

CAREER JUMPSTART: CHICAGO

First, the most important thing you can do is to get in touch with the Chicago BC Law Alumni Chapter. Contact Chapter leader Christopher Zadina (BC A&S '79, BC LAW '82) to learn more about the Chicago Chapter.

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Second, you should join the Illinois Bar Association, <http://www.illinoisbar.org/>, (click on Mentor Center, ISBA Career Center, Law students and New Admittees) and the Chicago Bar Association, <http://www.chicagobar.org/> (click on CBA Services and then Career Center). For new attorneys, membership is free. Get involved in the Young Lawyers' Section of the Chicago and Illinois Bar Associations, which provide great opportunities for networking and community involvement.

Third, between January and July, you may be able to obtain reciprocity with participating Illinois law schools. This 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 Illinois Bar Exam, contact our office and we can start a reciprocity application process for you at Northwestern, University of Chicago, Loyola, John Marshall, Chicago Kent, or DePaul Law schools.

Fourth, start checking the Chicago legal newspaper, *The Chicago Daily Law Bulletin*, at <http://www.chicagolawbulletin.com/>. Click on Legal Career Center. This comprehensive classified section is updated daily.

Fifth, consider applying for a position with the City of Chicago Department of Law, which acts as legal counsel for the City of Chicago and its Departments, agencies, and officials. The more than 300 attorneys in the Law Department are bright, dedicated professionals who do intellectually engaging work and have outstanding reputations in Chicago's legal community. The Law Department accepts applications year-round at <http://www.cityofchicago.org/Law/>.

Starting Salaries in Illinois:

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:	Full Time Jobs in Government:
Median:\$50,000	Median: \$66,750	Median: \$70,000	Median: \$137,500	Median: \$135,000	Median: \$160,000	Median: \$50,250
Mean: \$51,508	Mean: \$70,485	Mean: \$77,351	Mean: \$123,714	Mean: \$121,222	Mean: \$150,563	Mean: \$52,679

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

Key Industries:

Manufacturing, Finance, Agriculture, Technology, Warehousing and Distribution

*Information from

http://business.illinois.gov/io_keyindustries.cfm