LAW | INDUSTRY ROADMAP

Career Paths and Desired Skills

Lawyers are analytical problem-solvers who are experts at writing and research, can foresee consequences of actions and language choices, and advocate strongly for their clients, whether in the public or private sector. Lawyers both protect the U.S. by ensuring the rule of law, and they argue to change existing rules.

A law degree is a general degree. You learn to “think like a lawyer” in law school, but do not major in a certain type of law. When you graduate, you can apply your analytical skills to many different practice areas.

ATTORNEY CAREER PATH EXAMPLES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Key Functions</th>
<th>Skill Set</th>
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| JUDGE | • Interpret the law  
• Assess the evidence presented  
• Manage hearings and trials | • Extensive legal knowledge  
• Research, writing  
• Logical analysis  
• Leadership project management |
| PROSECUTOR | • Investigate and try criminal cases  
• Negotiate plea deals | • Strategic thinking, logical analysis  
• Negotiation  
• Ability to think on one’s feet |
| CORPORATE TRANSACTIONAL ATTORNEY | • Draft contracts, wills, agreements  
• Provide guidance on real estate deal structure  
• Negotiate contracts and acquisitions  
• Work with state and federal regulations  
• Identify consequences of potential business actions | • Strategic thinking, negotiation  
• Attention to detail  
• Research, writing, logical analysis  
• Financial acumen |
| CIVIL RIGHTS ATTORNEY | • Advocate on behalf of individual clients  
• Talk to clients and witnesses to gather statements  
• Draft complaints and briefs | • Communication  
• Research, writing, negotiation  
• Strategic thinking  
• Passion |

PRE-LAW SCHOOL OPTIONS

A majority of UChicago students take time off between graduating from the College and starting law school. Students have worked in the following areas before attending law school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Representative Employers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PARALEGAL</td>
<td>Kirkland &amp; Ellis, White &amp; Case, Kobre &amp; Kim, NYCLU</td>
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<tr>
<td>BUSINESS</td>
<td>Morgan Stanley, Cornerstone, McKinsey</td>
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<tr>
<td>NON-PROFITS</td>
<td>Heartland Alliance, Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOLLOW YOUR PASSION</td>
<td>Peace Corps, Teach for America, Fulbright Fellowship, Political campaign</td>
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BUILDING EXPERIENCE FOR CAREERS IN LAW

Career Advancement offers a number of events and resources to help prepare you for a career in law:

EXPLORE
• Attend UCIL programs and legal treks, including Lunch and Learns with prominent alumni attorneys
• Join UChicago’s LinkedIn Group
• Attend law school admissions sessions with law school representatives
• Attend the UChicago Law School Open House

ENGAGE
• Take the Legal Research and Writing Seminar, which introduces pre-law students to legal research and provides the opportunity for them to write and receive feedback on a short legal memo
• Join the Law Student Mentor Program, which pairs UChicago College students with UChicago Law students
• Join a law-related RSO such as Phi Alpha Delta (PAD) or Women in Law
• Participate in Moot Court, Mock Trial, Debate or Model UN or the undergraduate Law Review
• Meet with a UCIL adviser (as often as you’d like)

APPLY
1. Decide whether you want to attend law school right out of College or take time off
2. Review LSAC.org website
3. Decide when to take LSAT or GRE
4. Contact recommenders (two academic and 1 or 2 employers) get to know your professors
6. Request hard copy of your transcript be sent to LSAC
7. Update your resume and have it reviewed by a UCIL adviser
8. Decide on list of law schools (using safeties and reaches)
9. Visit law schools where you have been accepted and would consider attending
10. Contact the Career Services Offices at the law schools you are considering and ask them job-related questions
11. If you are interested in public service, ask about the school’s LRAP (Loan Repayment Assistance Program) and about summer funding opportunities
12. Review results of process (acceptances, waitlists, and scholarship offers) with UCIL advisor to help determine which school is best for you

REPRESENTATIVE EMPLOYERS
A sample of employers who have hired UChicago students for legal internships include:

• National Constitution Center
• Goldberg Kohn, Ltd.
• Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office
• Orleans Public Defenders
• Advocates for Justice
• Holland & Knight
• Lawyers’ Committee for Better Housing
• Sidley Austin

Daniel Jellins (AB ’18)
• Law Student at UChicago Law School (Chicago Law Scholar)
• Law, Letters and Society major

Nick Romanoff (AB ’19)
• Summer Intern at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher, & Flom
• History and Political Science majors

UChicago Career Advancement careeradvancement.uchicago.edu