

CENTER FOR PUBLIC INTEREST LAW

The legal profession has the potential to significantly impact society for the better. Loyola University Chicago School of Law's outstanding initiatives demonstrate a commitment to our Jesuit tradition of serving humanity through learning, justice, and care for others. From in-house clinics to student groups, there are numerous ways for you to engage in public interest work during your law school experience. The Center for Public Interest Law supports and expands upon Loyola's deep and broad commitment to helping those in need.



300

Over 300 law students are honored each spring at the **Public Interest Recognition Luncheon** for their public interest work in clinics, externships, and the community.

40

Forty law graduates received assistance through Loyola's **Loan Repayment Assistance Program** in 2019.

Curricular emphasis on social justice

Loyola offers over **80 courses that relate to public interest law**, including immigration law, environmental law, access to health care, and other areas of poverty law.

Certificate

A **Public Interest Certificate** is offered to students who complete the required coursework and experiential learning activities.

Loan Repayment Assistance Program

Loyola's Loan Repayment Assistance program (LRAP) **provides financial awards for recent law graduates** who are engaged in full-time public service employment.

Clinical hands-on training

Loyola's **seven clinics** encourage students to contribute to society while gaining vital practical experience.

Business Law Clinic
Civitas Child and Family Law Clinic
ChildLaw Legislation and Policy
Community Law Center
Federal Tax Clinic
Health Justice Project

Public interest externships

Loyola's externship program offers students the opportunity to earn credit by participating in an externship at one of **more than 70 different public interest sites** including legal aid organizations and governmental agencies.

A+

Loyola's **public interest law** program received an A+ letter grade for its curriculum from *PreLaw* magazine in its 2016 back-to-school issue.

67

students from the Class of 2016 graduated with a **public interest and leadership distinction**.

the National Jurist
THE MAGAZINE FOR LAW STUDENTS

National Jurist magazine named Loyola one of the **top public interest law programs** in the country in 2016.

GET INVOLVED

Whatever your area of interest, Loyola can assist you in finding a place to serve. A sampling of co-curricular and extracurricular initiatives include:

Arrupe Tutors and Mentors – Loyola law students serve as mentors and tutors to undergraduate students attending Loyola's two-year college, just steps from the law school.

Hunger Week at Loyola – Law students sponsor activities to raise funds and awareness for local shelters and food banks.

Jackie's Meal – Once a month, Loyola students and faculty serve meals at a low income housing facility in the community.

Law Related Education at the Cook County Juvenile Detention Center – Law students educate young people in detention regarding laws and policies that affect them.

Orientation Day of Service – 1Ls assist community-based organizations and public interest programs during orientation week.

Public Interest Law Convocation – An annual event provided for all 1Ls, the Convocation recognizes outstanding achievements in public service by members of the legal profession.

Street Law and Pipeline Programs – These longtime programs encourage Chicago's students, particularly low-income minority youth, to consider law as a career. Programs occur both on campus and in the community.

Race and the Law Symposium – Led by the Black Law Student Association, this annual program addresses current legal and social topics related to race.

Norman Amaker Midwest Public Interest Law and Social Justice Retreat

Loyola law students and faculty host this annual retreat that brings together inspirational speakers, practitioners, and community organizers to engage with law students from Loyola and schools in the Midwest about **social justice initiatives and topics** that are relevant to public interest law.

Student leadership

Loyola's **Public Interest Law Society (PILS)** is focused on promoting careers in public interest law and providing volunteer opportunities while in law school. PILS raises money to fund summer fellowships for students working in public service, including hosting the popular annual PILS Auction.

Loyola law students recently developed two innovative student organizations:

The **Cultural Impact Initiative** works with faculty and administrators to promote cultural competency within classrooms, combat implicit bias, and serve as a support to students.

Stand Up For Each Other—Chicago advocates for individual K-12 students and educates communities and school personnel about school discipline issues.

Publication

The **Public Interest Law Reporter** is a student-run journal that highlights legal developments in human rights, criminal justice, governance, and the environment.

Career services

From a career counselor dedicated to advising public interest students, to **job fairs and informational programs tailored to public interest opportunities**, Loyola's Office of Career Services supports students who want to pursue a career in public interest law.

Scholarships

Incoming students who participated in AmeriCorps, City Corps, City Year, Peace Corps, VISTA, Teach for America, or the Jesuit Volunteer Corps, for one or more years, can apply for one-year, \$5,000 scholarships. Loyola offers several additional public interest scholarship and fellowship opportunities for both entering and upperclass JD students.

Post-graduate fellowships

The School of Law offers post-graduate fellowships, which **provide financial support** to law graduates who are transitioning to the practice of public interest law.



SCHOOL of LAW

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