JOB SHADOWING PROGRAM

Industry Guide | Law

The Job Shadowing Program gives UChicago alumni, family, and friends the opportunity to support the professional development of current students by hosting them in their place of work for 1-5 days during the College’s break periods. The specific activities involved in a job shadowing experience vary between host sites, but essentially, any activity that gives the student a tangible sense of daily life in your field is suitable for the job shadowing experience.

WHAT CAN I HAVE STUDENTS DO?

START BY...

• Giving a tour of the facility
• Providing an overview of the firm’s operations and staff divisions
• Sharing your personal career history

NEXT, SHOW THEM A “DAY IN THE LIFE” OF A LAW PROFESSIONAL

• Assign the student(s) an interactive micro-project to simulate your own day-to-day work
  ○ Have the student(s) work on a mock case
  ○ Provide them with case studies along with witness statements, evidence, etc.
  ○ Conduct a mock trial if there are multiple students available and time permits
• Organize a meeting with other attorneys, judges, clerks, paralegals, or legal assistants
• Take the student(s) to an off-site visit, such as a public trial or client meeting

WHAT STUDENTS ARE SAYING...

During my job shadowing experience, I learned more about a career in law than I could have ever hoped to gain through research. It was hands-on, challenging, and introspective. Starting from the state court hearings and ending in the federal courthouse, I was exposed to the broad spectrum of the legal profession in the United States.

OTHER IDEAS...

• Invite the student to observe meetings, conference calls, and other daily activities
• Resume/LinkedIn profile review
• Provide interviewing tips
• Discuss the student’s career interests and questions
• Organize an informational interview for the student

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