in New York City area and week-long Spring-Break trip (last year, southern Florida). Students help build homes under the supervision of skilled volunteer builders and trades people.  

fordhamlawhabitat@gmail.com

**Housing Advocacy Project (HAP):** Works with Housing Conservation Coordinators (HCC), a local tenants rights organization only a few blocks from the Law School to provide assistance to low-income tenants to protect affordable housing right here in the surrounding neighborhoods of Clinton/Hell’s Kitchen.  

HAP@law.fordham.edu

**Immigration Advocacy Project (IAP):** Works with lawyers with non-profit organizations to assist immigrants to the U.S. petitioning for immigration relief or fighting deportation. Conducts “know your rights” education at community-based organizations, and is involved in monitoring of the Immigration Court.  

iapfordham@gmail.com

**International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP):** IRAP was established at Yale Law School in 2008 to assist Iraqi refugees (who had fled Iraq post-war to such nations as Jordan, Lebanon and Syria) in applying for resettlement in the United States. Some of these refugees fled Iraq because of religious persecution or because they had assisted the U.S. military in Iraq and were now targets themselves. Since its creation, the organization has expanded to help refugees from countries all over the Middle East resettle in the U.S. and abroad. Fordham is one of 26 schools with IRAP chapters that pair students with practicing pro bono attorneys in order to help refugee clients with the legal steps of the resettlement process.  

FordhamLawIRAP@gmail.com

**Law Students for Reproductive Justice:** Fordham LSRJ works toward the goal of promoting justice, which will exist when all people can exercise the rights and access the resources they need to thrive and to decide whether, when, and how to have and parent children with dignity, free from discrimination, coercion, or violence. Fordham LSRJ holds events on topical reproductive justice issues throughout the school year and provides judicial bypass support in states who have parental consent laws. Finally, our Chapter works to improve access to reproductive health services for Fordham students.  

fordhamlsrj@gmail.com

**Lincoln Square Neighborhood Children’s Law Project (LSNCLP):** Teach concepts of law, citizenship, and literacy to children in an after-school program in the Amsterdam Houses, a public housing project one block from the Law School. Children help write and then participate in a mock trial in the Law School’s Moot Court Room as the culminating event.  

fordham.lsnclp@gmail.com
**Mentoring Youth Through Legal Education (MYLE):** The Fordham Law branch of Legal Outreach, an organization that uses the law as a tool to foster skills and inspire vision among high school students from underserved areas around New York. MYLE helps high school students who participate in three debate competitions per year on topics that range from Search & Seizure and Freedom of Speech to Equal Protection and Miranda Rights. myle@law.fordham.edu

**New Leadership Program of the Legal Aid Society (NLP):** NLP Chapters provide students the opportunity to connect with like-minded peers interested in public service and issues facing New York's most vulnerable individuals and families. NLP Chapter members can also enjoy exposure to the Legal Aid Society's workings, problem-solving tactics, innovations, and staff dedication through community service days and social networking events. nlpfordham@gmail.com

**Prisoners’ Rights Advocates (PRA):** Raise awareness and advocate on behalf of those in the prison system and seek meaningful change on issues that debilitating the justice system into a seemingly endless cycle of incarceration for affected populations, and teaches a ‘know your rights’ class for detained juveniles. fordhamlawpra@gmail.com

**Stein Scholars Program:** Academic program, summer externships, interaction with practitioners and academics, and the opportunities to engage in community service to encourage students to maintain their commitment to, and preparation for, the practice of law in service to the public. AChapin@law.fordham.edu

**Student Animal Legal Defense Fund of Fordham Law School (SALDF):** Dedicated to promoting the welfare of animals through the legal system. saldf@law.fordham.edu

**Students for the Education and Rehabilitation of Veterans (SERV):** Assists veterans through partnership with legal services organizations, while providing a space for students to dialogue about important military, veteran affairs, and national security issues. FordhamSERV@gmail.com

**Suspension Representation Project (SRP):** Trains law students to represent public school students in superintendent's suspension hearings and help safeguard their right to education. This project was created in response to the tremendous need for increased access to quality representation for low-income students and parents facing suspension hearings. fordham.srp@gmail.com

**Unemployment Action Center (UAC):** Advocate on behalf individuals at unemployment insurance hearings and appeals. The Fordham Chapter is part of a citywide consortium at five New York law schools which has assisted more than 12,000 people and secured millions of dollars in owed benefits for claimants. uac@law.fordham.edu
**Universal Justice (UJ):** Get hands-on human rights experience by providing assistance to human rights and non-governmental organizations in developing nations. Recent UJ delegations have included Jamaica, Nicaragua, and the Dominican Republic. [FordhamUJ@gmail.com](mailto:FordhamUJ@gmail.com).

**Youth Law Advocacy Association (YouthLaw):** A group for Fordham Law students interested in exploring careers that are committed to advocating for children and juveniles involved in the Child Welfare, Juvenile Justice, and Public Education systems. YouthLaw seeks to increase understanding of legal practice on behalf of young people, raise awareness of important policies and issues affecting youth, especially youth from underserved communities, and to collaborate with leaders in the field, organize discussions and networking, and encourage academic and service-oriented youth advocacy. [FordhamYALA@gmail.com](mailto:FordhamYALA@gmail.com)

b. Other Student Organizations

In addition to PIRC student groups, there are many other FLS student organizations which serve the diverse interests of law students and are a part of the Student Bar Association (SBA). See the list below. A number of these are involved in some community service/public service activities. For more information on the groups, including contact information, click on “Students” on the top menu bar on the law school’s homepage, [http://www.fordham.edu/info/20346/school_of_law](http://www.fordham.edu/info/20346/school_of_law), then “Current Students” and then “Student Organizations”. The groups will post flyers of events on bulletin boards throughout the Law School.

**Diversity and Identity**
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association
- Black Law Students Association
- Fordham Law Women
- Fordham OUTLaws (LGBT Law Students Association)
- Irish Law Students Association
- Italian American Law Students Association
- Latin American Law Students Association
- South Asian Law Students Association

**Faith**
- Catholic Law Student Association
- Fordham Christian Fellowship
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Muslim Law Students Association
- Society of Secularists

**Substantive Focus**
- Committee on Diversity in Business Law
Couture Counselor Student Fashion Law Society  
Fordham Information Law Society  
Fordham Art Law Society  
Fordham Labor & Employment Law Society  
Fordham Sports Law Forum  
Fordham Law Students Supporting Science  
Global Law Society  
Law Students for Reproductive Justice  
Media and Entertainment Law Student Society

Politic, Policy  
American Constitution Society  
Federalist Society  
Fordham Law Democrats  
Fordham Law Republicans  
National Lawyers Guild

Other  
Fordham Law Arts Club  
Fordham Law Basketball  
Fordham Law Follies  
Fordham Law Softball  
Fordham Law Tortfeastors  
Fordham Law Women  
Parents Attending Law School  
Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity  
The Record at Fordham Law (online newspaper)

ii. Recognition of Student Public Service Work

There are a number of ways the Law School celebrates and recognizes student pro bono and community service work.

► Volunteer of the Month: Each month PIRC student leaders nominate a member of a PIRC student group who has done outstanding work. The name of the selected student and his/her accomplishments are publicized within the law school community. The student receives a gift certificate and is recognized as part of a public service luncheon.

► PIRC Annual Awards Dinner (April 11, 2016): Honors students who have done significant community service/pro bono work in furtherance of Fordham Law’s commitment “in the service of others.” The Archibald R. Murray Public Service Awards, named in honor of a Fordham graduate who served as the Legal Aid Society’s Executive Director for more than 20 years, are given to graduating students who have engaged in at least 100
honor of pro bono and/or community service during their time at Fordham Law, with special honors to students who have completed over 250 hours of such work. The Student Leadership Awards are presented to graduating students who have served on the Boards of Directors of their respective PIRC organizations. PIRC also honors a graduating student with a Public Interest Valedictorian award, and first and second year student with a 1L and 2L, respectively, Student of the Year award.

► Look for friendly, community/pro bono service challenges between class sections and the student-edited journals.

**B. Public Service Related Curriculum**

Fordham Law offers a rich array of academic and experiential-learning opportunities through its Externship and Clinical Program, the various Centers and Institutes, and Course Offerings.

**i. Externships**

After the completion of at least one year of law school, you may receive academic credit for your work as an extern for a judge, a government agency, or nonprofit organization. Students earn academic credit for each of up to two such externships and participating in a related seminar. Externs, with support from the Clinical Externship Office and under the direct supervision of mentor attorneys, assume some of the responsibilities of practicing attorneys. This experience allows students to gain real lawyering skills, knowledge of substantive law, exposure to legal practice and the values of the legal profession, all while serving the public interest. Externships provide students with insight into the kind of lawyer they wish to become.

To earn credit, an extern must complete 140 hours of fieldwork and attend seven classes during the 14-week fall or spring semester, or work 160 hours and attend four classes during the 8-week summer semester.

For more information, including deadlines and other requirements and a list of placements where Fordham students have done externships, see [http://law.fordham.edu/externships](http://law.fordham.edu/externships)

**ii. In-House Clinics**

The Law School’s in-house clinics allow upper-class students, under direct faculty supervision, to develop professional judgment and legal skills in a real practice setting, while providing legal services to the community.

Depending on the individual clinic, clinic students serve as mediators; interview and counsel clients; draft pleadings; argue motions; engage in discovery; examine witnesses at hearings;
and trials; do human rights trainings and capacity building, litigate in a wide range of court and arbitration proceedings; explore policy, legislative, and community-lawyering issues; do transactional work; negotiate; draft and analyze legal documents; make bail applications; visit crime scenes; investigate facts; participate in interdisciplinary collaboration; conduct legal research; and gain expertise in specific substantive areas of law. Clinic students must also participate in a seminar which covers material needed for the individual clinic’s area of practice.

The following clinics will be offered in Fall 2015 and, most likely, in Spring 2016:

- Appellate Litigation
- Community Economic Development
- Consumer Litigation
- Criminal Defense
- Family Advocacy
- Federal Litigation
- Immigrant Rights International Human Rights
- International Law & Development in Africa
- Mediation
- Queens DA Prosecution
- Samuelson-Glushko Intellectual Property and Information Law
- Securities Litigation & Arbitration
- Tax
- Corporate Social Responsibility

For details about individual clinics, and about the application process, see the Clinical Legal Education webpage at [http://law.fordham.edu/clinics](http://law.fordham.edu/clinics)

### iii. Stein Scholars Program for Public Interest Law

The Stein Scholars Program is a comprehensive three-year educational program for students seeking academic training and practical experience in public interest law. The program selects 20 members of the incoming class, based upon demonstrated commitment to public service work. Two to four additional students enter in the spring of their first year. The Scholars work in governmental and nonprofit public interest law settings (and receive funding for such public interest summer internships), undertake specialized academic work in legal ethics and public interest lawyering, and organize a series of discussions, open to all law students on topics of interest.

For more details, including information on the application process, see the Steins Scholars Program website at: [http://law.fordham.edu/stein](http://law.fordham.edu/stein) & click on Stein Scholars Program on the left hand-menu.

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iv. Centers and Institutes

a. Feerick Center for Social Justice

The Feerick Center seeks to frame concrete, achievable solutions to the discrete problems of urban poverty. To accomplish this mission, the Center combines:

• The urgency of a social justice mission,
• The balance of a problem-solving center,
• The insights of a think tank, and
• The educational mission of a law school.

The Feerick Center engages in fact finding, legal analysis, policy research, convening, and consensus building and trains new generations of law students and fellows to continue the important social justice work championed by the Center’s Director and Founder, John D. Feerick.

For more information about The Feerick Center for Social Justice, including its service and projects, see the website http://law.fordham.edu/feerickcenter.

b. Leitner Center for International Law and Justice

The Leitner Center is dedicated to promoting human rights scholarship and advocacy at Fordham Law School and around the world. It aims to increase awareness of human rights abuses and to prepare future lawyers to address those abuses over the course of their careers, through a fieldwork centered model.

Some of The Leitner Center components include:

► Brown Bag Lunch Series: A year-round series of weekly Brown Bag Lunch sessions to give law students the opportunity to interact with human rights advocates in an informal setting.

► Crowley Program for International Human Rights: A group of six students selected based upon their demonstrated commitment to international human rights scholarship and practice, participate in an annual human rights fact-finding mission culminating in a comprehensive published report.

► Sustainable Development Legal Initiative (SDLI): Aims to promote the use of law to foster environmentally sound development and poverty eradication through education, capacity-building, research and scholarship.

► The Leitner Internship Program: Provides stipends for students to participate in human rights internships over the summer and during the school year.
Walter Leitner International Human Rights Clinic: In partnership with non-governmental organizations and foreign law schools, the Clinic works on international human rights projects ranging from legal and policy analysis, fact-finding and report writing, and human rights training and capacity-building.

James E. Tolan Human Rights Fellowship: A post-graduate Fellowship that funds a Fordham Law School graduate to work for an international human rights organization for one year.

For more information regarding the Leitner Center for International Law and Justice, and each of its programs, please see the website, http://law.fordham.edu/leitner.htm

v. Academic Courses

Fordham Law’s curriculum includes a wide range of classes, seminars, and opportunities for independent study. The Curriculum Guide (http://www.fordham.edu/info/22152/curriculum_guide) will help you browse through the courses offered in particular concentrations, as related to substantive practice areas. And the list of course offerings for the Fall 2015 and Spring 2016 semesters are available at http://www.fordham.edu/info/21167/class_schedules. There is also an ability to undertake specialized research through an independent study under the guidance of a faculty member.

a. Faculty in the Public Service

Fordham Law’s faculty includes full time, visiting and adjunct faculty with significant accomplishments in public service including clerkships, fellowships, scholarship, and work in government agencies and non-profit organizations. Biographical sketches of all faculty members are available on the Law School’s web pages. Click on Faculty on the Law School’s homepage, http://law.fordham.edu.

The faculty is committed to not only excellence in teaching but also in mentoring. Please reach out to faculty who teach areas of law that are of interest to you.

C. Pursuing Public Service Work: Career Counseling & Services

i. Public Service Career Services

PIRC can assist you in exploring public service career opportunities:

• For summer and academic year internships/externships with non-profit organizations and governmental agencies
• To identify funding for internships/externships during the summer and academic year

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• To apply for post-graduate fellowships and government honors programs
• To secure permanent post public graduate work

PIRC offers, from the perspective of a public service job search:

• One-on-one counseling to help you identify and explore your interests and practice settings
• Resume and cover letter review and critique
• Mock interviews

PIRC’s services compliment the services of the Career Planning Center’s (CPC).

ii. Public Service Publications, Programs and Events

a. Publications: PIRC developed the Public Service Job Search Guide (“Guide”) to provide you an overview of the public service job search. The Guide is available on the PIRC website (http://law.fordham.edu/pirc, click on “Job Search Guide”) and includes an Introduction to Public Service Law, including:

• Public interest employment settings such as public interest/nonprofit organizations, government agencies, judiciary, and public interest law firms
• Timing of the public service job search
• Resources available
• Public service programs and events
• Job search tools
• Resume, cover letter, interview tools
• Funding for Public Service Work, including the provisions of the College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007 (CCRAA) which makes it financially possible to pursue public service careers regardless of your law school, graduate school, and undergraduate loan debt
• Internships for summer, fall and spring semesters
• After graduation post graduate financial assistance
• Post graduate fellowships

A hard copy of the Guide will be included in the 1L Professional Development Handbook which will be distributed to you.

In addition, CPC has a number of specialized publications geared to particular public service sectors such as government jobs and judiciary clerkships. These publications are available on CPCs website, http://www.fordham.edu/info/22516/career_planning_center.
b. **On Campus Programs**

CPC and PIRC offer programs on campus especially geared to first year students to:

- Provide an overview of the public interest job search process and to answer questions and concerns
- Bring to Fordham Law public service lawyers to highlight their work and career paths to familiarize students with a wide range of public service employers

A timeline, which includes the fall semester’s programs is at the end of this Guide.

Check your email, the bulletin board, and the law school calendar for details about each event.

c. **Public Service Career Fairs**

The Public Service Job Search Guide (included in the *1L Professional Development Handbook* and at [http://law.fordham.edu/pirc](http://law.fordham.edu/pirc), click on “Job Search Guide”) will provide you with detailed information about a number of public service career fairs. They include:

- **26th Annual Public Interest Career Reception**: At Fordham Law School on September 3rd. Yearly event co-sponsored by metro-area law schools and held at the beginning of the fall semester. An average of over 100 public interest and public sector employers attend and provide information about their offices and work, as well as advice and encouragement (but not information about immediate job openings).


- **Public Interest Legal Career Fair**, Thursday, February 4th and Friday, February 5th, 2016. Co-sponsored by Fordham Law and hosted NYU School of Law. The Fair features over 150 employers, with formal interviews for summer and post-graduate positions, informational tables, and panels on public interest topics. Students should register between November 1st and December 1st at [http://pilcfair.law.nyu.edu/](http://pilcfair.law.nyu.edu/) and submit cover letters and resumes online to organizations for which they would like to interview. Check email for more details and **come to an orientation at FLS on Tuesday, November 3rd** in room 3-04. For additional information: [http://pilcfair.law.nyu.edu/](http://pilcfair.law.nyu.edu/)
D. Funding Your Public Service Work

The Public Service Job Search Guide (part of the 1L Professional Development Handbook) and on PIRC’s website: 
contains detailed information about:

- The provisions of the College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007 (CCRAA) which makes it financially possible to pursue public service careers regardless of your law school, graduate school, and undergraduate loan debt.
- Summer, Fall, and Spring Internships which provide a stipend or fellowship funding for your work
- Post-Graduate financial assistance for Public Service Lawyers
- Post-Graduate Fellowships

i. Summer Fellowships

We highlight some of the summer fellowships here since you need to get involved or make an application relatively early in the fall semester:

The Fordham Student Sponsored Fellowship (FSSF) is the largest source of funding for Fordham Law students working with government agencies and non-profit organizations. ($4,000 for first-year students, $5000 for upper-class students) The summer fellowship funds are raised by FSSF, and matched by the Law School, through an Annual Public Service Auction which will be held on Thursday, March 3, 2016. The auction is a lot of fun and brings together professors, students and their friends, and family, and alumna who both donate goods and services and bid on those donated by others. To be eligible for a fellowship, students must assist with FSSF’s fund-raising activities and should commit during the fall semester to work with FSSF. You do not need to secure your internship placement until well into the spring—so sign up to volunteer now—and keep your options open. You’ll be getting an email about dates to sign-up to volunteer so that you may be eligible for FSSF funds. You can also drop by the FSSF Office, Lower Level Room 101 or email them at fssf@law.fordham.edu.

Other Fordham Law School related summer public service funding:
The Public Service Job Search Guide and PIRC’s website (http://law.fordham.edu/pirc, click on Career Support and Funding on the menu column on the left, then Summer Funding, and lastly School Sponsored) provides details regarding Fordham Law sponsored fellowships:

Ann Moynihan Fellowship at The Legal Aid Society
Domestic Violence Awareness Center (DVAC) Summer Fellowship
Judge John Cannella Fellowship
Justice John Paul Stevens Fellowship Foundation

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Leitner Internship Fund
Michael Saperstein Fellowship at The City Bar
Milton Pollack Fellowship
Mulligan Judicial Internship Fellowship
Thomas J. Concannon Memorial Internship Fund at Federal Defenders/EDNY

**Independent Sources of Summer Fellowship** funding are also described in the *Public Service Job Search Guide* and on PIRC’s website and include:

Resources to identify summer fellowships are available on PSJD at [http://www.psjd.org/Funding_Sources](http://www.psjd.org/Funding_Sources)

Equal Justice Works Summer Corps: Provides an educational award of $1,212 which may be applied to your law school tuition and may be combined with other fellowship stipends such as FSSF. The deadline is the early spring and will be available on line at [http://www.equaljusticeworks.org/law-school/summercorps](http://www.equaljusticeworks.org/law-school/summercorps)

Venable Foundation Fellowship: Venable LLP awards a $5,000 fellowship to Fordham Law 1Ls or 1LEs for summer public service work. You’ll receive emails later this fall with application deadline.

New Jersey Summer Public Interest Legal Intern Summer Fellowship Program awards summer intern fellowships in New Jersey public interest legal organizations. 2014 Interns were paid at a rate of $550 per week for rising 2nd year students and $750 per week for rising 3rd year students. [http://www.lsnj.org/Internships.aspx](http://www.lsnj.org/Internships.aspx)

The Peggy Browning Fund Summer Fellowship Program for worker rights work with a variety of unions and other legal organizations provides a stipend of $5,000. [https://peggybrowningfund.org/fellowships/for-law-students](https://peggybrowningfund.org/fellowships/for-law-students)

Haywood Burns Memorial Fellowships for Social and Economic Justice, a project of the National Lawyers Guild (NLG) provides several $2,000 fellowships with an organization of your choosing whose mission addresses the needs of underserved individuals and groups. [http://www.nlg.org/law-students/fellowships](http://www.nlg.org/law-students/fellowships)

**ii. Academic Year Fellowships**

After the completion of your 1st full year, several academic year fellowships are available which require participation in an externship course. They are described in greater detail in the Public Service Job Search Guide (Included in *IL Professional Development Handbook*). For example:

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• New York Women’s Bar Association Foundation, Inc. Fellowship: For a second or third year student to work with victims of domestic violence for an entire academic year at the Center for Battered Women’s Legal Services at Sanctuary for Families. The Fellow receives a stipend of $4,000 for the year.

• The New York Women’s Bar Association Foundation/ Feerick Center for Social Justice (Feerick Center): Fellows provide programmatic and administrative assistance to Feerick Center initiatives.

**iii. Post-Graduate Funding**

a. **Post-Graduate Financial Assistance:**

   The Public Service Job Search Guide provides information on post-graduate financial assistance for public interest lawyers including:

   • The provisions of the *College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007* (CCRAA) which can make it financially possible to pursue public service careers regardless of your law school, graduate school, and undergraduate loan debt by providing for income based repayment and loan forgiveness.
   • Resources on loan forgiveness programs by states, public service employers and fellowship programs.
   • A summary of the Fordham Law programs:
     - The Fordham Loan Repayment Assistance Program
     - The Fordham Loan Forgiveness Program

b. **Post-Graduate Fellowships:**

   The Public Service Job Search Guide also provides information on post graduate fellowships, including:

   • Types of fellowships
   • Resources to identify fellowships
   • Faculty support to fellowship candidates
   • A list of some of the major fellowship programs

We encourage you to take advantage of the wide range of public service programs and services at Fordham Law.
III. TIMELINE OF PIRC PROGRAMS: Fall 2015

* Programs of special interest to first year students

Note: Deadlines for applications to the Clinical Program, and for the various Fordham Law summer 2016 and academic year 2015-16 Fellowships will be announced via email. Please check your email regularly and read the Weekly Brief and PIRC-UP! for details.

AUGUST

21* Public Service Day for Incoming Students
25 Department of Justice (DOJ) and other Government Honors Programs
27* Post Public Service Day luncheon

SEPTEMBER

01 Equal Justice Career Fair Orientation
02* SBA/PIRC Student Group Fair
03* Prep for Table Talk—Get Ready for the Public Interest Legal Career Reception
03* Public Interest Legal Career Reception
08* Charting your Public Interest Career Path at FLS
10 Acing Your Interview: The DA’s Office
16 Serving the Public through Non-Profit Board Membership
17* PIRC Open House
24 Presidential Management Fellows Program
29 Acing Your Interview: Government and Public Interest
30 Acing Your Interview: Federal & State Court Clerkships

OCTOBER

06 3L Post Graduate Public Service Job Search
08 2L Summer Public Service Job Search
13 Interviewing with Public Defenders
21 Mock interviews
23-24 Equal Justice Works Conference & Career Fair
27* 1L Public Service Job Search Orientation
29* What I Did Last Summer – Student to Student Fair

NOVEMBER

03* Public Interest Legal Career Fair Orientation
17 NYS Excelsior Fellows Program & NYS Senate Fellowship
Throughout the month: Meet with CPC and PIRC counselors to discuss public service summer internship opportunities.