

CAREER JUMPSTART: CALIFORNIA

If you plan to move to Northern or Southern California upon graduation, here are a few ideas for action:

FIRST, join the California Bar Association at <http://www.calbar.ca.gov>. In addition, there are many specialized local bar associations within the California Bar Association. One such association is the California Young Lawyers Association (CYLA), which is for lawyers who have been in practice for one to five years or are 36 years old or younger. The CYLA website is: http://www.calbar.ca.gov/state/calbar/calbar_generic.jsp?cid=10105. Listed on the main California Bar's website are over 250 local, specialty, minority and women voluntary bar associations and most allow students to join: http://calbar.ca.gov/state/calbar/calbar_extend.jsp?cid=10102&id=29701. California bar associations include: Los Angeles County Bar Association, San Francisco Trial Lawyers, Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles, California Association of Black Lawyers, Asian Pacific American Bar Association and La Raza Lawyers of California.

SECOND, between January and July, you can obtain reciprocity with participating California schools, which means you can visit their office and look at their job postings. Reciprocity is good for only 3 months and expires in August - so if you are planning to study for the Bar in California, contact our office and we can start the reciprocity application process for you. In the past, the following schools have granted reciprocity to BC Law students: California Western School of Law, Hastings College of Law, and Santa Clara University. Other schools which participate in reciprocity (some of which have been strict in granting reciprocity) include: Golden Gate University, Pepperdine, UC Berkeley, UCLA, University of Pacific, USC, USD and Whittier.

THIRD, sign up for local bar association materials and local business publications such as: The Recorder, the most widely read legal newspaper in town with the most job postings: <http://www.law.com/jsp/ca/index.jsp>; The Los Angeles County Bar Association's monthly Los Angeles Lawyer Magazine: <http://www.lacba.org> (click "Publications" link); The Los Angeles and San Francisco Daily Journal: <http://www.dailyjournal.com>; and the California Real Estate Journal: <http://www.carealestatejournal.com>, to name a few. If you are looking for a job, check Craigslist.org regularly, as it is not just for apartment hunting. Many small law firms use Craigslist for job postings. Although not endorsing any agency, Adams & Martin Group hires on a temporary basis, www.adamsmartingroup.com.

FOURTH, if you're headed to Southern California, contact the BC Law Southern California Chapter Co-Presidents: Joo Cha, '07 at jcha@lawbrandmeyer.com and Ryan Nishimoto, '04 at ryan.nishimoto@aporter.com and learn what our alumni are doing in the area.

Some Useful Facts:

Starting Salaries in California*:

Firms of 2-10 Attorneys:	Firms of 11 – 25 Attorneys:	Firms of 26-50 Attorneys:	Firms of 51-100 Attorneys:	Firms of 101-250 Attorneys:	Firms of 251+ Attorneys:
Median: \$65,000	Median: \$72,000	Median: \$80,000	Median: \$103,500	Median: \$145,000	Median: \$160,000
Mean: \$68,196	Mean: \$76,999	Mean: \$90,081	Mean: \$107,480	Mean: \$132,849	Mean: \$151,347

*Jobs & J.D.'s Employment and Salaries of New Law Graduates, 2007 NALP

Number of Firms in California**:

Firms with 1 attorney	4,485	Firms with 50-99 attorneys	159
Firms with 2-9 attorneys	4,410	Firms with 100-149 attorneys	69
Firms with 10-24 attorneys	827	Firms with 150-249 attorneys	71
Firms with 25-49 attorneys	235	Firms with 250-999 attorneys	159
**Information from Martindale.com		Firms with 1000+ attorneys	51