

2023-24

LLM Public Interest Job Search Handbook



Table of Contents

Introduction and Background	1
Introduction to PILC	1
The Role of PILC	1
Deciding Whether to Pursue a Public Interest Career	1
Public Interest Subject and Practice Areas	2
Resources to Learn More about Specific Practice Areas	4
Meeting with a PILC Counselor	4
The Public Interest Job Search	6
Timing.....	6
Steps to Take Now	6
Planning a Public Interest Job Search	7
The Bar Exam	7
Working for the United Nations or another Intergovernmental Organization	7
Working in the U.S. after Graduation	9
Marketing Yourself to American Employers	10
Job Search Resources.....	10
Networking	12
Finding People to Network With	12
Approaching Contacts.....	14
What to do if the Person Does Not Respond.....	15
Following Up	15
Resumes, Cover Letters, and Interviews	16
What to Include in a Job Application	16
Differences between a Resume and CV	16
What to Include in a Public Interest Resume.....	16
What to Include in a Public Interest Cover Letter	17
Summary of Cover Letter and Resume Tips.....	18
Where to Learn More about U.S.-Style Resumes and Cover Letters.....	20
References and Recommendations	20
Transcripts and Writing Samples	20
Interviewing	21
Behavioral Interviews	22

Presentation and Style	22
Special Tips for a Virtual Interview	22
Salary, Hours, and Benefits	23
Interview Follow Up	23
Fellowships and Internships	24
Post-Graduate Fellowships	24
Where to Find Fellowships.....	24
NYU Post-Graduate Fellowships for LLMS	24
International Finance and Development Fellowships	26
International Law and Human Rights Fellowship	26
Opportunities with the World Bank.....	27
How to Apply for Fellowships	27
Internships and How to Get One	29
Interning During the School Year	29
Interning after Graduation or the Bar Exam	29
Pro Bono Service	30
Pro Bono Work.....	30
Pro Bono Requirement for the NYS Bar	30
Getting Credit for the Hours You Complete	31
NYU Assistance in Finding Pro Bono Opportunities.....	31
Determining Which Pro Bono Placements Are Right for You	32
How to Apply for Pro Bono Placements	32
Pro Bono Research Projects.....	33
A Final Note about Pro Bono Work.....	33
Appendix A -Sample Pro Bono Cover Letter and Follow up Email	34
Appendix B-Websites for International Job Searches	37
Appendix C-Websites for Domestic Job Searches.....	41
Appendix D-LLM Networking Handout	44
Appendix E- Selected NYU LLMs In Public Interest	47
Appendix F- State Bar Eligibility Chart.....	52

Introduction and Background

Introduction to PILC

At the Public Interest Law Center (PILC) and NYU School of Law, we use the terms “public interest” and “public service” interchangeably, to mean work that is pursued on the basis of individual or group concepts of justice, fairness, and advancement of the public good, rather than for commercial or personal gain. Our definition is deliberately broad and encompasses work in government and inter-governmental institutions, and non-profit organizations.

The Role of PILC

At NYU School of Law, we believe that law graduates have a responsibility to society to engage in public service and pro bono work. To this end, the law school has built strong clinical programs, offers courses in public interest law, sponsors student organizations that conduct pro bono work, develops public service career counseling programs, and supports myriad pro bono opportunities.

PILC and its staff are here to help whether you are seeking advice on job opportunities, public service internships, pro bono opportunities, course selection, or extra-curricular activities, or have other questions related to public interest work. In addition, PILC sponsors various events and career panels throughout the year, which enable NYU Law students to hear from and interact with distinguished public interest practitioners.

PILC has prepared this LLM Job Search Handbook as a guide to help you plan a public service career. Additionally, a wide range of job search information and materials is available on the [PILC website](#), especially in our [online library](#), and through the [Public Service Jobs Directory](#) (PSJD).

Deciding Whether to Pursue a Public Interest Career

Public interest law is a fascinating and rewarding field. While working in public interest, you’ll be devoting your skills to the principles that draw many people to study law in the first place, such as access to justice, equality, and the protection of vulnerable and marginalized communities.

If you are drawn to public interest, the next question is whether you want to work in the field full-time. Public interest lawyers typically earn substantially less money than those at law firms or in the private sector, yet they often [report greater happiness and well-being](#) than private sector peers. Public interest jobs can also be harder to secure in many instances, because there may be a large number of strong, committed candidates competing for a smaller number of

positions. If you are passionate about issues of fairness and justice, and want to spend your career making a difference, working full-time in public interest law may be ideal for you.

Even if you decide to work in the private sector after your LLM, there are many ways for you to contribute to the public interest. Many law firms and corporations have large, active pro bono programs. Lawyers do pro bono work by representing clients, participating in bar associations, and providing technical assistance to developing countries, to name just a few examples. In addition, many attorneys start their careers in the private sector and later transition to public interest. PILC counselors are happy to help you think through these issues and decide on the best path for you.

Public Interest Subject and Practice Areas

Public interest includes many subject areas, ranging from community economic development to children's rights to criminal justice to the environment. Listed below are the major public interest practice settings.

- **International Public Interest:** The type of work undertaken in this field varies widely, as do the settings in which attorneys practice. Many international public interest lawyers do not practice law in a strict sense, but rather, use their law degrees to do policy work. International employers often seek candidates with proficiency in at least two languages. Opportunities fall into the following categories:
 - **Intergovernmental Organizations:** IGOs frequently hire lawyers for international legal positions and for other programmatic positions. Some examples of IGOs include the United Nations system, Inter-American agencies, European agencies, and multilateral development banks.
 - **Government Agencies:** Virtually every government hires lawyers to work in international relations, on issues ranging from diplomacy to human rights to development. Some examples of government agencies include U.S. State Department, foreign ministries, country missions to intergovernmental organizations, and international development/cooperation agencies. Some government positions are attorney positions, and others are non-legal foreign or civil servant positions. Most governments have exams or formal recruiting programs, and only hire their nationals. Some smaller countries, however, occasionally hire foreign attorneys to work as legal advisors to their embassies abroad (including United Nations missions in New York).
 - **Non-Governmental Organizations:** There are two main kinds of NGOs, international NGOs that work in multiple countries and local NGOs that work mainly in the countries where they are based. NGOs work on an incredible array of issues including human rights, refugee matters, conflict resolution, environmental protection, and economic development. A few international NGOs

have regular fellowship programs. Hiring practices at NGOs vary widely depending on their size (which can range from a few volunteers to hundreds of professional staff), location, and budget. As a general rule, however, NGOs tend to hire people who have demonstrated a commitment to their work through internships or past work experience.

- **Alternatives to Traditional Public Interest Lawyering:** Alternatives to IGOs, government agencies and NGOs include think tanks, alternative dispute resolution positions, and work for foundations.
- **Domestic Public Interest Work:** Opportunities for public interest legal work vary substantially from country to country. Within the United States, public interest law encompasses several main categories of work. Jobs in U.S.-based public interest organizations can be very difficult to get, as many domestic organizations are not able to sponsor work permits for foreign lawyers. In addition, foreign-trained LLM students must usually become admitted to the bar in the state where they wish to work (see [Appendix F](#) for information on eligibility to sit for state bar exams) and have relevant work experience to be competitive.
 - **Impact Litigation / Law Reform:** Impact litigation and law reform organizations focus on achieving systemic change in one or more areas through litigation or legislative advocacy on behalf of a particular group of people or set of issues. Examples include the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and the Brennan Center for Justice. Typically, these offices prefer that applicants have a few years of legal experience in the U.S. before applying for a permanent position. In addition, their lawyers have often completed a federal judicial clerkship in the U.S.
 - **Civil Legal Services:** Civil legal services organizations represent individuals who cannot afford to hire attorneys for non-criminal legal matters. Positions in these organizations involve significant client contact, so employers tend to look for people who have experience working with indigent clients. Again, U.S. practice experience is often required or strongly preferred, and second languages (commonly, Spanish, French or Mandarin) can be very helpful.
 - **Public Defense:** Funded by the government, public defender offices represent indigent defendants in criminal cases. In-depth knowledge of U.S. criminal law, evidence, and procedure is essential, as is a demonstrated commitment to public defense work.
 - **Prosecution:** Funded by the government, prosecutors bring criminal charges against individuals. In-depth knowledge of U.S. criminal law, evidence and procedure is essential. Many prosecutors' offices require attorneys to be U.S. citizens.

- **Federal Government Agencies:** These are U.S. government offices that address certain areas of federal law and/or represent the federal government in legal matters. Some examples are the Department of Health and Human Services, the Securities and Exchange Commission, and the Environmental Protection Agency. Most federal agencies require attorneys to be U.S. citizens and employees must obtain a security clearance.
- **State and Local Government Agencies:** These agencies specialize in particular areas of state or local government, e.g., social services or environmental conservation, and/or represent state and local governments in legal matters, e.g., state attorneys general. Typically, each agency has its own legal staff and tends to hire people who have a connection to the state or locality.
- **Capitol Hill and State Legislatures:** Attorneys work on Capitol Hill and in state legislatures as legislative assistants in individual representatives' offices, or as staff attorneys for committees.
- **Labor Unions:** Most national and international unions have a central legal department.
- **Public Interest Law Firms:** These are typically small firms specializing in public interest law on the plaintiff side or on behalf of an underrepresented group. Some common practice areas include employment discrimination, labor law, police brutality, family law, immigration, civil rights, and environmental law.

Resources to Learn More about Specific Practice Areas

Check out the [NYU International Public Interest Handbook](#), available on the PILC website, and [International Public Interest Law](#), an excellent handbook published by Yale Law School and available on its website.

There is also an extensive range of resources available on the [Public Service Jobs Directory Resource Center](#) website, covering both domestic and international practice areas.

In addition, [Appendix B](#) (international) and [Appendix C](#) (domestic U.S.) have links to numerous other helpful websites.

Meeting with a PILC Counselor

You can schedule an appointment with a PILC counselor at any time during your LLM and may continue to meet with a counselor after graduation. PILC counselors will review your resume, discuss your experience and goals, and help you refine and plan your job and internship search. The appointment will be most productive if you do some initial research on organizations that interest you beforehand.

[Biographies of all the PILC counselors](#) can be found on the PILC website. Carolina van der Mensbrugghe, in particular, meets regularly with LLM students. You can call (212) 998-6686 or send an email to pilc.appointments@nyu.edu to schedule an in-person or virtual appointment. You can also come by PILC to schedule an appointment. Our office is located on the 4th floor of Furman Hall, Suite 430.

Before your counseling session, we ask that you:

1. Register with [CSM](#) and check off “public interest” in your profile (as well as checking off any practice areas of interest), because PILC uses CSM to communicate with students regarding opportunities, deadlines, and other information.
2. Register on [PSJD](#) and do an “Employer Profiles” search (under the “Advanced Search” tab) to get a list of organizations that you may be interested in.
3. Prepare a draft of your resume using the handbook distributed by the Office of Career Services (OCS) and email it to pilc.appointments@nyu.edu before your appointment, along with the questions or issues that you wish to discuss during the appointment.

The Public Interest Job Search

Timing

Public interest employers hire based on their needs and budgetary considerations; the timetable differs for each employer. Some fortunate students will receive fellowships and job offers by winter or early spring, but most wait until job openings are posted later in the summer. Many LLM students continue searching for jobs after graduation, and many do volunteer internships after graduation to build their resumes and help position themselves to get paid work in the future.

To maximize your chances of success, we recommend that you start building contacts, networking, and taking advantage of opportunities to complete internships as early as possible in your LLM year. See immediately below for specific tips.

Steps to Take Now

There are a number of steps you can take while you are at NYU. We realize that this can be overwhelming, especially during the first semester as you start your LLM year. Any of these efforts you take are helpful, and the more you can fit in, the better.

- Think about what you want to do. Figure out your dream job but also have back-up plans.
- Keep your [CSM](#) and [PSJD](#) profiles current.
- Take advantage of opportunities to complete pro bono work during your LLM year. You can meet with [Carolina van der Mensbrugghe](#), Associate Director at PILC, to discuss [pro bono placements](#), or apply for placements listed on [CSM](#). This is a great way to get your foot in the door at a public interest organization and build U.S. experience to place on your resume for the post-graduation job search. It may also help you satisfy the pro bono requirement for admission to the New York State Bar ([see Appendix F](#)).
- Research post-graduate fellowships beginning in the fall semester and apply for any that appeal to you and for which you are qualified. Make sure to check for early application deadlines and **come to the LLM Post Graduate Fellowships Info Session on Tuesday, September 26, 2023, from 1pm to 2pm.** This fellowship session will give an overview of all NYU funded post-graduate fellowships available to LLMs. This session will also kick off the application cycle for the IFD/ILHR/ILC Fellowships. Please check [The Docket](#) for date/room information.
- Get involved in NYU student groups like the [International Law Society](#), or other student groups that focus on public interest work, such as [PILSA](#). This is a great way to get exposed to different issues and practice areas, meet other students with similar interests, and enhance your resume.
- Apply to be a research assistant for a professor. You might earn some money, add another job to your resume, and develop a good relationship with the professor—which may, in turn, lead to a recommendation for an internship or job.
- Consider doing an internship during the semester.
- Network, network, network! ([see section III of this Handbook](#))

Planning a Public Interest Job Search

Before you begin your job search, it helps to take time to reflect and identify your interests, goals, and requirements. Consider where you want to be, what type of work environment you enjoy, and what type of law you would like to practice. Some questions to ask are:

- Where do I want to be geographically? Do I want to return to my home country? Do I want to work in a developing country? Where am I eligible to become qualified as an attorney and authorized to work?
- Be sure to consider both short-term and long-term objectives. For example, some students want to work in a foreign country for a few years, and then settle in their home country or elsewhere.
- Do I want to work mainly in an office or out in the field? Do I prefer sitting at a computer all day or dealing with people? Do I prefer to work with indigent clients or communities, or mainly with other professionals?
- Do I want to litigate? If yes, in what kinds of courts?
- Do I want to do strictly legal work, or do I want to use my law degree to work on broader issues like conflict resolution or development policy?
- Do my current interests and background lead to any particular area of practice?
- What legal and/or work-related experiences have I found particularly enjoyable?

The answers to these questions will establish some boundaries within which to conduct your job search, and help you evaluate practice areas and settings.

The Bar Exam

If you hope to practice law in the United States, you will need to take the bar exam in the state where you work. Even if you do not practice law (e.g., a research or policy position) or you intend to work abroad, taking the New York State Bar Exam can be viewed as prestigious by some employers. PILC counselors would be happy to speak with you about this.

Remember that if you sit for the New York State Bar Exam, you will need to complete at least 50 hours of qualifying pro bono work to be admitted as an attorney. See the [PILC website](#) for more details of the rule and the types of pro bono work that count, and please contact [Carolina van der Mensbrugghe, Associate](#) Director at PILC, if you have any questions about fulfilling the requirement.

Working for the United Nations or another Intergovernmental Organization

There is no single path to get into the UN or other Intergovernmental Organization (IGO), and for many applicants it takes persistence and creativity, with a measure of luck. The UN is a vast organization with dozens of bodies, commissions, offices, agencies, and departments. Prospects for employment vary significantly depending on an applicant's professional and academic

background, as well as relevant foreign language ability, field work, and contacts. For this reason, if you are interested in an IGO career, take relevant courses during your LLM, develop research and writing skills (including publishing your work, if possible), complete an internship, attend conferences and networking events, be geographically flexible if you are able, and build relevant work experience (e.g., in an NGO, government agency, or law firm) to position yourself for an IGO career in the future.

You will find links to some structured IGO hiring programs below, as well as agency job sites in [Appendix B](#). When applying, it is best both to go through formal channels listed on the organization's website, and also to network within the organization to make sure your application is actually considered (and to see if there are any other openings).

Most agencies recruit interns, some through volunteer programs and others through paid internships. Some IGOs have a rule that interns cannot be hired as employees in the six months following completion of their internships. We recommend pursuing internships nonetheless, as they can still help position you to get a paid job later. Interning is a great way to get to know the agencies, prove yourself to potential employers, build your resume, and network.

Many UN agencies and IGOs have organized entry-level programs for young or junior professionals. These include programs for lawyers and programs for law-related positions that focus on development, human rights, refugee protection, etc. Some of these programs involve competitive exams, while others involve traditional application processes.

- **Young Professionals Programs:** YPPs are entry-level jobs – often two-year contracts – at various IGOs (e.g., UN Secretariat organizations, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNHCR, World Bank, IFC, OECD). These positions often have age limits, strict language and experience requirements, and can be limited to citizens of certain countries, usually under-represented member states. These programs are extremely competitive, and the process can be lengthy. For example, the competitive examination process for the UN Secretariat YPP can take up to two years.
- **Junior Professional Officer/Associate Expert Programs:** JPOs/AEs are sponsored by many member states of an IGO. The U.S. participates in a number of JPO/AE programs, including with the UN Secretariat organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the International Organization for Migration, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, and the World Food Program. Positions are advertised on an ad hoc basis, and these programs are very competitive. You should look into whether your home country participates in JPO/AE programs with organizations you are interested in.
- **National Program Officers:** Sometimes the UN chooses to recruit locally for jobs in certain countries, on the theory that residents of those countries will have a better understanding of the local context (e.g., seeking Vietnamese nationals for positions in Vietnam). These are UN-paid positions, but the pay scale may be different from the UN pay scale in

headquarters. National Program Officers are often strong candidates for regular UN hiring.

- **UN Volunteer Program:** For those interested in the UN, the [UNV program](#) is an excellent entry point. Volunteers frequently work in development assistance, peacekeeping, and humanitarian positions in developing countries. Despite its name, UNV positions can be relatively lengthy (six months or more) and participants receive a generous stipend and other benefits.

Outside of these formal channels, IGOs often hire professionals on a fixed-term or short-term contract basis. Networking is the best, and sometimes the only, way to find out about these opportunities. Contract and consultant positions are not always posted on their websites (and, conversely, jobs posted on their sites are not always really available – sometimes they have to post them even if they have an internal candidate in mind). After obtaining an initial contract position, it becomes easier to secure further opportunities.

Also look out for the [International Finance and Development \(IFD\) Fellowships](#), as well as the International Law and Human Rights (ILHR) Fellowships offered through NYU, which offer opportunities for LLM students to complete paid fellowships with certain IGOs (generally for a period of 10 to 12 weeks) after the completion of the LLM program. **Applications for the IFD Fellowships will be due on October 25, 2023, and an information session will be held on September 26, 2023.** ([See Section V below for more information](#)). Please check [The Docket](#) for any date/room change information. [ILHR Fellowship](#) applications will be due in late October as well. Please check the [CHRGJ](#) website for details and updates.

Working in the U.S. after Graduation

If you are a foreign trained LLM, now is the time to decide how long you intend to be in the United States. If you plan to be in the U.S. for a year or less, you should consider applying for fellowships and volunteer opportunities. If you are seeking paid employment, it may be a challenge to persuade a public interest employer to invest its resources in you if you do not have relevant experience or if you are not committed to the organization for the long term.

Check to see where you are eligible to sit for the bar exam and what you need to do to apply to take the exam. Requirements vary by state, and you may need to apply several months in advance (see [Appendix F](#) for eligibility state by state).

It can be difficult, or in some circumstances, impossible, to get public interest employers to sponsor a work visa, so be sure to investigate your visa requirements as well. PILC counselors can help you think about how to broach visa sponsorship with potential employers, but we are not qualified to give you visa advice. The [Office of Global Services at NYU](#) may be able to help with visa-related questions.

Marketing Yourself to American Employers

As a foreign-trained lawyer, you have many things to offer American employers: you may have years of prior legal experience, contacts from abroad, and foreign language skills. On the other hand, many American employers tend to focus on recruiting JD graduates for their background and experience in the U.S. context (and, as noted above, many employers are unfortunately not in a position to sponsor work visas for foreign nationals who lack work authorization).

The best way to make yourself marketable is to get your foot in the door, so that potential employers can see your knowledge and skills for themselves, and so that you can build American contacts to act as references for you. Ways of getting in the door include completing a clinic, a pro bono placement, or an internship. Network and build contacts as much as possible throughout your LLM year; apply for pro bono opportunities and NYU Law clinics offered to LLM students; and reach out to your professors for contacts and recommendations for job opportunities. You should also choose courses in your LLM that demonstrate that you have the substantive knowledge to work in a particular field. Domestic American employers are unlikely to view experience in a particular area in a foreign country (such as labor law) as giving you sufficient knowledge and grounding, on its own, to practice in the equivalent field in the United States.

American employers recruiting for domestic lawyers want to know that you have equivalent ability to a JD graduate. So make sure that your cover letters and resume conform to American expectations, highlight knowledge and skills that transcend national boundaries, and emphasize features that set you apart in a positive way (e.g., foreign language skills or cultural knowledge relevant to the employer's work). We also encourage you to meet with a PILC counselor for a mock interview so that you can be prepared for differences in interview style and format as compared with your home country. More information on cover letters and resumes is set out in [Section IV of this Handbook](#).

Job Search Resources

Once you begin to look for a post-graduate job, identify the resources you will regularly consult to obtain current job listings. A number of websites will allow you to create a profile that facilitates a listing of jobs to be automatically e-mailed to you. See [Appendix B](#) for a list of web sites for international job searches and [Appendix C](#) for a list of web sites for domestic jobs.

- **CSM:** Because PILC uses the [CSM](#) system to communicate with you by email, it is important for you to register. Remember to check off “public interest” and keep your personal profile updated. You will also find internship, pro bono, and other job opportunities posted here.
- **Public Service Jobs Directory:** PSJD is a near-comprehensive database of public interest legal organizations and opportunities in the U.S., and some around the world. To access the database, register on the [PSJD website](#). You may use the database while you are in law school and after you graduate. You can search the database by geographic region,

type of organization, and practice area. If you would like to receive e-mails informing you of job listings that match your interests, set up email alerts. PSJD will then automatically send you notice of opportunities that match the criteria you submit.

- **The PILC Website:** [PILC's Career Resource Page](#) and the [Postgraduate Fellowship page](#) has links for international and domestic public interest jobs and fellowships.

Networking

Networking is the process of meeting people to gain information; it is valuable both in finding out about opportunities and in securing a job and can be done in person or virtually. Networking is helpful for any job search, but it is especially important for public interest jobs.

Please don't assume that networking is not necessary for you. In some countries, networking is not as important as it is in the United States, and you may not have needed to network in order to secure a job in your home country. But networking is indeed important if you are seeking work in the United States or in international public interest law abroad.

If you feel uncomfortable about networking or find it difficult to adjust to the cultural style of networking in the United States, don't worry. Many people are in the same boat as you, and the good news is that networking gets easier with practice.

Finding People to Network With

Many students, when they put their minds to it, realize that they already know lots of people to network with. You'll also have opportunities to meet and network with many more people at NYU Law.

- Who do you know? Don't be shy about contacting current and past employers, college professors, relatives, family friends, and friends of friends. Even if you know them in a social context, it's ok to talk about work. And if you feel awkward since you haven't been in touch for a while, dropping a note to let them know what you have been doing and that you've started law school is a great way to bridge that gap.
- Faculty: Many NYU faculty members have excellent connections in their fields. Talk to them – they really do want to help you and will enjoy getting to know you. They are sometimes contacted by employers looking to hire students or recent graduates and they can only help you if they know what you are looking for.
- Speakers at NYU: Dozens of public interest lawyers come to speak at the Law School every year, many of them NYU alumni, and they usually appreciate meeting students interested in their work when they are here.
- NYU Public Interest Legal Career Fair: Representatives from over 200 public interest organizations will be participating in the PILC Fair in February, so take advantage. The sole purpose of Table Talk is for employers to network with students.
- NYU alumni: NYU alumni work in public interest organizations throughout the country and the world, and many are eager to help students. A select list of alumni from the NYU LLM program, who now work in public interest, is located in [Appendix E](#). Each person on the list has agreed to be a point of contact for current LLM students interested in their

career path. You can also ask a PILC counselor for help identifying alumni working in your areas of interest, or search for NYU alumni on LinkedIn.com. To that end, join the PILC group on LinkedIn and also the NYU Law Alumni group.

- Other lawyers from your home country working in New York or in the same field can also be a great resource. Don't feel shy about contacting family friends who may have relevant jobs or contacts. Talk to the legal adviser or a diplomat at your country's embassy (in NY or mission to the UN). Connections with government officials in your home country can be a big help if they are willing to put a word in for you when you apply to intergovernmental organizations or for government positions.
- It is more difficult, but you can also network with people you don't know personally or who don't necessarily have an NYU connection. Here are a few ways to identify people to network with:
 - Join bar associations, thematic organizations or other professional groups. Most of them have discounted student rates and their members are usually eager to help law students. Becoming a student member of a bar association is an excellent way to increase your knowledge and make contacts. Membership entitles you to various benefits, including the opportunity to be appointed as a student member of a committee, and looks good on your resume.

[New York City Bar Association](#): \$50 LLM student memberships (but most events are free and open to the public)

[New York State Bar Association](#): Complimentary basic law student memberships and \$45 premium law student memberships.

[New York County Lawyers' Association](#): Complimentary student memberships

- Attend conferences and seminars, virtually or in person, on issues you are studying or interested in, and stay for the break out room, coffee break, luncheon, or reception. This is a great way to get to know others interested in the same topics. Ask for people's business cards and send them an email to follow up, if only to tell them you enjoyed meeting them. Consider attending International Law Weekend, held every fall in New York (see the [American Branch of the International Law Association](#) for details).
- When all else fails, look at the staff list on an organization's website or check who is quoted on a particular topic in news articles, and try writing to someone you don't know at all. Tell them how you found their name or what interests you about the work they are doing. They will probably be impressed and flattered that you went to so much effort to find them.

Approaching Contacts

Think in terms of building relationships. Never ask someone to get you a job. Let them know what you are interested in, ask them about their job and the path that brought them there, and get their advice on how to break into their line of work. Most people like to talk about their work, and even busy people can spare ten minutes.

The best approach is usually to send a short email introducing yourself and asking if the person would be willing to spend 10-15 minutes speaking with you by phone to discuss their field of work. Be sure to mention how you found them. Attach your resume for the person's reference, but remember—you are not asking for a job, but simply for advice. Here is an example:

Dear Ms. Hernandez,

I am a Chilean attorney and a current student in the LLM program at NYU School of Law. The NYU Public Interest Law Center recommended that I contact you to discuss my interest in international development. I have a background in fair trade advocacy and have been conducting research into economic development issues in my courses at NYU. I wonder if you might be willing to take ten or fifteen minutes to speak with me by phone about your career and work at the World Trade Organization? If so, please let me know a few good times to reach you. I have attached my resume for your reference.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Benjamin

Before you call or meet someone, prepare an introduction. This should be about 30 seconds long and include key details to set the context: that you are an NYU Law student, how you got their name, and what you are interested in. You may also want to tell them a little more about yourself, for example if you have done relevant work before or during law school. End the introduction with a question about their work and career path; remember, the art of conversation is asking questions. Practice your introduction so you feel and sound confident. If on the phone, pay attention to speed and volume of your speech, and be sure to sound upbeat.

Some good questions include:

- Please tell me about your career path.
- What do you like best about your work?
- What are some of the challenges?
- What is a typical day like?
- What advice do you have for someone like me who would like to pursue a career in your field?

- Do you know of any organizations that might need interns or be hiring in the coming months?

Always ask who else you should contact before you end the conversation. Next, you can contact those people and you will already be able to name drop and point to a connection when you contact them (e.g., “Janice Kim at the United Nations suggested I contact you. I am currently an LLM at NYU Law and I am very interested in international criminal law...”).

What to do if the Person Does Not Respond

Don’t worry! In most cases, if someone does not respond it is usually simply because they are too busy. You should not take this personally – they can’t have something against you when they have never even met you.

If you really want to talk to them, try once more. In your next email, it may help to acknowledge that you know that they are very busy and let them know that you would be grateful if they could speak with you for just a few moments, or ask them who else you should contact if they do not have time to talk to you. If they still don’t respond, then so be it – you’ll just have to move on to other contacts.

Following Up

Don’t forget to thank people who have helped you. If you talk on the phone, a short thank you email is sufficient. However, if someone spends more than an hour with you (such as over a lunch break), it is nice to send a handwritten note.

Also, follow up on their advice. Check in periodically by sending key contacts a brief email message updating them about your career—where you are working over the summer, how your summer internship went, etc.—and hopefully they will let you know when they are hiring or know of a job for which you may be well-suited.

Resumes, Cover Letters, and Interviews

What to Include in a Job Application

Job applications typically include a well-drafted cover letter and resume (similar to a CV). The resume, with the cover letter, presents you to potential employers as a suitable candidate for a position. It will also be the basis for your interviews; the resume is generally used as a “conversation starter.”

In some situations, the resume and cover letter may be the only example of your written work that the hiring organization ever sees.

Differences between a Resume and CV

A resume is a summary of your education and employment that highlights your best qualities. The main objective of your resume is to convince an employer to hire you. A resume is often shorter and more compact than a CV; your resume should probably be only one or one and a half pages long, although public interest resumes can go onto two pages if you have significant work experience or a number of publications. Resumes do not include photos or personal information such as age or marital status.

Certain countries have different conventions about resumes, such as appropriate length and level of detail to include. PILC staff members are mainly familiar with practices of American organizations, which are common in many international organizations as well. However, if you are interested in a particular job market, you should also find out if different customs apply there.

What to Include in a Public Interest Resume

A resume is often skimmed, not read. A successful resume is neat, well-organized, quickly highlights the skills and experiences you want to market, and guides the employer to your strengths during an interview.

Resumes are organized in reverse chronological order. Make sure that your resume is concise, error free, easy to read, and has consistent formatting (believe it or not, sometimes people do not get an interview because of a typographical error in their resume). It is also a good idea to ask a colleague, or a PILC counselor, to proofread your resume, as it is often easier to spot mistakes with a fresh set of eyes.

The public interest resume is similar in many respects to a private sector resume. However, in addition to listing your education, skills, and experience, the public interest resume should demonstrate your commitment to the field. Your enthusiasm for public interest can come across through your academic accomplishments, previous jobs, volunteer experience, internships, and publications.

Choose strong, active verbs in the descriptions of your experience, such as “drafted,” “presented,” “coordinated,” and “researched” (rather than vague descriptions like “assisted” or “involved in”). Remember, however, that your resume is a *factual* summary; resist the temptation to editorialize your experience with statements like “Effectively balanced competing priorities in a high-pressure environment.” Such evaluative judgments can be saved for the cover letter.

Consider highlighting:

- Public service employment
- Practical skills such as research, organizing, client interviewing, drafting, analysis, oral advocacy, negotiation, etc.
- Experience in substantive legal areas such as environmental law or human rights
- Volunteer and pro bono work
- Clinical experience at NYU Law
- Professional and public service affiliations
- Bar admissions where you are qualified to practice
- Language skills
- Publications

[The PILC website](#) has some examples of real LLM public interest resumes. Feel free to copy the style and structure of the examples as you prepare your own.

What to Include in a Public Interest Cover Letter

The cover letter provides prospective employers with their first exposure to you and thus, like your resume, it should demonstrate your commitment to (or interest in) public service and the work of the employer.

A successful cover letter is addressed to a particular person, starts with an introductory paragraph that identifies you and the position you seek, continues with one or two paragraphs that describe your qualifications, skills and interests, and concludes with an invitation to contact you. Unless the organization is very well known, it is also important to demonstrate that you know something about its work. *Do not forget to include an email, address, and telephone number where you can be reached!*

Address your cover letter to the hiring attorney or recruiter by name if you know who he or she is. Otherwise, you can use general forms of address, such as “To Whom It May Concern:” or “Dear Hiring Committee:”.

In the introductory paragraph, identify yourself and the specific position you seek. Mention how you learned of the position or organization; if you have a personal contact who recommended that you apply, mention this too.

The second and third paragraphs should demonstrate why the employer should hire you. This need not be chronological. Rather, you should synthesize your past experiences to demonstrate that you have the skills they seek. Have you worked in similar situations before? What prior experiences have helped you develop useful, relevant skills? Have you written papers or taken courses on topics relevant to the employer's work?

When drafting the body of your cover letter, don't merely restate what is listed on your resume. The cover letter is an opportunity to analyze how your experience is useful for this particular employer and to illustrate your personal involvement and enthusiasm with the subject area. For example, instead of "In 2014, I worked as a judge's clerk at the Constitutional Court of South Africa, where I conducted research and drafting," consider: "While serving as a judge's clerk at the Constitutional Court of South Africa, I honed my skills in research and drafting, and developed a passion for indigenous rights."

The final paragraph is the conclusion. If you are responding to an open position, the conclusion should state your interest in arranging an interview to discuss the position, and how the employer can contact you. (After you have submitted a cover letter and resume, if you do not hear back from the prospective employer within two or three weeks, you should followup.)

In most cases the whole cover letter should fit on one page. [The PILC website](#) has some examples of real LLM public interest cover letters to guide you as you prepare your own. There is a short video on [how to draft](#) and [edit a cover letter](#) available on the PILC website as well.

Common Pitfalls to Avoid

The most common mistake students make when writing cover letters is describing only why the job would be perfect for them but not how the student can contribute to the organization's mission. Rather than discussing how a job with the employer fits into *your* goals, you should use the cover letter to explain how you can help *them*. Describe the qualifications, skills, and interests that make you stand out.

Some employers, especially in the U.S., are not used to hiring LLM students and some may not know what the LLM is. If you think this might be the case for a particular employer, you should include some language to set them at ease: explain that you are already a qualified attorney and are doing an additional masters in law, or that you are planning to sit for the relevant bar exam (if you are eligible).

Summary of Cover Letter and Resume Tips

- ✓ Proofread every document – do not rely solely on spell check, as it does not catch every mistake.
- ✓ If English is not your first language, have a native English speaker proofread your materials again.

- ✓ If applying to an American employer, try to make your application as “American” as you can. While you should of course include experience that you have gained overseas, you should bring to the forefront any knowledge and skills you have developed in the U.S. context, and any American contacts that are willing to act as references. Even smoothing out little details can help, for example: use American spelling, grammar, and punctuation (rather than, e.g., British), and avoid terms and expressions that would be unfamiliar to an American reader. Sometimes it is tricky to know what would be unfamiliar, so getting an American friend or PILC counselor to read the document for you can help.
- ✓ Use the same header and font consistently throughout both the cover letter and resume. Make sure this is a normal size font – no smaller than 10.5 point and no larger than 12.
- ✓ Use the same abbreviations throughout the cover letter and resume.
- ✓ Delete long-winded or unnecessary constructions. For example, “worked by assisting professor with research” can be edited to “researched”.

Resume Tips

- ✓ Never use the first person (“I”).
- ✓ Start every sentence with an action verb and be specific when describing job functions, cases worked on, research areas, and documents drafted.
- ✓ Organize entries in reverse chronological order.
- ✓ Be consistent in formatting dates and in your use of commas, bold, italics, hyphens, and small capitals.
- ✓ If relevant, use the correct Blue Book form of journals or publications.

Cover Letter Tips

- ✓ Include your contact information in the header, especially email address and telephone number.
- ✓ Make sure that the name of the organization and the contact person are spelled correctly. If you are unsure of the contact person’s gender, search for them on Google, or call the organization to confirm. If unable to confirm, write “Dear [First Name] [Last Name]” in lieu of “Mr. /Ms. Last Name.”
- ✓ Use minimal space discussing your reasons for wanting to work with a particular organization and focus instead on your experiences and skills.

- ✓ Vary your word choices and the structure of your sentences to avoid repeated rhythm. Do not start every sentence with “I” and ensure that you are not using the same words over and over.
- ✓ Spell words out in full; avoid using abbreviations or contractions such as “I’ve” or “asap.”
- ✓ Make sure that the cover letter flows smoothly and that your transitions between sentences and paragraphs make sense. Each paragraph should have a discernible theme.

Where to Learn More about U.S.-Style Resumes and Cover Letters

PILC recommends that you consult the OCS publication, the “[LLM Job Search Resources Handbook](#),” for a detailed overview of how to draft American resumes and cover letters.

However, as a public interest job search is quite distinct from a private sector search, we also encourage you to meet with a PILC counselor before you send your resume and cover letters to potential public interest employers. We ask that you put your resume into NYU format before scheduling your appointment.

References and Recommendations

Most employers will ask you for two or three references. References are people who know you well and have supervised you, who can tell the employer more about you, and ideally talk up your strengths and why you are right for the job. You can ask NYU professors, professors from previous universities, and former supervisors and colleagues to serve as references. Employers may ask for references early on, but they rarely contact them unless you are a finalist for a position. If your references know someone at the organization where you are applying or if they are very enthusiastic about helping you, they might want to contact the employer proactively by emailing or calling on your behalf.

Applications for fellowships and other very competitive positions sometimes require you to submit letters of recommendation. In this case, you may ask some of the same people to write a letter on your behalf. Recommendation letters in the U.S. tend to be very detailed, strong, and positive. Sometimes, recommenders will ask you to draft a letter for them to sign. If not, you may need to tell them what is expected in this context; a letter stating simply that you worked for an organization and did satisfactory work could actually hurt you, as it would be perceived as mediocre. So you should not be shy or modest! As always, PILC counselors are available to help you through this process.

Transcripts and Writing Samples

If an employer asks for grades, or if your grades are strong, you may also include an unofficial transcript. Instructions for preparing an unofficial transcript are in the “J.D. /LL.M. Unofficial Transcript Addendum” in the Document Library section of [CSM](#). NYU policy prohibits you from

preparing any unofficial transcript other than the one generated by Albert, which you can access through NYU Home.

Many employers request a writing sample as part of the application process. Writing samples may demonstrate legal writing skills or non-legal writing skills, depending on the position for which you are applying. A writing sample can also demonstrate strong English proficiency. A good length for a writing sample is generally 5-10 pages, though some employers may prefer even shorter pieces. If you use an excerpt from an original document that is longer than 10 pages, include a note at the top of the writing sample to explain the context, i.e., that it is an excerpt from a longer piece of writing.

Interviewing

An articulate, confident, professional first impression is a key component of achieving success in searching for a job. PILC counselors are happy to conduct mock interviews with you to help you prepare for a public interest interview. Students find these practice interviews incredibly helpful, and say they feel much more confident after doing them. This is especially true for students who have never interviewed in the United States before.

Prepare for a job interview by learning as much as possible about the organization, its work, and its attorneys. Employers want to hire applicants who are enthusiastic about working for them, and genuine enthusiasm comes from knowledge. Thoroughly review the organization's website, read about their program areas, and skim through recent publications or press releases. Search the organization's name in Westlaw and LexisNexis to find case decisions and news reports. It is wise to ask for the names of the people who will interview you so that you can research them as well. The more you know, the more comfortable you will feel and the more effective you will be.

Think about answers to basic questions they are likely to ask, such as "why are you interested in this job" and "tell me how your professional background relates to this position," and make sure that you have good concise answers. Expect questions including "what are your strengths and weaknesses" and "where do you see yourself in five or ten years"

Review your resume carefully and be prepared to speak fluently about every item. You never know which part of your resume may catch the interviewer's eye, and you do not want to struggle to remember what they're referring to. Also review the job description carefully, especially any highlighted skills that the employer is looking for. You will want to find a way of weaving those skills into your interview answers.

Most employers end interviews by asking if you have any questions for them. Be prepared and think of one or two questions about their work, the interviewer's background, or the hiring process.

Behavioral Interviews

A behavioral interview is sometimes used by public interest employers. It is based on the belief that the best predictor of future performance is past behavior. Behavioral interview questions often begin with phrases such as “tell me about a time when you...” or “describe a situation when you...” These questions are looking for specific examples of behavior that demonstrate important qualities. For example, if the employer seeks someone who is able to manage competing priorities and deadlines, a behavioral interview question will ask for a specific example of a time you have done that in a previous job.

The best way to prepare for this type of interview is to think of examples of the concrete challenges you have faced and successes you have had in previous jobs, internships, and clinics. The examples you choose should suggest to the employer that you are mature, reflective, and skillful in resolving problems and overcoming obstacles.

Presentation and Style

A suit is favored for interviews. If you do not have a suit, conservative professional attire can suffice. Pay attention to personal hygiene, and ensure that you smile and make adequate eye contact. You want the interviewer to focus on your answers, not on your appearance.

Special Tips for a Virtual Interview

For virtual interviews, all of the aforementioned applies. There are also several extra tips to remember:

- Be especially concise, because it is easy to keep talking for too long without the in-person cues that the interviewer is satisfied or ready to move on;
- If the interview is over the phone, smile even though they can't see you, as it will make your voice sound enthusiastic;
- For phone interviews it is also recommended to stand up, so your voice will project more energy and enthusiasm;
- Ensure your phone or computer is charged and that the area you are in has good reception; and
- Make sure your environment is free of noisy distractions, such as a barking dog in the background. If you are unable to interview in a private space, let your interviewer know that there may be interruptions by children, pets, or outside noise.
- If you are physically on campus and need a quiet place to conduct an interview, please contact the PILC/OCS receptionist and they will try to find a space for you.

Salary, Hours, and Benefits

An interview is not the time for you to bring up issues of pay, working hours, or employee benefits unless the employer asks you about those items. The best time to discuss this is after an employer makes you an offer.

Interview Follow Up

You should email a thank you note shortly after an interview. A thank you note provides an opportunity to reinforce your enthusiasm, skills, and knowledge, as well as to address any problem areas or issues that were not adequately addressed in the interview. For example, after you say how much you enjoyed meeting them, etc., you could address any concerns with something like “I’m not sure I explained/emphasized well enough [my litigation experience]...”

It is best to email individual thank you notes to everyone you met, so ask for business cards. Email is recommended because it can arrive within hours after the interview and can be easily forwarded around an office. Check the spelling of the interviewers’ names before you hit send.

Fellowships and Internships

Post-Graduate Fellowships

Fellowships are limited-term positions in public interest organizations, ranging in time from a few months to two years. They are prestigious, and are often great entry-level positions that lead to future employment. Fellowships are also a good option if you decide to forego a search for a permanent position and want to seek a project of limited duration.

There are two main types of fellowships, project fellowships and organization fellowships. Project fellowships are those where you create a project at a host organization and then apply, with the organization as your sponsor, to the donor (note: some project fellowships have deadlines in early fall, and expect you to have already secured a sponsoring host organization over the summer). Organization fellowships are those where a public interest organization like Human Rights Watch, the American Civil Liberties Union, or Natural Resources Defense Council, hires a recent law graduate for one or two years.

Where to Find Fellowships

The first place you should look for fellowships is [PILC's Fellowship Handbook](#), where you will find information on selected fellowships, and resources to help you prepare applications. Two other sources for information on international fellowships and funding opportunities are [PSJD](#) and the [Candid](#). These resources contain information about a number of international fellowships, but few of them are geared towards law students, and many have narrow eligibility criteria (e.g., children of refugees or immigrants, citizens of certain countries, alumni of a particular school, etc.)

There is also a list of selected international fellowships in the International Public Interest Handbook, [available on the PILC website](#), and in hard copy at the PILC office.

NYU Post-Graduate Fellowships for LLMS

The following NYU-funded post-graduate fellowship programs are open to LLMS. There will be an information session covering fellowships open to LLMS on September 26, 2023 from 1pm to 2pm. Please check [The Docket](#) for date/room information. More details on the larger programs follow below, but here is a brief overview:

- [International Finance & Development Fellowship](#) (IFD) with selected international development organizations, such as the World Bank and the OECD.
 - *Application Deadline: October 25 2023 at 11:59pm EST. Check website for more details.*
- [International Law & Human Rights Fellowship](#) (ILHR) with selected NGOs and UN human rights offices in the U.S. and around the world and with the UN International Law Commission in Geneva.

- *Application Deadline:* November 6, 2023. Check the [Center for Human Rights and Global Justice website](#) for more details.
- **[LLM Public Interest Fellowship](#)**: Two Fellows will be selected to do 12 weeks of work at a host organization of their choice. Eligible host organizations include non-profit organizations, intergovernmental organizations, and government agencies in the United States or abroad.
 - *Application Deadline:* Monday, March 25, 2024.
- **[International Court of Justice Judicial Fellow Programme](#)**: NYU sponsors one student or alumni each year, usually an LLM, to complete a clerkship with a judge of the ICJ in The Hague.
 - *Application Deadline:* January 19, 2024 at 12pm EST. Check [the Docket](#) regularly for updates.
- **[Arthur Helton Global Human Rights Fellowship](#)**: This fellowship supports up to two graduating students annually who have demonstrated a commitment to pursuing a career in international human rights law, and who have designed sound proposals for work at a host organization in the developing world. Applicants are invited to design projects that put their legal education to work on timely issues in countries where their efforts are most needed and where there are insufficient resources for human rights protection. The fellowship will provide a modest salary for one year and will cover health insurance and travel costs for graduates to work closely with their chosen host organization.
 - *Application Deadline:* February 23, 2024 at 12pm EST.
- **[Equal Justice Initiative of Alabama](#)**: This fellowship for recent graduates presents a terrific opportunity to work at the [Equal Justice Initiative](#) in Montgomery, Alabama for two years with Professor Bryan Stevenson. The work involves death-penalty appeals, civil rights litigation aimed at reforming the criminal justice system, community based initiatives dealing with juveniles and people with mental disabilities, and other litigation and policy work.
 - Check [EJI's website](#) for up to date deadline information.
- **[Robert L. Bernstein Fellowship in International Human Rights](#)**: **The Bernstein Fellowship** provides an opportunity for a recent graduate to spend one year doing human rights advocacy work at [Human Rights in China](#) in its New York or Hong Kong office. Applications are traditionally accepted in the fall, but the deadline may be in the spring 2024. See the [PILC website](#) and [PILC's Fellowship Handbook](#) for a comprehensive list and further details, and make sure you check [the Docket](#) regularly for announcements regarding deadlines and how to apply.

International Finance and Development Fellowships

The International Finance and Development Fellowships (IFD) are coordinated by PILC, and current full-time LLM students at NYU Law are eligible to apply. The fellowship program is designed to complement students' international legal education in a range of areas including finance, development, and public international law, through practice experience. The main component of the IFD Fellowship is a post-graduation internship at an international organization for a minimum of 10-12 weeks.

This year NYU expects to select approximately 14 IFD Fellows through a competitive process starting in October 2023. If you are offered the fellowship you must accept, so consider your interest carefully before you apply.

Confirmation of fellowship placement sites for 2024 graduates is still in process, but among the institutions and organizations being considered are:

- European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)
- International Development Law Organization (IDLO)
- International Finance Corporation (IFC)
- International Energy Agency (IEA)
- International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)
- International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- World Bank

Applications will be available online and will also be distributed during an information session on September 26, 2023. **The IFD application is due on October 25, 2023 at 11:59PM EST. Please check [The Docket](#) for any updated application due date information.** For further information about the program, please visit the [PILC website](#).

International Law and Human Rights Fellowship

The ILHR Fellowship Program is coordinated by the Center for Human Rights and Global Justice (CHRGJ) in cooperation with the Institute for International Law and Justice (IILJ). The program is open to full-time JD (1L and 2L), LLM, and JSD students who will be selected through a competitive process in early spring. Ten placements will be dedicated to LLM students.

The Fellowship Program is designed to enhance students' legal education in international law and human rights, through practice experience and scholarship. The Fellowship Program has three main components: a summer or fall internship at an organization working in human rights or international law, preparatory seminars in the spring semester, and an academic research paper on a topic selected by the student working with a faculty advisor that, for most fellows, is due in October of the subsequent academic year. If you are offered the fellowship you must accept, so consider your interest carefully before you apply.

This program is designed to provide NYU Law students with the opportunity to gain education in the theory and practice of international and human rights law with well-regarded international organizations.

Fellowships will last a minimum of 10 weeks, and some will require 12 weeks of work. If you are interested in internships at placement sites within the Fellowship Program, you must apply through this Program. Because NYU has made special placement arrangements with these organizations, these placements are only available to NYU students through this program.

An information session is scheduled for September 26, 2023 and more information on applications will be provided at that time. Please check [The Docket](#) for any date/room change information. Applications will be due in mid-October and interviews will be conducted at the end of October/early November. For further information about the program, and to check the application deadline, go to the [CHRGJ website](#).

Opportunities with the World Bank

In addition to the IFD Fellowship for NYU students, the Legal Vice Presidency of the World Bank recruits graduates from various global law schools for the Legal Analyst Program (LAP) (formerly known as the Legal Associates Program), a three-year appointment. Candidates may not be older than 32 years of age, and the World Bank usually requires a minimum of one year and maximum of two years' prior legal work experience. Duties include legal research, comparative legal analysis, drafting of legal documents, and legal support of ongoing projects. The program provides invaluable opportunities for students interested in international development. Even though the World Bank did not run LAP the past couple of years due to budgetary restraints, the program may be reintroduced this year. Please check the World Bank's website for updated information and speak with [Carolina van der Mensbrugghe](#) at PILC.

How to Apply for Fellowships

1. Do a search on [PSJD](#) to identify the fellowships that fit the area of practice you would like to pursue.
2. Thoroughly research the requirements of each fellowship and the organization, in order to find out everything you can about them and ensure you meet the eligibility criteria. Check each organization's website. For project fellowships, research the previous projects that have been funded, available on their websites.
3. Network with people who might be familiar with the organization or the fellowship: recent NYU graduates who have received fellowships, faculty members, a PILC counselor, or former employers. Feel free to also contact the organization directly with questions.
4. For project fellowships, make ties with organizations.
 - a) You might apply to work with an organization that you have already worked with, but

- you need not be confined by this.
- b) Secure a sponsoring host organization. (Make sure that the organization is not sponsoring someone else for the same fellowship.)
 - c) Develop a project proposal with members of the organization.
5. Request recommendations.
- a) Request letters early from your recommenders. Alert them as to when you will be giving them your application materials and the date by which you need their letters.
 - b) Some programs specify the people from whom your letters of recommendation should come. If not, there are likely two types of letters you should get:
 - Law School Professors: If possible, get a letter from a clinic professor or another professor who is very familiar with you and your work.
 - Employers: A letter from an employer who saw the full range of your work abilities is best. Try to find someone who can speak to your research, writing and oral advocacy skills. If developing a community education project, try to find someone who can discuss your teaching and organizing skills. Do not assume that a committee will be most impressed with the most prestigious sounding employer on your resume. It is better to ask someone who can be your best advocate.
6. For project fellowships, write essays.
- a) Address the client needs and specifics of how you will accomplish your goals.
 - b) You (and your project sponsor) should explain the qualification of the sponsoring organization and emphasize the supervision you will receive, as fellowship organizations are very concerned that fellows receive excellent training.
7. For organization fellowships, write a careful cover letter, explaining how your past experience (extracurricular activities, clinics, journals, publications, moot court, internships etc.) makes you a valuable candidate.
8. Compile your application, including letters of recommendation, and apply on time (but there is usually no advantage to applying early).

Prepare for an interview by learning everything you can about the organization and the fellowship. Learn about the specific work of the organization by reading its website, doing a Lexis/Westlaw search on cases, and a Google search for news articles.

Fellowship interviews can be demanding, so expect hypotheticals and substantive questions and be prepared to discuss your interest on more than a general level. For example, some organizations ask you to choose any legal issue of interest to you and present it to them. Others might ask you to outline how you would research a hypothetical issue in the area that they work in. Be prepared also for hypotheticals that require you to use your knowledge of the broad range of lawyering strategies. We highly recommend you meet with a PILC counselor to do a mock interview.

Internships and How to Get One

An internship involves working for an organization, much like an apprentice. Hundreds of public interest organizations in New York hire interns, and many give interns substantive work and rely on them to fulfill their missions. Public interest internships are often unpaid, but most employers try to ensure that it is a valuable experience. If you do good work as an intern, an organization is more likely to hire you when they have an opening for a paid position. Internships help you gain skills, make contacts, demonstrate your commitment, and develop a good reputation. Indeed, many public interest employers will expect you to have some internship experience before they would consider hiring you.

To apply for an internship, you should send a resume and a cover letter. You can respond to a posting on [CSM](#), [PSJD](#), [Idealist](#) or elsewhere, or simply write to organizations that interest you – sometimes they do not post that they need an intern but that doesn't mean they wouldn't like to have one.

In your cover letter, you should let them know that you are an LLM student at NYU (and explain what the LLM is if they might not know), that you are willing to volunteer as an intern, that you have relevant skills to make a contribution to their work, that you are committed to their mission, and explain why you are enthusiastic about working with them.

Interning During the School Year

If you feel that you can devote at least one full day or two half-days per week without jeopardizing your studies, then you should definitely consider doing a term-time internship.

We sometimes advise LLMs to wait until the spring semester to intern, after you have been through a semester of classes and exams and have a better sense of how much time you could devote to an internship, especially if English is not your first language. But if you are feeling ready and want to maximize your chances of success in a post-graduate job search, it is never too early to do an internship.

Interning after Graduation or the Bar Exam

We would all prefer for you to find a permanent, paid position straight away. However, despite best efforts, this may not be the case for everyone. We recommend you first try to obtain a paid job, but that you should consider interning if you do not find one. In this case, the internship will be a big help to you in your job search.

If your interest is shorter term (e.g., you plan to spend a year or so in the U.S. before going back home, to do public interest for a while before starting at a law firm, etc.), you should consider interning because it may be harder for you to find a paid job.

Pro Bono Service

Pro Bono Work

Pro bono work is legal work performed for a client who does not pay a fee. Typically, pro bono work is performed for low-income individuals who cannot afford access to legal representation, or for non-profit organizations. However, under the New York State Bar rules (see below), other types of work, such as for governmental agencies or judges, can also qualify as pro bono work.

Although pro bono clients do not pay a fee, they are entitled to exactly the same quality of service as a fee-paying client. Organizations that provide free legal services take their responsibilities extremely seriously, and expect their volunteers to uphold all the ordinary standards of professionalism that apply to paid work.

Pro Bono Requirement for the NYS Bar

Everyone who applies for admission to the New York State Bar is required to file an affidavit showing that they have performed at least fifty hours of pro bono service. The full text of the rule and a [Frequently Asked Questions](#) document can be found on the [New York State Courts website](#).

The aim of the pro bono requirement is to fill the significant gaps in access to justice that affect low-income and disadvantaged people, so we encourage you to seek opportunities with organizations that directly assist such clients.

What Qualifies as Pro Bono Work

- Pro bono work must be law-related and supervised by an attorney.
- Internships with a broad range of organizations including legal services providers, public defender and prosecutor offices, not-for-profit organizations, state, local, or federal government agencies or legislative bodies, and judges or court systems, can count. In order to qualify, the work you do must be “law-related” and properly supervised.
- Pro bono work can be completed before the LLM program commences (but most LLMs can only count work completed up to one year prior to commencing the LLM program), during the LLM program school year, or after completion of the LLM program and the Bar exam (but before application for admission, which usually occurs around October/November at the earliest, if you take the July Bar exam).
- Pro bono work done abroad can qualify if it otherwise meets the definition of eligible pro bono work specified in the rule. You will be asked to explain the nature and circumstances of the work in detail.

- Pro bono work at a law firm can qualify if no fee is being paid, and the work is duly supervised and law related.
- Some NYU Law clinics can count (although students who need the LLM for New York Bar eligibility should note that not all NYU clinics count toward the 24 credits you will need to earn as part of the LLM degree).
- You are allowed to receive funding or academic credit for work you do to satisfy the requirement.

What Does Not Qualify as Pro Bono Work

- Scholarly research, such as academic research for a professor or work for a law journal or publication.
- Student-supervised pro bono work (for example, work done through NYU's Suspension Representation Project, does not qualify because students are not supervised by an attorney).
- Community service that is not law-related, such as teaching English.
- Language translation or interpretation services.

Getting Credit for the Hours You Complete

You will be required to complete the [affidavit form](#), including certification by your attorney supervisor, for each qualifying pro bono project that you do. If you complete several projects, but they are all for the one organization, you only need one affidavit.

You can find the affidavit form, along with [Rule 520.16](#) of the Rules of the Court of Appeals which explains the new requirements, and [Frequently Asked Questions](#), on the New York State Courts website.

NYU Assistance in Finding Pro Bono Opportunities

NYU Law sources opportunities for LLM students to complete their pro bono requirement, which are posted to [CSM](#) (instructions on how to find pro bono opportunities on CSM can be found at the bottom of [PILC's Pro Bono page](#)). Students are encouraged to meet with [Carolina van der Mensbrugghe, Associate Director](#) at PILC, for advice on identifying and applying for opportunities.

In addition to the placements on CSM, you can find pro bono work through your own contacts, or on websites such as [PSJD.org](#) and [ProBonoNet](#). You can even reach out directly to organizations that interest you and see if you can volunteer with them. However, be careful when

finding your own opportunities to make sure that the work will meet the definition of qualifying pro bono specified in the rule and FAQ document (see above).

Determining Which Pro Bono Placements Are Right for You

As you read through the pro bono placement descriptions posted on [CSM](#) or elsewhere, consider these questions: Which organization does work that I care about the most? What area of law would I like to learn more about? Which clients do I want to assist? You should also consider how the pro bono placement will fit around your course schedule; only sign up for an opportunity if you are certain that you will be able to meet the time commitment specified in the placement description.

Do not feel discouraged or deterred if you have no experience in the areas of law covered by the pro bono placements. Unless otherwise indicated on the description in CSM, the organizations do not expect any prior knowledge or experience—they just want caring, committed people to help their clients. Think of it as an opportunity to learn something interesting and new.

Please also feel free to [make an appointment](#) with Carolina van der Mensbrugge in PILC to discuss your pro bono options and figure out what will suit you best.

How to Apply for Pro Bono Placements

Each pro bono placement posted to [CSM](#) will have instructions on how to apply. For some, it is as simple as signing up to a training session. For others, the organization requires you to prepare a cover letter and apply for the placement the same way as for a paid position, which may include attending an interview before they decide to take you on board.

A pro bono cover letter is similar to any other cover letter ([see Appendix A](#) of this Handbook for instructions), but can usually be more brief. Make sure you include in the letter:

- A statement of where you found the pro bono placement, e.g., that it was advertised through the Public Interest Law Center at NYU;
- your enthusiasm for, and commitment to, the work of the organization; and
- your availability.

If you have any foreign language skills that may be relevant to the organization's clients (e.g. Spanish, Mandarin, Haitian Creole, Russian, or French), please include that in your cover letter.

Do *not* state in the cover letter that you are looking to fulfill the 50-hour requirement for the New York State Bar. Many organizations will take this as a sign that you are not really committed to their work.

After you apply for a pro bono placement, don't worry if you do not hear back from the organization. In most cases the person is just busy. Send a follow-up email a couple of weeks after you apply, to check that they received your application and reiterate your interest in volunteering.

There is an example of a pro bono cover letter and a follow-up email in [Appendix A](#).

Pro Bono Research Projects over Winter and Spring Break

PILC collaborates with domestic and international non-profit and intergovernmental organizations to offer legal research projects for teams of students to undertake intensively during the winter break or spring break. [These projects](#) are a great opportunity to complete pro bono work for admission to the New York Bar, as well as for students to gain experience conducting international law research and drafting a research report. A list of organizations that participated in the 2023 Spring Intensive is available [here](#).

Participating students must commit to working full time over winter or spring break and seeing the report through to completion, which may involve more than 50 hours of work total, including beyond the intensive week. However, the aim is for the project to be completed within a relatively short timeframe.

There will be a **virtual** information session introducing this year's participating organizations in October and an email inviting students to the session will go out in the beginning of the fall semester. Please check [The Docket](#) for updated information on the 2023-24 research projects.

A Final Note about Pro Bono Work

Pro bono work can be incredibly fulfilling and enriching. Not only are you providing support to individuals and organizations in need, you are also getting to know the American legal system, building contacts, and potentially learning about a new area of law.

NYU coordinates pro bono opportunities with the hope that the organizations will continue to accept our students in the future. Please treat your pro bono placement as though it is a paid job, and uphold ethical and professional standards. It will be both to your benefit and to the benefit of future LLM students.

We hope you will enjoy your pro bono experience and incorporate pro bono service into your future career—no matter where you end up.

Appendix A

Sample Pro Bono Cover Letter and Follow up Email

Name
Address
Phone
Email
Date

Sofia Vallejo, Staff Attorney
Attorneys for Justice
426 W 18th Street
New York, NY 10014

Dear Ms. Vallejo:

I am writing to express my interest in completing pro bono work with Attorneys for Justice in your immigration program. I am a current LLM student at New York University School of Law, and learned about the pro bono placement opportunity through the law school's Public Interest Law Center. I believe that my fluency in Mandarin and commitment to serving low-income immigrants will enable me to contribute effectively to your pro bono program.

Before commencing the LLM at NYU, I practiced as an attorney in China in the litigation team of a major corporate law firm. Although the focus of my work was corporation law, I developed strong transferable skills in research, client interviewing, and drafting court documents. I am deepening those skills in the U.S. context through the LLM, and would be delighted to apply them in serving your clients. Having studied immigration law in my first law degree, I am passionate about the rights of immigrants and would be a strong advocate for your clients as they navigate the U.S. system.

My schedule for the fall semester allows me to contribute to your organization up to eight hours each week. My resume is enclosed for your consideration. I hope to contribute to the important work of Attorneys for Justice this fall, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Student Name

To: Sofia Vallejo
From: Student Name
Date: September 30, 2016

Subject: Pro bono work at Attorneys for Justice

Dear Ms. Vallejo:

I hope this finds you well. I am writing to follow up my application to complete pro bono work with Attorneys for Justice, sent September 15.

I am still extremely interested in conducting pro bono work with your organization this fall. If there is anything further you require in consideration of my application, please feel free to send me an email or call me on (555) 555-5555.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

Student Name

Appendix B

Websites for International Job Searches

General Job Search Websites

[ABA Legal Career Central](#): Maintained by the ABA, the site provides job postings, job search tools, job and career tips, and links to career related resources

[American Bar Association, International Law Section](#): Website includes a “Student Headquarters,” with resources including a Jobs Portal, Career Resources, and Internship Resources

[Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Action](#): Job listings posted by ALNAP, a network dedicated to improving humanitarian performance through evaluation and learning

[American Society of International Law](#): Job and internship listings for ASIL members

[Association for Women’s Rights in Development](#): Job listings related to gender equality, sustainable development, and women’s human rights

[Communication Initiative Network](#): Job listings (legal/non-legal) related to international development

[Design, Monitoring and Evaluation for Peacebuilding](#): Job listings (legal/non-legal) related to peacebuilding

[Devex](#): Job listings and short-term consulting opportunities related to international development

[DevNet Jobs](#): Job listings and consulting opportunities related to international development

[Global Jobs](#): Excellent, searchable listing of jobs with NGOs, think tanks, governments, and within the private sector around the world

[Human Rights Jobs](#): Job listings (legal/non-legal) related to human rights

[Idealist](#): Excellent and comprehensive searchable listing of global public service jobs, internships, and volunteer opportunities (legal/non-legal)

[Lawyers Without Borders](#): A global group of volunteer lawyers who offer pro bono services to rule of law projects, capacity building, and access to justice initiatives; includes job listings and volunteer opportunities

[Microfinance Gateway](#): Job listings (legal/non-legal) related to microfinance and financial inclusion

[Nonprofit Career Network](#): International and domestic non-profit job listings

[Nonprofit Jobs](#): International and domestic non-profit job listings

[PILnet](#): A website that lists many pro bono and volunteer legal opportunities, including international opportunities

[Pro Bono Net](#): A website that lists many pro bono and volunteer legal opportunities, including international opportunities

[PSJD](#): Searchable listings of jobs, fellowships and internships throughout the world with more comprehensive coverage of some countries than others

[ReliefWeb](#): Job listings (legal/non-legal) for humanitarian and development jobs

[Riley Guide](#): Resources for international job searches, including lists of job search websites

General IGO Job Websites

[IGO Directory \(Northwestern University\)](#): A comprehensive list of IGOs

[IO Careers](#): Run by the State Department with information on IGO careers

[JPO Service Center](#): Information about various JPO programs, including many UN programs and links to the [JPO programs of other IGOs](#)

[UN Careers](#): Central website for all UN Secretariat opportunities. Note: Non-Secretariat UN agencies have their own websites for vacancies and opportunities, and certain field offices may also have separate websites

[UN System](#): Index of links to UN organizations and related organizations

[UN Volunteers](#): Website for the UN Volunteers program

Funding Websites

[Finding and Funding International Public Service Opportunities](#): Report with information on international public interest jobs

[Candid](#): Information on funding agencies and foundations; excellent databases available in libraries in several cities (including New York) and online

[Fulbright Scholar Program](#): Information on the Fulbright Scholar Program, run by the Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs

[Human Rights Funders Group](#): Information on foundations that support human rights work with a searchable database

Appendix C

Websites for Domestic Job Searches

General

[PSJD](#): Comprehensive listing of public interest legal positions, including volunteer opportunities, paid summer positions, and post-graduate positions and fellowships.

[Idealist](#): Comprehensive listing of public service positions, both legal and non-legal, in over 140 countries. This is an especially good site for post-graduate job listings; searchable by subject matter, country, type of position, and other categories.

[National Legal Aid & Defender Association](#): This is the best site for post-graduate jobs in civil legal services organizations and defender organizations; searchable by state. Other public interest organizations are also listed.

[Candid](#): Provides information about every foundation in the country. Much of this information is free, but some of it is for paying subscribers only. Job corner contains a database of job openings in foundations, corporate grant makers, and other nonprofit organizations; searchable by type of employer and region.

Government

[Government Honors & Internship Handbook](#): Information on federal government post-graduate honors programs and summer internships. **Password: chocolatecake**

[National Association of Attorneys General](#): The most comprehensive online site for the latest developments in the offices of the state Attorneys General throughout the country, including ground-breaking litigation and job opportunities.

[U.S. House of Representatives](#)

[U.S. Office of Personnel Management](#): The federal government's official one-stop source for federal jobs (permanent and internships) and employment information; searchable by position, salary, and geographic location and updated every business day. You can create an "agent" to email particular kinds of opportunities as soon as they are posted. **Note: when searching for federal jobs, you should also check the agency site, as not every job makes it into USA JOBS.**

[U.S. Senate](#)

[Leadership Directories](#): Updates and publishes names and contact information for federal, state, and municipal government agencies. Leadership Directories publish names and contact information for federal, state, and municipal government agencies; especially helpful for Hill contact information. You may access the site, without a username or password, from any Law

School computer. Search “leadership directories” on the library website, and you will be able to follow a link to the online directory.

[Roll Call Jobs](#): Features jobs in government affairs, lobbying and other positions with organizations that do lobbying and other work with the federal government.

[PSJD](#): Government employment resources by state.

List Serves for Campaign and Capitol Hill Jobs

[Jobs That Are Left List](#): Google Group with jobs and internships (only some of which are legal) on political campaigns and at advocacy organizations, and occasionally information on career and networking events.

[Emily’s List Job Bank](#): Create a profile, upload your resume, and get notices about jobs and internships (only some of which are legal) on political campaigns and at advocacy organizations.

State-Specific Job Sites

[Chicago](#): To help law school graduates search for a public sector career, the Chicago Bar Association Government Services Committee and the Young Lawyers Section of the Chicago Bar Association of Chicago have compiled the most current hiring information available on numerous government agencies in Chicago.

[Minnesota](#): The site of the Minnesota Justice Foundation, this site lists Minnesota legal internships.

[New York City](#): Government jobs

Subject-Matter Specific

[AFL-CIO Lawyers Coordinating Committee](#): Lists positions in unions and public interest law firms that specialize in labor and employment.

[Elaw](#): Run by Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide, this site lists organizations worldwide that do environmental work.

[National Fair Housing Advocate](#): Lists positions with organizations and governmental agencies dealing with fair housing issues.

Appendix D

LLM Networking Handout

NETWORKING AND INFORMATIONAL INTERVIEWING FOR LLM STUDENTS

Networking is a valuable tool that can help people build contacts and expand professional opportunities.

Given the short duration of LLM programs and the specialized job market faced by LLM candidates following graduation, it is essential that LLMs begin to network as soon as possible. This article outlines strategies that domestic and foreign LLMs can use to build and capitalize on their professional contacts. While the tips that follow are addressed directly to LLMs, they are also intended as strategies for career counselors to share with LLMs.

WHY NETWORK?

There are several reasons why building a network of professional contacts is vital to a person's job search and long-term career. Networking not only offers access to information, advice, and job leads, it is also considered the most effective tool for finding a job. This is because many positions are filled through

This article submitted by the NALP LLM Section was adapted by Laura Metz Duncan, Director of International & Advanced Degree Programs at Stanford Law School, from a handout entitled "Networking, Informational Interviewing Skills, and How to Handle Social/Business Receptions for U.S. Trained LLM Students," written by Adriana Vito (American University Washington College of Law), Sandra Buteau (Georgetown University Law Center), Nita Mazumdar (Georgetown University Law Center), and Jessica Richman (The George Washington University Law School). NALP members have permission to reproduce this article as a printed handout for students; for questions about reprint permission, contact NALP Director of Publications Janet Smith at jsmith@nalp.org.

informal referrals rather than traditional job advertisements. By networking, a person can greatly enhance their chances of finding out about opportunities in their area of interest.

HOW TO BEGIN NETWORKING

You can start networking by contacting people you know, or with whom you have some connection, to request assistance and advice for your job search. These individuals do not need to be in a position to offer you a job. Any contact is helpful if he or she can: (1) provide you with advice and information about a particular practice area or job market; and/or, (2) introduce you to additional contacts. Make it a practice to talk with people about your interests (and ask them about theirs) so that if they have information regarding your target areas they can share it with you.

Next, keep an eye out for organized networking opportunities. Attend law school programs, guest speaker presentations, and professional events. Join and participate in associations and practitioner groups. Do not be shy about approaching others with career-related questions in these contexts.

Finally, make an effort to research additional contacts that may be helpful to your search. If you are interested in particular types of employers or discrete areas of law, look for

information on the top practitioners in those organizations or areas and contact them. Your law school may also be able to get you in touch with alumni willing to help with your job search.

HOW TO INITIATE CONTACT

The key to initiating polite contact is to balance assertiveness in seeking out the information you need with consideration for the contact person's time. If you have the opportunity to talk with someone in person at an event, introduce yourself and try to learn something from them. If the person is not in a position to have an in-depth conversation at that time, politely ask if you may contact them with your questions at a later date, and get their business card or contact information.

If you identify contacts through research or other means, you may initiate contact through a letter of introduction, followed after a few days with a phone call or e-mail. (For someone you know, it is acceptable to make initial contact by phone; however, be prepared to provide the same information you would include in a letter of introduction and make sure when calling to ask if you have reached the person at a convenient time.)

In using any of these approaches, your initial contact must concisely inform the person: (1) who you are (if you have previously met the contact, politely remind them of who you are and how you met); (2) how you identified them as a contact; and, (3) why you are contacting them (e.g., you are seeking advice or information regarding a certain practice area, or, you would like to request an informational interview).

Reprinted with the permission of NALP (www.nalp.org)

WHAT IS INFORMATIONAL INTERVIEWING?

Informational interviewing is a specific networking tool that enables a job seeker to ask someone questions regarding their profession or career path. Informational interviews should not be used to directly market oneself for a position. (I.e., an informational interview is not a job interview). Instead, informational interviews should be used to gather insight that is not available through other means, such as:

- A realistic view of the practice area or organization that you are investigating;
- Suggestions for steps that could help you reach your career objectives;
- Information about special concerns (e.g., salaries, part-time or flexible hours, minority issues) that you might not feel comfortable asking in a regular interview setting; and
- Leads to additional contacts.

HOW TO PREPARE FOR AN INFORMATIONAL INTERVIEW

Before requesting an informational interview, conduct a self-assessment so you will be better prepared to discuss your interests and goals with others. After you have prepared and have identified a prospective contact, call or write to the person as described in the section on "How to Initiate Contact" above. Ask the contact for 15 to 20 minutes of their time, and have your schedule handy so you can arrange a mutually convenient time to meet or talk.

In advance of the interview, research the interviewee, their practice, and organization. Create a list of questions to ask. If you are able to meet in person, dress professionally, nearly to the level of formality appropriate for a job interview. Remember to be considerate of the interviewee's time by calling or arriving



punctually, asking concise questions, and not running over the amount of time proposed for the interview.

WHAT TO ASK IN AN INFORMATIONAL INTERVIEW

Capitalize on the opportunity to interview your contact by focusing your questions on topics that you cannot research easily through other means. For example:

- What are the different aspects of your job? What elements do you most enjoy or least enjoy?
- Are there particular skills or knowledge that are helpful or essential in your practice?
- What does an employer look for when hiring new attorneys in this practice area?
- Are there areas of growing demand in this field or geographic region?
- Do you have advice for a law student or practitioner seeking to enter this field?
- Are there additional people I should contact regarding my interest in this field? Are there professional associations I should join that would put me in contact with attorneys in this area?
- Would you be willing to review my résumé and provide feedback?

WHAT TO DO FOLLOWING AN INFORMATIONAL INTERVIEW

Immediately following the interview, make notes regarding your conversation so you can keep track of your contacts and the information they shared with you. Next, express your appreciation by promptly sending a thank you letter. If your contact suggested additional leads, follow up on these referrals using the same steps as outlined for other networking contacts. Make sure that you explain to the new contact who recommended that you contact them and why. Finally, keep your contacts informed regarding any developments in your job search and maintain your network of contacts even after you have found a job.

CONCLUSION

Networking can benefit your career by informing your choices, helping you find professional mentors, and leading you to new opportunities. Successful networking involves both giving and receiving, so remember to connect others to relevant information and job leads when you can. With some effort, you can build a network of lasting professional relationships that will span the course of your career. ■

Appendix E Selected NYU LLMs In Public Interest

Name	LLM Graduating Year & Country of First Degree	Role / Organization	Email Address
Jonathan Ackley	2016, USA	US Foreign Service Officer, US Department of State <i>Washington, DC</i>	jpa359@nyu.edu
Martin Brauch	2010, Brazil	Senior Legal and Economics Researcher, Columbia Center for Sustainable Investment, NYC	martin.brauch@nyu.edu
Nicolas Burniat	2001, Belgium	Deputy Representative, UN Women Representative to Myanmar <i>Myanmar</i>	nicolasburniat@gmail.com nicolas.burniat@unwomen.org
Leah Campbell	2011, Australia	Legal Officer, UN Department of Security Council Affairs <i>New York, NY</i>	leah.k.campbell@gmail.com
Florencia Librizzi	2011,	UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network	florencia.librizzi@unsdsn.org
Allen Clayton-Greene	2014, Australia	Research Scholar, U.S.-Asia Law Institute <i>New York, NY</i>	aclaytongreene@gmail.com
Niki De Mel	2015, Australia	Pro Bono and Special Initiatives Coordinator, Pro Bono Net <i>New York, NY</i>	nikidemel@gmail.com ndemel@probono.net
Emmanuelle Debouverie	2014, Belgium	Senior Legal and Policy Officer, Fair Trials <i>Brussels, Belgium</i>	e.debouverie@gmail.com
Ine Declerck	2009, Belgium	Political Affairs Officer, UN Volunteer UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic	ine.declerck@gmail.com declercki@un.org
Sarah De Mol	2014, Netherlands	Associate Legal Officer, International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia <i>The Hague, Netherlands</i>	demol.sarah@gmail.com
Elizabeth Hassan	2012, Nigeria	Senior Counsel, OPEC Fund for International Development <i>Vienna, Austria</i>	e.hassan@ofid.org
Andrew Hudson	2006, Australia	Executive Director, Crisis Action <i>New York, NY</i>	andrew.hudson@crisisaction.org

Name	LLM Graduating Year & Country of First Degree	Role / Organization	Email Address
Faith Kamau	2009, Kenya	Regional Principal Legal Counsel, African Development Bank <i>Nairobi, Kenya</i>	faith.kamau@gmail.com
Nicole Karlebach	2015, USA	Global Head, Business and Human Rights, Verizon <i>New York, NY</i>	nkarlebach@yahoo-inc.com
Alla Kazakina	2000, Russia	Senior Staff Attorney, Immigrant Protection Unit, NYLAG <i>New York, NY</i>	alla.kazakina@gmail.com akazakina@nylag.org
Shingira Masanzu	2013, South Africa	World Bank <i>Washington, DC</i>	smasanzu@gmail.com smasanzu@worldbank.org
Winta Menghis	2007, Eritrea	Senior Manager, Foundations and Corporate Relations, Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute <i>Washington, DC</i>	wintemen@gmail.com
Roxanne Moore	2014, Australia	Indigenous Rights Campaigner, Amnesty International <i>Australia</i>	rjm509@nyu.edu roxanne.i.moore@gmail.com
Habib Nassar	2005, Lebanon	Director of Policy and Research, Impunity Watch <i>New York, NY</i>	habib.nassar@gmail.com
Sukanya Pillay	1994, Canada	Executive Director and General Counsel, Canadian Civil Liberties Association <i>Toronto, Canada</i>	pillay@ccla.org
Perri Ravon	2015, Canada	Field Delegate, International Committee of the Red Cross <i>Colombia</i>	perri.ravon@gmail.com
Erika Sasson	2010, Canada	Director of Restorative Practices, Center for Court Innovation <i>New York, NY</i>	sassone@courtinnovation.org

Name	LLM Graduating Year & Country of First Degree	Role / Organization	Email Address
Madeleine Sinclair	2009, Canada	New York Office Director and Legal Counsel, International Service for Human Rights <i>New York, NY</i>	m.sinclair@ishr.ch
Nastasja Suhadolnik	2014, Slovenia	Associate, Three Crowns LLP <i>Paris, France</i>	nsuhadolnik@gmail.com
Sam Szoke-Burke	2014, Australia	Legal Researcher, Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment <i>New York, NY</i>	sburke1@law.columbia.edu samszokeburke@gmail.com
Junko Tadaki	2007, Australia	Human Rights Officer, Special Procedures Branch, Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights <i>Geneva, Switzerland</i>	jtadaki@ohchr.org
Dr. Kinga Tibori-Szabo, Esq.	2012, Romania	Legal Officer, Judicial Institution in The Hague <i>The Hague, Netherlands</i>	kts272@nyu.edu
Amos Toh	2012, Singapore	Senior Researcher, Human Rights Watch <i>New York, NY</i>	atoh@law.uci.edu
Christiaan Van Veen	2014, Netherlands	Senior Advisor to the UN Special, Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights (Philip Alston) <i>New York, NY</i>	cvv221@nyu.edu
Ramona Vijayarasa	2007, Australia	Senior Lecturer at UTS Law Sydney <i>New South Wales, Australia</i>	rvijayarasa@gmail.com
Sophie Walker	2007, UK	Pupil Barrister 1 Pump Court Chambers <i>London, UK</i>	sophierwalker@gmail.com
Abby Zeith	2014, Australia	Legal Adviser- Arms and Conduct of Hostilities Unit, ICRC <i>Geneva Switzerland</i>	abby.zeith@gmail.com
Sophie Courtmans	2018, Belgium	International Criminal Court <i>Hague, Netherlands</i>	sc6788@nyu.edu ,
Ruth Delbaer	2018, Belgium	Avaaz <i>Belgium</i>	ryd217@nyu.edu
Prachi Tadsare	2017, India	World Bank <i>Washington, DC</i>	ptadsare@worldbank.org

Elisa Llop- Cardenal	2020, Spain	European Court of Human Rights <i>Strasbourg, France</i>	elc488@nyu.edu
Maria Obezo	2022, Colombia	Legal Analyst - UNFPA	mmo9105@nyu.edu
Nakhlé "Nax" Hamouche	2022, Lebanon	Researcher at the U.S.-Asia Law Institute (USALI) of NYU Law	nh2345@nyu.edu
Genesis Davila	2022, Venezuela	President and founder DEFIENDE <i>Venezuela</i>	gmd9612@nyu.edu
Anusha Madhusudhan	2017, India	International disputes team at Aarna law/Judicial Fellow at the ICJ	am8148@nyu.edu
María Alejandra Castillo	2022, Colombia	LEGAL fellow Government Relations Team / NARAL Pro- Choice America	mac10032@nyu.edu

Appendix F

State Bar Eligibility Chart

CHART 4: Foreign Legal Education

Jurisdiction	Are graduates of foreign law schools eligible for admission by examination?	If graduates of foreign law schools are eligible for admission by examination under your rules, what additional requirements pertain?	If a foreign law school graduate obtains an LLM or other graduate law degree from an ABA-approved law school, is the graduate then eligible to take the bar exam on this basis alone?
Alabama	Yes	Legal education in English common law, additional education at an ABA-approved law school, practice of law in foreign jurisdiction, determination of educational equivalency, admission in another US jurisdiction	No
Alaska	Yes	Legal education in English common law, additional education at an ABA-approved law school, determination of educational equivalency, admission in another US jurisdiction	No
Arizona	No	—	No
Arkansas	No	—	No
California	Yes	Additional education at an ABA-approved law school, practice of law in foreign jurisdiction, determination of educational equivalency, admission in another US jurisdiction	Yes
Colorado	Yes	Legal education in English common law, practice of law in foreign jurisdiction	No
Connecticut	Yes	Additional education at an ABA-approved law school, determination of educational equivalency	No
Delaware	No	—	No
District of Columbia	Yes	Additional education at an ABA-approved law school	No
Florida	Yes	Admission in another US jurisdiction	No
Georgia	Yes	Additional education at an ABA-approved law school, practice of law in foreign jurisdiction	No
Hawaii	Yes	Legal education in English common law, practice of law in foreign jurisdiction	No
Idaho	No	—	No
Illinois	Yes	Practice of law in foreign jurisdiction, determination of educational equivalency	No
Indiana	No	—	No
Iowa	No	—	No
Kansas	No	—	No
Kentucky	Yes	Practice of law in foreign jurisdiction, determination of educational equivalency	No
Louisiana	Yes	Additional education at an ABA-approved law school, determination of educational equivalency	No
Maine	Yes	Practice of law in foreign jurisdiction, determination of educational equivalency	No
Maryland	Yes	Additional education at an ABA-approved law school, admission in another US jurisdiction	No
Massachusetts	Yes	Additional education at an ABA-approved law school, determination of educational equivalency	No
Michigan	No	—	No
Minnesota	No	—	No
Mississippi	No	—	No
Missouri	Yes	Additional education at an ABA-approved law school, practice of law in foreign jurisdiction, admission in another US jurisdiction	No
Montana	No	—	No
Nebraska	Yes	Additional education at an ABA-approved law school	No
Nevada	Yes	Determination of educational equivalency	No
New Hampshire	Yes	Legal education in English common law, determination of educational equivalency	No
New Jersey	No	—	No
New Mexico	Yes	Admission in another US jurisdiction	No
New York	Yes	Additional education at an ABA-approved law school, determination of educational equivalency	Yes
North Carolina	Yes	Admission in another US jurisdiction	No

CHART 4: Foreign Legal Education *(continued)*

Jurisdiction	Are graduates of foreign law schools eligible for admission by examination?	If graduates of foreign law schools are eligible for admission by examination under your rules, what additional requirements pertain?	If a foreign law school graduate obtains an LLM or other graduate law degree from an ABA-approved law school, is the graduate then eligible to take the bar exam on this basis alone?
North Dakota	No	—	No
Ohio	Yes	Additional education at an ABA-approved law school, determination of educational equivalency	No
Oklahoma	No	—	No
Oregon	Yes	Legal education in English common law, practice of law in foreign jurisdiction, determination of educational equivalency	No
Pennsylvania	Yes	Additional education at an ABA-approved law school, practice of law in foreign jurisdiction	No
Rhode Island	Yes	Admission in another US jurisdiction	No
South Carolina	No	—	No
South Dakota	Yes	Admission in another US jurisdiction	No
Tennessee	Yes	Additional education at an ABA-approved law school, practice of law in foreign jurisdiction, determination of educational equivalency	No
Texas	Yes	Additional education at an ABA-approved law school, practice of law in foreign jurisdiction	No
Utah	Yes	Legal education in English common law, additional education at an ABA-approved law school, practice of law in common law jurisdiction	No
Vermont	Yes	Legal education in English common law, determination of educational equivalency	Yes
Virginia	No	—	No
Washington	Yes	Additional education at an ABA-approved law school, practice of law in foreign jurisdiction	Yes
West Virginia	Yes	Legal education in English common law, additional education at an ABA-approved law school, determination of educational equivalency	No
Wisconsin	Yes	Legal education in English common law, additional education at an ABA-approved law school, practice of law in foreign jurisdiction, determination of educational equivalency	Yes
Wyoming	No	—	No
Guam	No	—	No
Northern Mariana Islands	No	—	No
Palau	No	—	Yes
Puerto Rico	No	—	No
Virgin Islands	No	—	No

Supplemental Remarks

Are graduates of foreign law schools eligible for admission by examination?

Alabama Applicant must meet and show proof of the following requirements: (a) that the foreign law school from which the applicant graduated was approved in the foreign jurisdiction where it is located; (b) that the applicant has been admitted to the practice of law in the jurisdiction in which that university or college is located; and (c) at least one of the following: (i) that the law degree program completed by the applicant includes a substantial component of English common law; or (ii) that the applicant has satisfactorily completed at least 24 semester hours of legal subjects covered by the bar examination in regular law school classes, under ABA standards; or (iii) that the applicant has been admitted to the practice of law before the court of highest jurisdiction in a US jurisdiction, has been continuously engaged in the active practice of law for at least 3 years in that jurisdiction, and is a member in good standing of the bar of that jurisdiction.

Alaska A graduate of a foreign law school in which the principles of English law are taught may be eligible to take the bar exam if he or she submits proof that 1) the law school from which he/she graduated meets the ABA's standards for approval; and 2) he/she has successfully completed 1 year at an ABA-approved law school, including successful completion of 1 course in US Constitutional Law and 1 course in US Civil Procedure, or is a member in good standing of the bar of 1 or more states, territories, or the District of Columbia and was admitted to the bar of that state, territory, or the District of Columbia after written examination.

(continued)

Supplemental Remarks (*continued*)

California Foreign law school graduates must request individual evaluation to determine legal education equivalency. Graduates from foreign law schools may qualify to take the California bar exam if they obtain an LLM degree or complete an additional 1 year of law study at an ABA-approved or California-accredited law school which includes a certain number of credits in bar examination subject matter. Foreign-educated law students who did not graduate are not eligible to take the exam and are required to either graduate with a JD degree at an ABA-approved or California-accredited law school or complete 4 years of law study at a law school registered in California and pass the First-Year Law Students' Exam. Foreign law school graduates who are admitted to the active practice of law in good standing in their countries do not have to complete any additional law study to qualify to take the bar exam.

Colorado Must have been primarily engaged in the active practice of law for 3 of the previous 5 years in jurisdictions where admitted.

Connecticut Foreign law school graduates must submit a petition for determination on foreign education and receive Bar Examining Committee approval prior to submitting an application for admission by examination, admission without examination, or admission by UBE score transfer. The foreign education must be substantially equivalent in duration to the legal education provided by an ABA-approved law school. Foreign-educated applicants must complete an LLM degree program meeting specific requirements at an ABA- or Committee-approved law school prior to admission. An applicant who otherwise does not meet the educational requirements may be eligible to sit for the exam if he/she meets certain conditions. Conditions include admission before the highest court of original jurisdiction in a US state, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or a US District Court for 10 or more years, good standing in such jurisdiction, active practice of law in that jurisdiction for 5 of the last 7 years, and an intention to actively practice law in Connecticut and to devote a majority of his/her work to such practice.

District of Columbia Foreign law school graduates must have 5 years in good standing in another US state or territory. Foreign law school graduates with less than 5 years of admission in good standing in another US state or territory must also complete a minimum of 26 semester hours of study in a law school that at the time of such study was ABA-approved. All such semester hours shall be earned in single-subject courses in areas of law that are substantially tested on the Uniform Bar Examination. Classes that began before March 1, 2016, will count if they were in subjects tested on the DC bar exam through February 2016.

Florida After 10 years' active practice in another jurisdiction (District of Columbia or other states in the United States or in federal courts in the United States or its territories, possessions, or protectorates) in which applicant has been duly admitted, the applicant may file a representative compilation of work product for evaluation by the Board.

Georgia A lawyer educated at a law school outside of the United States may meet the educational requirements and be eligible to take the exam if the foreign-educated lawyer graduated from a foreign law school that meets the requirements of the Rules; is authorized to practice law in the foreign jurisdiction; and has been awarded, by an ABA-approved law school, an LLM that meets the Curricular Criteria for LLM Program for the Practice of Law in the United States adopted by the Board of Bar Examiners. Foreign law school graduates who have not obtained an LLM, or whose LLM programs do not meet the Board's Curricular Criteria, may also apply for a waiver of the ABA-approved law school graduation requirement. Published waiver policy lists criteria considered by the Board in determining whether waiver standard has been met.

Hawaii An attorney admitted to practice and in good standing before the highest court in a foreign country where English common law is the basis of that country's jurisprudence and where English is the language of instruction and practice in the courts of that jurisdiction shall be eligible for examination and admission if he or she presents satisfactory proof to have actively practiced law in that jurisdiction for 5 of the 6 years immediately prior to application.

Illinois The foreign law school graduate must have been licensed to practice in the country in which the degree was conferred and/or in a US jurisdiction for a minimum of 5 years; the lawyer must be in good standing as an attorney or equivalent in that country or US jurisdiction where admitted; during each of no fewer than 5 of the 7 years immediately prior to making application in Illinois, the lawyer must have verifiably devoted an annual minimum of 1,000 hours to the practice of law in such country and/or US jurisdiction where licensed; and applicant must achieve passing score on MPRE and meet character and fitness standards.

Kentucky An attorney who is a graduate of a foreign law school can apply for an education evaluation to determine if applicant's legal education is substantially equivalent to the Kentucky law school education. If the law school is approved, the applicant may sit for the bar exam if he/she has been actively and substantially engaged in the practice of law for 3 of the last 5 years.

Louisiana Foreign attorneys can apply to take the bar exam but must first have an educational equivalency evaluation conducted and complete 14 hours at an American law school.

Maine Must satisfy requirements of Regulation for Determining Equivalency of Foreign Legal Education and have practiced for 3 years in the jurisdiction where licensed.

Maryland A graduate of a foreign law school may qualify for a waiver to take the UBE in Maryland if he or she has been admitted by examination in another US jurisdiction or has completed an additional law degree at an ABA-approved law school where at least 24 credits in subjects tested on the UBE are earned in the course of completing the degree.

Massachusetts A graduate of a foreign law school (other than prequalified Canadian law schools, as listed in Massachusetts Board of Bar Examiners Rule VI) may be permitted to file a petition for admission by exam after completing further legal studies designated by the Board of Bar Examiners at an ABA-approved law school or a law school approved by Massachusetts statute. In order to petition for admission in Massachusetts, foreign-educated attorneys must prove current eligibility to practice law in the foreign jurisdiction and must obtain, in writing, a determination of educational sufficiency from the Board of Bar Examiners.

Missouri Graduates who have passed the bar exam in another state and hold an active law license are eligible to take the bar exam with either (1) full-time practice for 3 of the 5 years preceding application or (2) completion of 24 credit hours in residence at an ABA-approved law school within the 3 years prior to application or (3) completion of an LLM degree from an ABA-approved law school. Graduates who are not licensed in another state must be admitted to practice law in the foreign country where the foreign law degree was conferred and be in good standing with either (1) full-time practice for 3 of the 5 years preceding the application or (2) completion of 24 credit hours in residence at an ABA-approved law school within the 3 years prior to application or (3) completion of an LLM degree from an ABA-approved law school.

Nebraska An LLB from an ABA-approved law school will be accepted to qualify a foreign law school graduate to sit for the Nebraska bar examination.

New Hampshire Graduate must be legally trained in common law, and a determination of educational equivalency is required. Graduate must be a member in good standing in home jurisdiction or in another state, after being admitted by exam.

New Mexico Graduates of foreign law schools may write the examination, transfer an eligible Uniform Bar Examination (UBE) score, or apply for admission without examination if they are licensed and in good standing in another US state and have engaged in the active practice of law in the state where admitted for 4 of the 6 years prior to application to sit for the examination or transfer the UBE score or 5 of the 7 years prior to application for admission without examination.

New York Applicant must complete period of law study equivalent in duration and substance to that specified in New York rules in law school recognized by competent accrediting agency of the government of such foreign country. All applicants must have their transcripts evaluated by the Board of Law Examiners to determine if further study is required in the form of a qualifying LLM degree from an ABA-approved law school in the United States.

North Carolina The applicant must meet the requirements set out in at least one of the following paragraphs: (1) hold an LLB or JD degree from a law school approved by the ABA at the time the degree was conferred; (2) have received prior to August 1995 an LLB, JD, LLM, or SJD degree from a law school approved by the council of the North Carolina State Bar at the time the degree was conferred; (3) have received prior to August 2005 an LLM or SJD degree from a law school that was approved by the ABA at the time the degree was conferred; or (4) hold an LLB or JD degree from a law school that was approved for licensure purposes in another state of the United States or the District of Columbia and be licensed in such state or District.

Ohio If an applicant's legal education was not received in the United States, the education must be evaluated and approved by the Supreme Court as equivalent to ABA-approved law school education. For equivalency, an applicant must show successful completion of 30 credit hours at an ABA-approved law school in addition to a foreign law degree showing at least 3 years of full-time study. The registration application may not be processed until the education is approved by the Supreme Court. At least 3 additional years of full-time post-secondary education are required.

Oregon Applicants who have graduated from a law school in a foreign jurisdiction have the burden of proving (1) that the requirements for admission to practice are substantially equivalent to those of Oregon, (2) that the applicant is currently admitted to practice law in a foreign jurisdiction where the Common Law of England exists as a basis of its jurisprudence, and (3) that the applicant is a graduate of a law school equivalent to a law school approved by the ABA. The Oregon Board of Bar Examiners may require that the applicant's law school education be evaluated by a commercial evaluator of the Board's choosing at the applicant's expense.

Pennsylvania Applicant must have completed law study in a foreign law school, have been admitted and in good standing at the bar of a foreign jurisdiction, and have practiced in the jurisdiction for 5 out of the last 8 years. Applicant must also complete 24 credit hours taken in specified subjects at an ABA-approved law school.

Rhode Island Foreign-educated applicants who are admitted in another US jurisdiction may apply for admission under Article II, Rule 2(a) (attorney admission on examination).

South Dakota An applicant for admission who is a graduate of a foreign law school not accredited by the ABA may apply for permission to take the South Dakota Bar Examination upon good cause if the graduate has passed the bar examination in another state and is a member in good standing of that state.

Tennessee A foreign-educated applicant has two paths to eligibility: one is based solely on education and the other requires education plus experience and a US LLM degree. An applicant will be eligible for the examination on education alone if the applicant's education is accredited by the appropriate agency in the foreign country and is substantially equivalent to that required of applicants educated in the US (a bachelor's degree or higher and a JD degree, earned in one or more degrees in the foreign country). A comprehensive educational equivalency evaluation for professional licensing by an organization that is a member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services must be provided to the Board with the application. If educational equivalency is not met, an applicant may be eligible if, in addition to a foreign legal education at an accredited school, the applicant is licensed in the country in which the applicant was educated and has been engaged in the active practice of law in that country for 5 of the 8 years preceding the application, and the applicant has been awarded an LLM from an ABA-accredited law school in the United States. (See Board Policy P-7.01 at https://bwp.tnble.org/?page_id=365.)

Texas An applicant with an initial law degree from a foreign law school not based on English common law must, in part, be authorized to practice law and have a qualifying LLM degree. An applicant with an initial law degree from a foreign law school based on English common law must, in part, either have a qualifying LLM degree or satisfy a 3-year practice requirement.

Utah A foreign lawyer with a law degree from an English common-law jurisdiction may sit for the bar exam after being admitted and practicing law for 2 years in a common-law jurisdiction and completing 24 semester hours at an ABA-approved law school.

Vermont A foreign law school graduate is eligible to take the bar examination if the applicant (1) has completed a legal education at a foreign law school whose curriculum provided training in a system based on the common law of England and that is otherwise equivalent to graduation from an approved law school, as determined by the equivalency determination process; and (2) has been admitted to the bar of a court of general jurisdiction in the country in which the applicant attended the foreign law school and has maintained good standing in that bar or resigned from that bar while still in good standing.

Washington An applicant with a foreign law degree that would qualify the applicant to practice law in that jurisdiction is eligible if an LLM "for the practice of law" is obtained from an ABA-approved law school. The LLM must meet the requirements of Washington's APR 3. However, foreign lawyers from English common law jurisdictions are eligible without an LLM if they are currently admitted and have active legal experience in the common law jurisdiction for at least 3 of the 5 years immediately preceding the application.

West Virginia Applicant may sit for examination or qualify for admission on motion if a law school graduate from a foreign country where the common law of England forms basis of jurisprudence, if educational requirements for admission in said country are substantially the same as in West Virginia and applicant is admitted in good standing there, and if applicant successfully completes 30 credit hours of basic courses at an ABA-approved law school.

(continued)

Supplemental Remarks (*continued*)

Wisconsin First degree of law and license to practice law from English common law jurisdiction and practice for at least 3 of last 10 years, or first degree of law from qualified and approved foreign law school and completion of an approved master of law program from an ABA-approved law school.

Palau If applicant does not meet the educational requirement, he or she may not take the bar exam without obtaining a waiver. Applicant may request a waiver by submitting a petition demonstrating a legal education preparing him or her to pass the bar examination.

Puerto Rico Applicant must validate his or her studies and obtain a law degree from a law school approved by the ABA and by the Supreme Court.

If a foreign law school graduate obtains an LLM or other graduate law degree from an ABA-approved law school, is the graduate then eligible to take the bar examination on this basis alone?

California Applicant must have graduated and be eligible to take the admission exam in his/her foreign country and obtain an additional year of law study in certain courses at an ABA-approved or California-accredited law school in order to qualify to take the California Bar Exam.

Colorado Applicants may request a waiver of an eligibility requirement by filing a petition under C.R.C.P. 206.

Georgia A lawyer educated at a law school outside of the United States may meet the educational requirements and be eligible to take the exam if the foreign-educated lawyer graduated from a foreign law school that meets the requirements of the Rules; is authorized to practice law in the foreign jurisdiction; and has been awarded, by an ABA-approved law school, an LLM that meets the Curricular Criteria for LLM Program for the Practice of Law in the United States adopted by the Board of Bar Examiners.

Kentucky Applicant must still submit to education evaluation but additional degree has bearing on Board decision.

Maine Applicant's total education must be found to be substantially equivalent.

Massachusetts Not automatically, but depends on content (course of study) as well as other facts.

New Hampshire Not automatically. Applicant must meet other requirements for foreign law school graduates.

New York In most cases, but there are other factors.

Tennessee Applicant must prove that undergraduate and law school education are the equivalent of that required by an applicant who attended an ABA-accredited law school or Tennessee law school approved by the Board of Law Examiners. In addition to the LLM, the applicant must be licensed in the country in which the applicant was educated and have been engaged in the active practice of law for 5 of the 8 years immediately preceding the application.

Vermont Graduates of foreign law schools that do not provide the equivalent of an education at an ABA-approved law school can cure that deficiency by obtaining an LLM degree at an ABA-approved law school, provided the LLM degree meets certain requirements pertaining to the amount and type of credit hours.

Washington An LLM degree for the practice of law must meet certain requirements.

Wisconsin Applicant must meet and show proof of the following requirements: (a) that the law school was approved in that foreign jurisdiction, (b) that the LLM program meets specific minimum requirements pertaining to total semester hours of credit, minutes of instruction, and duration of program, and (c) that the LLM program consists of a certain number of semester hours of specified courses. The LLM program must be located at an ABA-approved law school and be completed within 24 months of enrollment.

