

A group of stylized human figures holding hands around a globe. The figures are rendered in a light, semi-transparent grey color, and the globe is a realistic, detailed image of Earth. The entire scene is set against a white background.

1L Introduction to Public Service

What is
Public
Service?

Public service law encompasses work done not with the primary goal of making a profit, but rather to protect individual rights, advance justice, or enhance the public good—most often through non-profit organizations and government agencies.

What Do Public Service Summer Interns Do?

The experience varies widely among organizations and agencies. In general, 1Ls will have the opportunity to do some or all of the following:

- Meet with clients
- Legal research
- Legal writing
- Community education
- Administrative advocacy
- Legislative advocacy
- Observe and assist with litigation

Where ?

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- Federal Courts
- Department of Justice
- Federal Defender
- Federal Agencies

STATE GOVERNMENT

- State Courts
- CA Attorney General's Office
- State Defender
- State Agencies
- Legislature

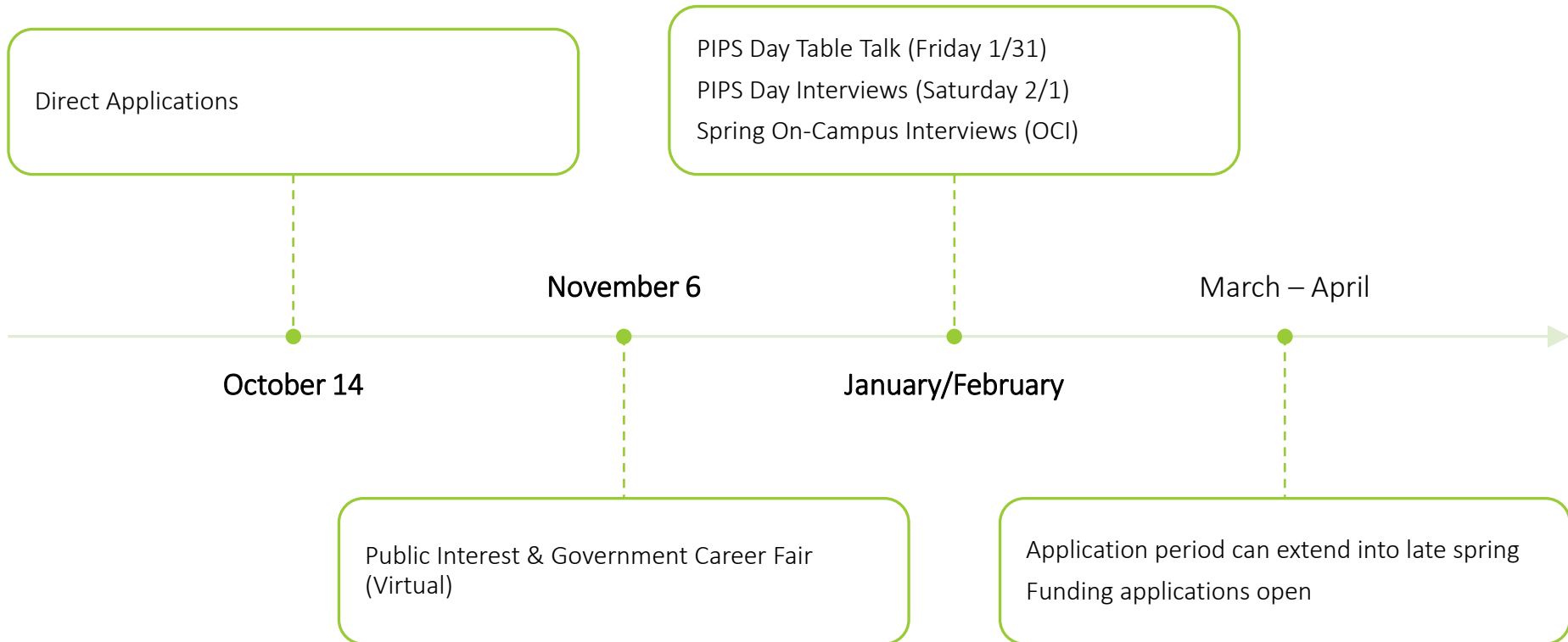
LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- District Attorney
- Public Defender
- City Attorney
- County Counsel

NON-PROFIT/NGO

- Legal Aids/Direct Services
- Public Interest Organizations
- Other

When?



How ?

12Twenty

PSJD

Arizona
Handbooks

Career
Services
Webpage

Career News

Your
Connections

Application Materials



Resume

1 page is standard
Follow sample formatting



Cover Letter

Highlight your interest in
the mission of the
organization/agency
Connect your experience to
the job



Writing Sample

LRW Memo



Transcript

Usually out in Jan/Feb



References

2-3 contacts

Interviewing:

Prepare
Yourself



DO YOUR RESEARCH



SCHEDULE A MOCK
INTERVIEW APPOINTMENT
WITH OUR OFFICE



SAMPLE INTERVIEW
QUESTIONS

Interviewing

What are they looking for?



Ability to articulate your commitment to their mission



Show connection with the issue, tell your story



Preparation and enthusiasm



Maturity, integrity, initiative, diligence, and ability to accept constructive criticism

Follow-up and Acceptance



Send a thank you e-mail within 24 hours



After two weeks, you may follow up with your interviewer to express your continued interest and ask when you will learn if you have been selected



Promptly acknowledge offers of employment.



Do **not** withdraw an acceptance to take a later offer.

Funding

Most public interest and government positions are not paid

UC Davis School of Law Summer Funding Opportunities

- Public Service Summer Grants
- John Paul Stevens Public Interest Fellowships
- Gene Family Watershed Fellowship
- King Hall Legal Foundation (KHLF) Summer Fellowships

External Summer Funding Opportunities

- Equal Justice Works Rural Summer Corps
- California Lawyers Association – Environmental Law Diversity & Inclusion Fellowship
- Bar Associations
- See [our webpage](#) for more

What you do
this summer
will not
define your
career

Clinics and
externships

Post-Bar
Fellowships

- Project based
- In house

Public Service
Law Program
and Pro Bono
Program

Looking
ahead

Support & Guidance

Classmates,
2L and 3Ls

Faculty &
Clinicians

Our Office