One of the most important questions prospective law students ask when choosing a law school is whether their degree will serve them well in pursuing a career after they graduate.

It’s a smart question. Law school requires a significant investment of time and money, and it’s important to evaluate law schools based on the quality of the education they offer. But there’s another extremely important consideration: the quality of assistance you will receive as you explore your career options.

Our program is designed to provide you with the resources and support you need to achieve your career goals. Beginning in the first year, you will meet individually — and often — with a career counselor dedicated to your success. You will learn how to develop your resumé, emphasize your strengths, and identify opportunities well suited to your aptitudes and desires. You will also have an opportunity to participate in a mock interview conducted by a practicing attorney. Through our comprehensive program of coaching and counseling, you will learn how to think about your job search strategically, pursue summer jobs that will enhance your resumé, and make good long-term career decisions based on your personal situation.

Vanderbilt hosts a large On-Campus Interview (OCI) session each fall for second-year students and another session each spring for first-year students. Employers from private firms, public interest organizations, and government departments and agencies value the talent and balance of Vanderbilt Law students, and they come to campus in high numbers.

This booklet highlights the results of our program, including the employers who attended our OCI sessions and those who hired our graduates. I’m proud of the students whose success and hard work are reflected here, and I look forward to having the opportunity to work with you as a Vanderbilt Law student to achieve your career goals.
Vanderbilt has one of the most successful career services programs among the nation’s leading law schools, providing comprehensive resources to help students explore career options and to guide graduates to career opportunities across the United States and around the world. Led by Assistant Dean Elizabeth Workman, our experienced and dedicated counselors work one on one with students starting in the first year to explore professional interests and aspirations. Career Services also hosts two well-attended on-campus interview (OCI) sessions each year—a fall session for second- and third-year students seeking summer and permanent employment, and a spring session for first-year students seeking summer positions.

The results speak for themselves. Each year, new Vanderbilt J.D. graduates enter private practice, judicial clerkships, public service or other positions throughout the United States and overseas. Members of the Classes of 2007 through 2011 (approximately 1,000 graduates) garnered positions in 42 states, the District of Columbia, and 12 foreign nations. More than 80 percent took employment out of state (see pages 24-25). Today, approximately 8,500 Vanderbilt Law graduates form a global network that spans 49 states and D.C., three U.S. territories and 29 foreign nations, and offers a unique advantage to new graduates.

Vanderbilt is recognized by a number of entities that gauge career prospects for graduates of American law schools in different ways:

- 7th, Law schools that saw the most alumni promoted to partner (in the 250 largest law firms) in 2011, TaxProf Blog
- 9th, Judicial Clerkship Ranking, US News Best Graduate Schools, 2010
- 10th (tied), A look at where new law firm partners in 2009 went to law school, National Law Journal, 2010
- 12th, 2010 “Go-to” Law Schools with the highest percentage of graduates hired by NLJ 250 firms, National Law Journal, 2010
Rich Resources for a Great Career Start

Vanderbilt Law Career Services offers comprehensive resources for finding a great job. See page 22 for information on recent steps Career Services has taken in response to the changing employment market.

On-Campus Interviews (OCI)
Vanderbilt graduates are in high demand for their outstanding legal training and for the interpersonal and professional skills they develop during law school. Legal employers representing hundreds of offices located throughout the nation and abroad come to the Vanderbilt campus each fall semester to interview second- and third-year students for summer and permanent employment. See pages 3-7 for a list of participating employers.

Spring OCI Session
A regional OCI session is offered each spring for first-year summer employment.

Off-Campus Interviews
With fewer legal employers traveling to law school campuses nationwide, Vanderbilt has created opportunities for students to arrange interviews in employers’ locations. Second- and third-year students can arrange employment interviews conducted in New York, Washington, D.C. and Chicago, and similar opportunities are planned for Houston and Florida.

Off-Campus Job Fairs
Job fairs nationwide focus on special career interests, minority hiring, public service employment and regional positions. See page 8 for a list of job fairs in which Vanderbilt participates.

Resumé Forwarding
Throughout the year, nearly 400 employers solicit resumés from Vanderbilt students and post job listings with the Career Services office. Some employers ask students to contact them directly while others have Career Services collect resumés.

The program frequently leads to personal interviews and permanent jobs.

Alumni Leads List
The Career Services office supports Vanderbilt graduates for life. Employers around the nation advertise positions for experienced attorneys through our Leads List, which is accessible to our graduates online and updated continuously.

Judicial Clerkship Program
Vanderbilt offers a successful faculty-led judicial clerkship program. See pages 13-16 for more information about this program.

An Acclaimed Career Services Program
Vanderbilt’s Career Services Program has a well-earned reputation for its effectiveness in enabling graduates to secure positions that meet their career goals. At Vanderbilt, the ratio of employment counselors to students is low, and the level of support you can expect is very high. In addition to helping you develop a professional resumé and improve your interviewing skills, Vanderbilt Career Services offers workshops and other opportunities to learn how law firms approach hiring and employment, how they are financed, how to get a job in a depressed market, how to succeed as a summer associate and beginning lawyer, and how to get a public interest job.

Public Service Initiative for Graduating Students
Vanderbilt’s Public Service Initiative provides stipends for graduating students who take unpaid positions in government or with public interest organizations. The initiative helps graduates gain work experience as they build their resumés, make contacts and transition to permanent employment.

Loan Repayment Assistance
Public interest positions are rewarding and offer opportunities to gain substantive legal experience. Unfortunately, they often offer comparatively low salaries. Vanderbilt’s Loan Repayment Assistance Program pays a portion of a qualifying graduate’s annual loan repayment obligation for up to 10 years to help ease the financial burden for graduates who take public interest employment.
by location of offices:

**ALABAMA**

*Birmingham*
Adams and Reese
Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz
Balch & Bingham
Bradley Arant Boult Cummings
Burr & Forman
Hand Arendall
Hare Wynn Newell & Newton
Johnston Barton Proctor & Rose
Lightfoot Franklin & White
Maynard Cooper & Gale
Sirote & Permutt
Southern Environmental Law Center
Starnes Davis Florie

*Huntsville*
Bradley Arant Rose White
Maynard Cooper & Gale

*Mobile*
Adams and Reese
Burr & Forman
Hand Arendall

*Montgomery*
Alabama Attorney General's Office
Balch & Bingham
Bradley Arant Boult Cummings

**ARIZONA**

*Phoenix*
Bryan Cave
Perkins Coie
Snell & Wilmer
Squire Sanders

*Tucson*
Snell & Wilmer

**CALIFORNIA**

*Costa Mesa*
Fitzpatrick Cella Harper & Scinto

*Irvine*
Bryan Cave
Jones Day
Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear

*Los Angeles*
Alston & Bird
Foley & Lardner
Fullbright & Jaworski
Hogan Lovells
Hunton & Williams
Jones Day
Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear
Latham & Watkins
Perkins Coie
Simpson Thacher & Bartlett
Snell & Wilmer
Venable

*Orange County*
Dechert
Latham & Watkins
Snell & Wilmer

*Palo Alto*
Alston & Bird
Finnegan Henderson Farabow Garrett & Dunner
Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear
Perkins Coie
Ropes & Gray

*San Diego*
Foley & Lardner
Jones Day
Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear
Latham & Watkins

*San Francisco*
Bryan Cave
Dechert
Foley & Lardner
Hogan Lovells
Jones Day
Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear
Latham & Watkins
Perkins Coie
Ropes & Gray
Squire Sanders

*Santa Monica*
Bryan Cave

*Silicon Valley*
Dechert
Foley & Lardner
Hogan Lovells
Jones Day
King & Spalding
Latham & Watkins

*Sunnyvale*
Infinera

**COLORADO**

*Colorado Springs*
Hogan Lovells

*Denver*
Bryan Cave
Fullbright & Jaworski
Hogan Lovells
Snell & Wilmer

**CONNECTICUT**

*Hartford*
Dechert

**DELAWARE**

*Wilmington*
Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

*Washington*
Alston & Bird
Arent Fox
Beveridge & Diamond
Bryan Cave
Dechert
Finnegan Henderson Farabow Garrett & Dunner
Fitzpatrick Cella Harper & Scinto
Foley & Lardner
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer
Fullbright & Jaworski
Haynes and Boone
Hogan Lovells
Howrey
Hunton & Williams
Jones Day
Kenyon & Kenyon
King & Spalding
Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear
Latham & Watkins
Paul Hastings Janofsky & Walker
Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia
Ropes & Gray
Simpson Thacher & Bartlett
Sullivan & Cromwell
Sutherland Asbill & Brennan
U.S. Department of Labor
U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of the General Counsel
U.S. Government Accountability Office
Venable
Vinson & Elkins
Winston & Strawn

FLORIDA
Jacksonville
Foley & Lardner
Miami
Foley & Lardner
Hogan Lovells
Squire Sanders
Orlando
Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz
Burr & Forman
Foley & Lardner
Lowndes Droodick Doster Kantor & Reed
Office of the Public Defender, Ninth Judicial Circuit
Sarasota
Adams and Reese
St. Petersburg
Adams and Reese
Tampa
Adams and Reese
DLA Piper US
Foley & Lardner
Hill Ward & Henderson

GEORGIA
Atlanta
Alston & Bird
Arnall Golden Gregory
Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz
Bryan Cave
Burr & Forman
DLA Piper US
Finnegan Henderson Farabow Garrett & Dunner
Hunton & Williams
Jones Day
King & Spalding
Miller & Martin
Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough
Parker Hudson Rainer & Dobbs
Paul Hastings Janofsky & Walker
Rogers & Hardin
Smith Gambrell & Russell
Southern Environmental Law Center
Sutherland Asbill & Brennan
Troutman Sanders
Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice

KENTUCKY
Florence
Frost Brown Todd
Lexington
Bingham Greenebaum Doll
Dinsmore & Shohl
Frost Brown Todd
Hare Wynn Newell & Newton
Stites & Harbison
Stoll Keenon Ogden
Wyatt Tarrant & Combs
Louisville
Bingham Greenebaum Doll
Dinsmore & Shohl
Frost Brown Todd
Stites & Harbison
Stoll Keenon Ogden
Wyatt Tarrant & Combs

ILLINOIS
Chicago
Bryan Cave
DLA Piper US
Foley & Lardner
Jones Day
Latham & Watkins
Perkins Coie
Ropes & Gray
Sidley Austin
Winston & Strawn

INDIANA
Indianapolis
Faegre Baker Daniels
Frost Brown Todd
Krieg DeVault
Taft Stettinius & Hollister

MASSACHUSETTS
Boston
Dechert
Foley & Lardner
Jones Day
Latham & Watkins
Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough
Ropes & Gray
Cambridge
Finnegan Henderson Farabow Garrett & Dunner

MICHIGAN
Ann Arbor
Dickinson Wright
Bloomfield
Dickinson Wright
Detroit
Dickinson Wright
Foley & Lardner
Grand Rapids
Dickinson Wright
Lansing
Dickinson Wright

MINNESOTA
Minneapolis
Fulbright & Jaworski

MISSISSIPPI
Gulfport
Balch & Bingham
Butler Snow O’Mara Stevens & Cannada

MARYLAND
Baltimore
DLA Piper US
Hogan Lovells
Venable
Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice

Rockville
Venable
Towson
Venable

LOUISIANA
Baton Rouge
Adams and Reese
Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz

New Orleans
Adams and Reese
Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz

Tampa
Adams and Reese
DLA Piper US
Foley & Lardner
Hill Ward & Henderson
Jackson
Adams and Reese
Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz
Balch & Bingham
Bradley Arant Boult Cummings
Burr & Forman
Butler Snow O’Mara Stevens & Cannada
Watts & Eager

MISSOURI
Kansas City
Bryan Cave
St. Louis
Bryan Cave
Fulbright & Jaworski

NEVADA
Las Vegas
Snell & Wilmer

NEW JERSEY
Princeton
Dechert

NEW YORK
New York
Allen & Overy
Alston & Bird
Bryan Cave
Cadwalader Wickersham & Taft
Dechert
Fitzpatrick Celli Harper & Scinto
Foley & Lardner
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer
Fulbright & Jaworski
Hogan Lovells
Holland & Knight
Hughes Hubbard & Reed
Hunton & Williams
Jones Day
Kenyon & Kenyon
King & Spalding
Latham & Watkins
Milbank Tweed Hadley & McCloy
Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe
Ropes & Gray
Seward & Kissel
Shearman & Sterling
Simpson Thacher & Bartlett
Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom
Sullivan & Cromwell
Venable
Vinson & Elkins

NORTH CAROLINA
Chapel Hill
Southern Environmental Law Center
Charlotte
Alston & Bird
Cadwalader Wickersham & Taft
Dechert
Hunton & Williams
K&L Gates
McGuireWoods
Moore & Van Allen
Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein
Robinson Bradshaw & Hinson
Winston & Strawn
Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice
Greensboro
Smith Moore Leatherwood
Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice
Raleigh
Alston & Bird
K&L Gates
Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough
Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein
Smith Anderson Blount Dorsett Mitchell & Jernigan
Smith Moore Leatherwood
Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice
Research Triangle Park
Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice
Winston-Salem
Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice

OHIO
Akron
Vorys Sater Seymour & Pease
Cincinnati
Bingham Greenebaum Doll
Dinsmore & Shohl
Frost Brown Todd
Squire Sanders
Taft Stettinius & Hollister
Vorys Sater Seymour & Pease
Cleveland
Baker & Hostetler
Jones Day
Squire Sanders
Taft Stettinius & Hollister
Vorys Sater Seymour & Pease
Columbus
Bricker & Eckler
Dinsmore & Shohl
Frost Brown Todd
Jones Day
Kegler Brown Hill & Ritter
Squire Sanders
Taft Stettinius & Hollister
Vorys Sater Seymour & Pease
Dayton
Taft Stettinius & Hollister
West Chester
Frost Brown Todd

OREGON
Portland
Perkins Coie

PENNSYLVANIA
Philadelphia
Dechert
Pittsburgh
Jones Day

SOUTH CAROLINA
Charleston
Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough
Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein
Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice
Columbia
Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough
Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein
Greenville
Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough
Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice
Myrtle Beach
Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough

TENNESSEE
Brentwood
U.S. Department of Justice—Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms Division
Chattanooga
Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz
Chambliss Bahner & Stophel
Husch Blackwell Sanders
Miller & Martin
Clarksville
Public Defender 19th Judicial District of Tennessee
Johnson City
Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz

Knoxville
Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz

Memphis
Adams and Reese
Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz
Bass Berry & Sims
Butler Snow O’Mara Stevens & Cannada
Wyatt Tarrant & Combs

Nashville
Adams and Reese
Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz
Bass Berry & Sims
Bradley Arant Boult Cummings
Burr & Forman
Butler Snow O’Mara Stevens & Cannada
Cornelius & Collins
Dickinson Wright
Frost Brown Todd
Gideon Cooper & Essary
Harwell Howard Hyne Gabbert & Manner
Law Office of John Cobb Rochford
MGLAW
Miller & Martin
Neal & Harwell
Riley Warnock & Jacobson
Sherrard & Roe
Stites & Harbison
Tennessee Attorney General’s Office
Tennessee Department of Children’s Services
Vanderbilt University, Office of the General Counsel

TEXAS
Austin
Bracewell & Giuliani
Dechert
Fullbright & Jaworski
Haynes and Boone
Vinson & Elkins

Dallas
Alston & Bird
Andrews Kurth
Bracewell & Giuliani
Bryan Cave
DLA Piper US
Fullbright & Jaworski
Haynes and Boone
Hunton & Williams
Jones Day
Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell
Vinson & Elkins

Fort Worth
Haynes and Boone

Houston
Adams and Reese
Andrews Kurth
Baker & Hostetler
Baker Botts
Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz
Bracewell & Giuliani
Fullbright & Jaworski
Haynes and Boone
Heim Payne & Chorush
Hogan Lovells
Jones Day
King & Spalding
Latham & Watkins
Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell
Simpson Thacher & Bartlett
Vinson & Elkins

Richardson
Haynes and Boone

San Antonio
Fullbright & Jaworski
Haynes and Boone

UTAH
Salt Lake City
Snell & Wilmer

VIRGINIA
Charlottesville
Southern Environmental Law Center

Northern Virginia
Hogan Lovells

Reston
Finnegan Henderson Farabow Garrett & Dunner

Richmond
Hunton & Williams
McGuireWoods

Tysons Corner
Venable
Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice

Vienna
Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice

WASHINGTON
Bellevue
Perkins Coie

Seattle
DLA Piper US
Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear
Perkins Coie

WEST VIRGINIA
Charleston
Dinsmore & Shohl
Frost Brown Todd

Huffington
Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough

Morgantown
Dinsmore & Shohl

WISCONSIN
Madison
Foley & Lardner
Perkins Coie

Milwaukee
Foley & Lardner
Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren

WORLDWIDE
U.S. Air Force Judge Advocate General Corps
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Army, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate

CHINA
Beijing
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer

Hong Kong
Allen & Overy
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer

Shanghai
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer

UNITED KINGDOM
London
Allen & Overy
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer
Vanderbilt Off-Campus Interview Programs

Legal employers invite Vanderbilt Law students for interviews on the basis of students’ resumés. Interviews are conducted in the employers’ location.

- New York
- Washington, D.C.
- Planned locations: Chicago; Houston; city TBA in Florida

Off-Campus Job Fairs

Job fairs address special career interests, minority hiring, public service opportunities or regional hiring. From 2009 through 2011, the Career Services office participated in the following job fairs:

**CALIFORNIA**
- Bay Area Diversity Job Fair – San Francisco
- Dupont Minority Job Fair – Los Angeles

**COLORADO**
- Rocky Mountain Diversity Legal Career Fair – Denver

**DELAWARE**
- Delaware Minority Job Fair – Wilmington
- Delaware Minority Job Fair for First-Year Law Students – Wilmington
- Dupont Minority Job Fair – Wilmington

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**
- Boston Lawyers Group Washington, D.C. Minority Job Fair
- Equal Justice Works Annual Career Fair and Conference
- IMPACT Career Fair
- National LGBT Bar Association Lavendar Career Fair
- Vault/MCCA Legal Diversity Career Fair

**FLORIDA**
- Southern Region BLSA Regional Job Fair – Jacksonville

**GEORGIA**
- Southeastern Intellectual Property Job Fair (SIPJF) – Atlanta
- Southeastern Minority Job Fair (SEMJF) – Atlanta

**ILLINOIS**
- Cook County Bar Association Annual Minority Law Student Job Fair – Chicago
- Dupont Minority Job Fair – Chicago
- Patent Law Interview Program – Chicago

**INDIANA**
- Indianapolis Bar Association Diversity Job Fair – Indianapolis

**KENTUCKY**
- Tri-State Diversity Recruitment Program – Covington

**MASSACHUSETTS**
- Boston Lawyers Group Minority Job Fair – Boston

**MISSOURI**
- Heartland Diversity Legal Job Fair – Kansas City
- St. Louis Diversity Job Fair – St. Louis

**MINNESOTA**
- Minnesota Minority Recruitment Conference – Minneapolis
- National Black Prosecutors Association Annual Job Fair – Minneapolis

**NEW HAMPSHIRE**
- New Hampshire Legal Job Fair – Concord

**NEW YORK**
- International Student Interview Program at New York University

**TENNESSEE**
- Damali Booker 1L Minority Job Fair – Nashville
- Tennessee Bar Association Diversity Job Fair – Nashville

**TEXAS**
- Dupont Minority Job Fair – Houston

**WASHINGTON**
- Hispanic National Bar Association Job Fair – Seattle
- Northwest Minority Job Fair – Seattle
Vanderbilt Law Students Can Gain Valuable Experience through summer externships and summer stipend opportunities in a variety of practice settings anywhere in the world. In externships, students receive academic credit for supervised field work at faculty approved placements, while summer stipends provide financial support for gaining pro bono experience (unpaid work with no academic credit). In recent years, Vanderbilt has expanded externships to include corporate legal departments and increased funding for summer stipends. During the academic year, students can also complete externships in Nashville for course credit, and academic programs sponsor semester externships in Washington, D.C., and other locations.

Vanderbilt also offers two public service summer fellowships. The Environmental Fellowship provides financial support for summer work with environmental agencies or NGOs, and the Regulatory Fellowship provides funds for summer work with government or non-profit organizations involved in regulatory matters.

Gain Valuable Experience Across the Nation and Around the World

Externship and Summer Stipend Placements

**Summer 2012**

**Judicial Chambers**

- Judge Timothy C. Stanceu, U.S. Court of International Trade, New York, New York
- Judge Karon O. Bowdre, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama, Birmingham
- Judge Sharon Lovelace Blackburn, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama, Birmingham
- Judge Abdul K. Kallon, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama, Birmingham
- Judge R. David Proctor, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama, Birmingham
- Judge William R. Wilson ’65, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas, Little Rock
- Judge Terry J. Hatter Jr., U.S. District Court for the Central District of California, Los Angeles
- Judge John L. Kane Jr., U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado, Denver
- Judge Joseph M. Hood, U.S. District Court for Eastern District of Kentucky, Lexington
- Judge Robert W. Pratt, U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Iowa, Des Moines, Iowa
- Judge Gerald E. Rosen, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, Detroit
- Judge Michael P. Mills, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi, Oxford
- Judge Robert C. Jones, U.S. District Court for the District of Nevada, Reno
- Judge James C. Mahan ’73, U.S. District Court for the District of Nevada, Las Vegas

Judge Michael H. Watson, U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, Columbus
Judge Nora Barry Fischer, U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh
Judge Curtis L. Collier, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee, Chattanooga
Judge John T. Nixon ’60, U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee, Nashville
Judge Kevin H. Sharp ’93, U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee, Nashville
Judge William J. Haynes Jr. ’73, U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee, Nashville
Judge A. Joe Fish, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas
Judge Reed C. O’Connor, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas
Judge Ewing Werlein Jr., U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Houston
Judge Lynn Hughes, U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Houston
Judge Marilyn Shea-Stonum, U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Ohio, Akron
Judge Stephani W. Humrickhouse, U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina, Raleigh
Judge Jeff Bohm, U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas, Houston
Magistrate Judge Charles Kahn Jr., U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Florida, Pensacola
Magistrate Judge Jillyn K. Schulze, U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland, Greenbelt
Magistrate Judge Mark A. Randon, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, Detroit
Magistrate Judge Sarah W. Hays, U.S. District Court for the Western District of Missouri, Kansas City
Magistrate Judge James C. Francis IV, U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, New York
Magistrate Judge E. Clifton Knowles, U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee
Magistrate Judge Joe Brown '65, U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee
Magistrate Judge John Bryant, U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee, Nashville
South Carolina Supreme Court, Columbia
Judge Matthew F. Cooper, Supreme Court, State of New York, New York
Judge David Furman, Colorado Court of Appeals, Denver
Judge Patricia A. Orozco, Arizona Court of Appeals, Phoenix
Judge Lori Rowe, Florida First District Court of Appeal, Tallahassee
Judge William A. Van Nortwick Jr., Florida First District Court of Appeal, Tallahassee
Judge John C. Martin, North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts, Court of Appeals, Raleigh
Judge Patricia Cottrell, Tennessee Court of Appeals, Nashville
Judge Joseph L. Boohaker, Circuit Court for the State of Alabama, Birmingham
Judge Philip J. McNulty, 1st Judicial District, Golden, Colorado
Judge Kimberly M. Esmond Adams, Fulton County Superior Court, Atlanta, Georgia
Judge Jacqueline E. Bolton, Hamilton County Courthouse, Chattanooga, Tennessee
Judge W. Jeffrey Hollingsworth, Circuit Court, Second Division, Chattanooga, Tennessee
Judge Royce Taylor, Tennessee Circuit Court, Nashville
Judge Caroline E. Baker, Texas 295th Civil Court, Houston
Judge Thomas W. Brothers '77, Sixth Circuit Court for the 20th Judicial District of Tennessee, Nashville
Judge Larry Noll, 408th Civil District Court, Bexar County, San Antonio, Texas
Administrative Judges Mary Palmer and Charles G. Shubow, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Hearing Office, Baltimore, Maryland
Memphis Immigration Court, Memphis, Tennessee

Federal Agencies
Federal Communications Commission, International Bureau, Strategic Analysis and Negotiations Division, Washington, D.C.
Federal Trade Commission, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Atlanta, Georgia
The Judge Advocate General's Legal Center & School, Center for Law and Military Operations, Charlottesville, Virginia
U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, Nashville Division Counsel, Nashville, Tennessee
U.S. Department of Defense, Office of General Counsel, International Affairs, Arlington, Virginia
U.S. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division, Washington, D.C.
U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Division, Torts Branch, Environment Torts Litigation Section, Washington, D.C.
U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Division, Torts Branch, Federal Tort Claims Act Litigation Section, Washington, D.C.
U.S. Department of Justice, Criminal Division Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, Washington, D.C.
U.S. Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Agency, Office of General Counsel, Arlington, Virginia
U.S. Department of Justice, Environmental Torts Section, Washington, D.C.
U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Legal Policy, Washington, D.C.
U.S. Department of State, Office of Peace Operations, Sanctions & Counter-Terrorism, Washington, D.C.
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Denver, Colorado
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Alexandria, Virginia

U.S. Attorneys' Offices
Middle District of Alabama, Montgomery
District of Columbia, Washington
Northern District of Georgia, Atlanta
Eastern District of Kentucky, London
Western District of Missouri, Kansas City
Western District of New York, Buffalo
Western District of North Carolina, Asheville
Western District of North Carolina, Charlotte
Eastern District of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia
Middle District of Tennessee, Nashville

State Agencies
New York City Department of Environmental Protection, Flushing, New York
North Carolina Department of Justice, Insurance Section, Raleigh
North Carolina Department of Justice, Water and Land Section, Environmental Division, Raleigh
Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation, Nashville
Department of Children's Services, Nashville, Tennessee

State, District or City Attorney's Offices
New Jersey Office of the Attorney General, Division of Law, Newark
Tennessee Attorney General, Nashville
Los Angeles City Attorney's Office, California
El Paso County District Attorney's Office, Colorado Springs, Colorado
City of Chicago Department of Law, Chicago, Illinois
Cook County State's Attorney Office, Chicago, Illinois
Marion County Prosecutor's Office, Indianapolis, Indiana
District Attorney General, 20th Judicial District, Nashville, Tennessee (5)
Corporate Legal Offices

- Indiana Pacers, Pacers Sports and Entertainment, Indianapolis
- Nashville Predators, Office of General Counsel, Nashville, Tennessee
- Sony Music Nashville, Legal & Business Affairs Department, Nashville, Tennessee
- The Nielsen Company, New York, New York
- United Steel Workers Special Counsel, Nashville, Tennessee
- University of Texas Medical Branch Hospital, Department of Legal Affairs, Galveston
- Vanderbilt University Compliance Office, Nashville, Tennessee

Advocacy and Non-Profit Organizations

- Administrative Conference of the United States, Washington, D.C.
- American Bar Association, Center for Human Rights, Washington, D.C.
- American Civil Liberties Union of Alaska, Anchorage
- American Civil Liberties Union, Nashville, Tennessee (2)
- Battered Women’s Legal Advocacy Project, Minneapolis, Minnesota
- Center for Court Innovations, New York, New York
- Colorado Lawyers for the Arts, Denver
- Community Legal Aid, Akron, Ohio
- Disability Law and Advocacy Center, Nashville, Tennessee
- Institute for Justice, Texas Chapter, Austin
- Land Trust for Tennessee, Nashville
- Legal Information for Families Today, New York, New York
- LIST Project to Resettle Iraqi Allies, Pro Bono Practice of Mayer Brown, Washington, D.C.
- National Endowment for the Arts, Office of General Counsel, Washington, D.C.
- Southern Migrant Legal Services, Nashville, Tennessee (2)
- Tennessee Justice Center, Nashville
- Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid, San Antonio, Texas (2)
- Vera Institute of Justice, Washington, D.C.
- Volunteer Lawyers & Professionals for the Arts, Nashville, Tennessee

Semester Externships, Fall 2012

- British British Institute of International and Comparative Law, London
- Country Music Television, Legal Department
- Disability Law and Advocacy Center of Tennessee
- Metro Nashville Department of Law
- Metro Nashville District Attorney’s Office
- Tennessee Attorney General's Office
- Tennessee Department of Children's Services, Assistant General Counsel
- Uganda Lawyers for Human Rights, Kampala
- U.S. Department of Justice, Trustee Program
- U.S. Department of State, Legal Department, Washington, D.C.
- U.S. Department of State, Assistant Legal Advisor for Private International Law, Washington, D.C.
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, D.C.
- U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Washington, D.C.
- Volunteer Lawyers & Professionals for the Arts, Arts & Business Council of Greater Nashville
A clerkship also presents an extraordinary opportunity to learn firsthand how judges make decisions and how the judicial system functions, and the judges with whom clerks serve often become lifelong mentors and advocates for their former clerks.

The faculty takes an active leadership role in the judicial clerkship program, working closely and individually with interested students. Professor Michael Bressman heads the program, providing valuable advice and guidance throughout the clerkship application process.

In 2011, 14.4 percent of graduating students accepted judicial clerkships; 17 percent of 2010 graduates did so. In recent years, Vanderbilt Law graduates have clerked for the U.S. Supreme Court and for each of the U.S. Courts of Appeals. Vanderbilt ranked ninth in the nation by the percentage of 2008 graduates employed as judicial clerks by Article III federal judges (US News Best Graduate Schools website, December 1, 2010).

During the 2011-12 academic year, 33 Vanderbilt Law graduates secured 35 clerkships with the following courts:

**UNITED STATES COURTS OF APPEALS**

**Third Circuit**
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
The Honorable Kent A. Jordan
The Honorable Judge Jane R. Roth

**Sixth Circuit**
Memphis, Tennessee
The Honorable Bernice Bouie Donald (2)
The Honorable Julia Smith Gibbons

Nashville, Tennessee
The Honorable Gilbert S. Merritt Jr., Class of 1960
The Honorable Jane Branstetter Stranch, Class of 1978

**Seventh Circuit**
Indianapolis, Indiana
The Honorable John D. Tinder

**Eighth Circuit**
El Dorado, Arkansas
The Honorable Bobby E. Shepherd

**Ninth Circuit**
San Francisco, California
The Honorable Richard C. Tallman
Seattle, Washington
The Honorable Ronald M. Gould

**FEDERAL DISTRICT COURTS**

**Alabama**
Northern District of Alabama, Birmingham
The Honorable Karon O. Bowdre
The Honorable Abdul K. Kallon

**Florida**
Southern District of Florida, Fort Lauderdale
The Honorable William J. Zloch
Southern District of Florida, Miami
The Honorable K. Michael Moore

**Georgia**
Middle District of Georgia, Albany
The Honorable W. Louis Sands

**Kentucky**
Western District of Kentucky, Louisville
The Honorable John G. Heyburn II

**Louisiana**
Eastern District of Louisiana, New Orleans
The Honorable Lance M. Africk
The Honorable Jane M. Triche-Milazzo

**Michigan**
Eastern District of Michigan, Detroit
The Honorable Stephen J. Murphy III

**Nevada**
District of Nevada, Las Vegas
The Honorable James C. Mahan, Class of 1973

**Eleventh Circuit**
Atlanta, Georgia
The Honorable Phyllis A. Kravitch

Eva Dossier clerked for the Honorable James B. Loken on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit during the 2011-12 term.
Pennsylvania  
Western District of Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh  
The Honorable Gary L. Lancaster  

South Carolina  
District of South Carolina, Columbia  
The Honorable Joseph F. Anderson Jr.  
District of South Carolina, Charleston  
The Honorable Patrick M. Duffy  

Tennessee  
Middle District of Tennessee, Nashville  
The Honorable William J. Haynes Jr., Class of 1973  
The Honorable Kevin H. Sharp, Class of 1993  
The Honorable John T. Nixon, Class of 1960  

Western District of Tennessee, Jackson  
The Honorable J. Daniel Breen  

Texas  
Northern District of Texas, Dallas  
The Honorable Reed C. O’Connor  

State Supreme Courts  
Tennessee Supreme Court, Nashville  
The Honorable William C. Koch, Class of 1972  

State courts  
Alaska  
Alaska Superior Court, 4th District, Fairbanks  
The Honorable Leonard Devaney III  

Colorado  
Colorado Court of Appeals, Denver  
The Honorable Richard L. Gabriel  

Oregon  
Oregon Court of Appeals, Salem  
The Honorable Rebecca A. Duncan  

Tennessee  
Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals, Huntingdon  
The Honorable John Everett Williams  

During the 2010-11 academic year, 39 Vanderbilt Law graduates secured clerkships with the following courts:  

United States Courts of Appeals  
District of Columbia Circuit  
The Honorable Karen LeCraft Henderson  

Sixth Circuit  
Nashville, Tennessee  
The Honorable Martha Craig Daughtrey, Class of 1968  
The Honorable Gilbert S. Merritt Jr., Class of 1960  

The Honorable Jane Branstetter Stranch, Class of 1978 (3)  

Eighth Circuit  
Little Rock, Arkansas  
The Honorable Lavenski R. Smith  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
The Honorable James B. Loken  

Eleventh Circuit  
Atlanta, Georgia  
The Honorable R. Lanier Anderson III  
Macon, Georgia  
The Honorable Phyllis A. Kravitch  

Federal District Courts  
Alabama  
Northern District of Alabama, Huntsville  
The Honorable C. Lynwood Smith Jr.  

Arizona  
District of Arizona  
The Honorable John M. Roll*  

Florida  
Southern District of Florida, Miami  
The Honorable James L. King  

Georgia  
Northern District of Georgia, Atlanta  
The Honorable Russell G. Vineyard  

*Deceased
During the 2009-10 academic year, 44 Vanderbilt Law graduates secured clerkships with the following courts:

**UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT**
Washington, D.C.
The Honorable John G. Roberts Jr.

**UNITED STATES COURTS OF APPEALS**
Third Circuit
Wilmington, Delaware
The Honorable Kent A. Jordan

Sixth Circuit
Ann Arbor, Michigan
The Honorable Raymond M. Kethledge

Cleveland, Ohio
The Honorable Karen Nelson Moore

London, Kentucky
The Honorable Eugene E. Siler Jr.

Nashville, Tennessee
The Honorable Gilbert S. Merritt Jr., Class of 1960

Eighth Circuit
Kansas City, Missouri
The Honorable Duane Benton

Eleventh Circuit
Montgomery, Alabama
The Honorable Joel F. Dubina

District of Columbia Circuit
Washington, D.C.
The Honorable Karen LeCraft Henderson

**KENTUCKY**
Eastern District of Kentucky, Frankfort
The Honorable Danny C. Reeves

Louisiana
Middle District of Louisiana, Baton Rouge
The Honorable James J. Brady

MISSISSIPPI
Southern District of Mississippi, Jackson
The Honorable Daniel P. Jordan III

Nevada
District of Nevada, Reno
The Honorable Robert C. Jones

New Mexico
District of New Mexico, Albuquerque
The Honorable James O. Browning

Pennsylvania
Eastern District of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia
The Honorable Anita B. Brody

Tennessee
Eastern District of Tennessee, Knoxville
The Honorable Thomas W. Phillips, Class of 1969

Middle District of Tennessee, Nashville
The Honorable William J. Haynes Jr., Class of 1973

The Honorable John T. Nixon, Class of 1960

The Honorable Kevin H. Sharp, Class of 1993
The Honorable Aleta A. Trauger, Class of 1976

**STATE COURTS**

**California**
Los Angeles Superior Court
The Honorable Ralph W. Dau

**Delaware**
Delaware Court of Chancery, Wilmington
The Honorable Sam Glasscock III

**Massachusetts**
Massachusetts Court of Appeals, Boston
The Honorable Joseph A. Grasso Jr.

**Minnesota**
Minnesota District Court, 2nd District, St. Paul
The Honorable Marybeth Dorn

**Tennessee**
Tennessee Chancery Court, 16th District, Murfreesboro
The Honorable Robert E. Corlew III

Tennessee Circuit Court, 20th District, Nashville
The Honorable Thomas W. Brothers, Class of 1977

Tennessee Criminal Court of Appeals, Memphis
The Honorable Camille R. McMullen

**Vermont**
Vermont Superior Court, Bennington County

**STATE SUPREME COURTS**

Kentucky Supreme Court, Frankfort
The Honorable John D. Minton Jr.

Tennessee Supreme Court, Nashville
The Honorable Cornelia A. Clark, Class of 1979

**OTHER FEDERAL COURTS**

U.S. Bankruptcy Court
District of Columbia, Washington
The Honorable S. Martin Teel Jr.

Western District of North Carolina, Charlotte
The Honorable J. Craig Whitley

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT**

**United States Court of Appeals**

Third Circuit
Wilmington, Delaware
The Honorable Kent A. Jordan

Sixth Circuit
Ann Arbor, Michigan
The Honorable Raymond M. Kethledge

Cleveland, Ohio
The Honorable Karen Nelson Moore

London, Kentucky
The Honorable Eugene E. Siler Jr.

Nashville, Tennessee
The Honorable Gilbert S. Merritt Jr., Class of 1960

Eighth Circuit
Kansas City, Missouri
The Honorable Duane Benton

Eleventh Circuit
Montgomery, Alabama
The Honorable Joel F. Dubina

District of Columbia Circuit
Washington, D.C.
The Honorable Karen LeCraft Henderson
FEDERAL DISTRICT COURTS

ALABAMA
Northern District of Alabama, Birmingham
The Honorable Sharon Blackburn

The Honorable C. Lynwood Smith
Middle District of Alabama, Montgomery
The Honorable Mark E. Fuller

ARKANSAS
Eastern District of Arkansas, Little Rock
The Honorable Brian S. Miller,
Class of 1995
Western District of Arkansas, Fort Smith
The Honorable Robert T. Dawson

CONNECTICUT
District of Connecticut, Hartford
The Honorable Alvin W. Thompson

DELWARE
District of Delaware, Wilmington
The Honorable Alvin W. Thompson

FLORIDA
Middle District of Florida, Ocala
The Honorable Gary R. Jones

ILLINOIS
Northern District of Illinois, Chicago
The Honorable Wayne R. Andersen
The Honorable James F. Holderman

INDIANA
Southern District of Indiana, Evansville
The Honorable Richard L. Young

LOUISIANA
Western District of Louisiana, Shreveport
The Honorable Elizabeth Erny Foote
The Honorable Thomas E. Stagg Jr.

MICHIGAN
Eastern District of Michigan, Detroit
The Honorable David M. Lawson
Western District of Michigan, Grand Rapids
The Honorable Robert H. Bell

MISSOURI
Eastern District of Missouri, St. Louis
The Honorable Carol E. Jackson

NEVADA
District of Nevada, Las Vegas
The Honorable James C. Mahan,
Class of 1973

NEW MEXICO
District of New Mexico, Las Cruces
The Honorable William P. Lynch

TENNESSEE
Eastern District of Tennessee, Chattanooga
The Honorable Curtis L. Collier
Western District of Tennessee, Memphis
The Honorable S. Hardy Mays
The Honorable Jon P. McCalla,
Class of 1974

TEXAS
Western District of Texas, San Antonio
The Honorable Xavier Rodriguez

WEST VIRGINIA
Southern District of West Virginia, Bluefield
The Honorable David A. Faber

OTHER FEDERAL COURTS

U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT
Middle District of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg
The Honorable Mary D. France
Northern District of Georgia, Atlanta
The Honorable Joyce Bihary

STATE COURTS

DELAWARE
Delaware Court of Chancery,
Wilmington
The Honorable J. Travis Laster

KENTUCKY
Kentucky Supreme Court, Frankfort
The Honorable Lisabeth Hughes Abramson

MARYLAND
Montgomery County Circuit Court,
Rockville
The Honorable Sharon V. Burrell

MINNESOTA
Minnesota District Court, 4th District,
Minneapolis
The Honorable Ivy S. Bernhardt

TENNESSEE
Tennessee Circuit Court, 20th District,
Nashville
The Honorable Thomas W. Brothers,
Class of 1977
The Honorable Barbara N. Haynes
Tennessee Court of Appeals, Memphis
The Honorable Holly M. Kirby
Tennessee Supreme Court, Nashville
The Honorable William C. Koch Jr.,
Class of 1972

UTAH
Utah 4th District Court, Provo
The Honorable Claudia Laycock

WEST VIRGINIA
West Virginia Circuit Court, 23rd Judicial Circuit, Martinsburg
The Honorable John Yoder
Where Do You Go from Here?

J.D. Class of 2011 Nine Months After Graduation

Vanderbilt is a small law school with an expansive reach. Legal employers across the nation are familiar with the qualities of Vanderbilt graduates, and our graduates choose employment in a wide variety of locations. Nine months after graduation, members of the Class of 2011 were employed in 35 states, the District of Columbia, U.S. Virgin Islands, or pursuing graduate degrees in England or the United States. See pages 18 through 20 for a complete listing of their locations and employers.

MOST POPULAR DESTINATIONS, CLASS OF 2011
- Tennessee, 37
- Washington, D.C., 20
- New York, 17
- Georgia, 11
- Texas, 11
- California, 8
- Illinois, 7

EMPLOYMENT TYPES, CLASS OF 2011
- Private Practice 47.6%
- Judicial Clerkships 16.0%
- Government/Military 11.2%
- Public Interest 16.4%
- Academic 1.1%
- Business 9.6%
LOCATIONS AND EMPLOYERS  Class of 2011

Nine months after graduation, 95.5 percent of the Class of 2011 were employed* and 2.5 percent were enrolled in full-time graduate degree programs. Their locations and employers were reported as follows:

**ALABAMA 6**

Birmingham  Bradley Arant Boult Cummings
Johnston Barton Proctor and Rose
Lightfoot Franklin & White
Presley Burton & Collier

Huntsville  Madison Volunteer Lawyers Program
The Honorable C. Lynwood Smith Jr., U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama

**ARIZONA 1**

Phoenix  Snell & Wilmer

**CALIFORNIA 8**

Costa Mesa  Latham & Watkins
Irving  Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear
Los Angeles  Greenberg Traurig
Legal contract work
Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County
The Space and Missile System Center
San Jose  Law Foundation of Silicon Valley
Santa Ana  The Honorable David O. Carter, U.S. District Court for the Central District of California

**COLORADO 3**

Denver  Colorado Lawyers for the Arts
Schutjer Bogar – 2

**DELAWARE 4**

Georgetown  The Honorable Sam Glasscock III, Delaware Court of Chancery
Wilmington  Bouchard Margules & Friedlander
Grant & Eisenhofer
Richards Layton & Finger

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 20**

Washington  Arnold & Porter
Crowell & Moring
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board
Grameen Foundation
Hogan Lovells – 2
Hunton & Williams
Jones Day – 2
Legal contract work
Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia
Schutjer Bogar – 2
Teach For America
The Vernia Law Group
The Honorable Karen LeCraft Henderson, U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Department of State - Presidential Management Fellowship
U.S. House of Representatives
Parliamentarian
U.S. Senator Mark Pryor

**FLORIDA 6**

Miami  The Honorable James L. King, U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida

**GEORGIA 12**

Atlanta  American Tower Corp.
Burr & Forman
Finnegan Henderson Farabow Garrett & Dunner
Governor’s Office of Consumer Protection
King & Spalding
Miller & Martin
Ogletree Deakins Nash Smoak & Stewart
Pro Bono Partnership of Atlanta
Smith Gambrell & Russell
Teach for America
The Honorable Russell G. Vineyard, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia

Macon  James Bates Pope & Spivey

**ILLINOIS 7**

Chicago  Cabrini Green Legal Aid
Katten Muchin Rosenman
Legal Aid Society
Pintas & Mullins
Sidley Austin – 2

Peoria  City of Peoria Legal Department

**INDIANA 3**

Bloomington  Cook Group Inc.
Indianapolis  Frost Brown Todd
Hall Render Killian Heath & Lyman

**KENTUCKY 5**

Bowling Green  The Honorable John D. Minton Jr., Kentucky Supreme Court
Frankfort  The Honorable Danny C. Reeves, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky

*Including 31 Vanderbilt Public Service Initiative school-funded positions. See page 26 for more information. Employment status unknown: 1.5 percent. Unemployed, seeking: 0.5 percent.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Office/Agency/Program</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Louisville</td>
<td>Frost Brown Todd</td>
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<td></td>
<td>O’Bryan Brown &amp; Toner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Owensboro</td>
<td>Kentucky Department of Public Advocacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>LOUISIANA 3</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Baton Rouge</td>
<td>The Honorable James J. Brady, U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Orleans</td>
<td>Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell &amp; Berkovitz</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Honorable Jane Triche-Milazzo, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Louisiana</td>
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<tr>
<td>MARYLAND 2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Baltimore</td>
<td>Bendet &amp; Associates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Office of the Attorney General</td>
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<tr>
<td>MASSACHUSETTS 2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Boston</td>
<td>Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Honorable Joseph A. Grasso Jr., Massachusetts Appeals Court</td>
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<tr>
<td>MICHIGAN 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grand Rapids</td>
<td>Rhoades McKee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lansing</td>
<td>Elder Law of Michigan</td>
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<tr>
<td>MINNESOTA 2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bloomington</td>
<td>U.S. Department of Justice, Attorney General Honors Program, Immigration Court</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minneapolis</td>
<td>The Honorable James B. Loken, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit</td>
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<tr>
<td>MISSISSIPPI 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gulfport</td>
<td>Office of the District Attorney’s Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>MISSOURI 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kansas City</td>
<td>Blake &amp; Uhlig</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Legal Aid of Western Missouri</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saint Louis</td>
<td>Sandberg Phoenix &amp; von Gontard</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Stinson Morrison Hecker</td>
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<td>NEVADA 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reno</td>
<td>The Honorable Robert C. Jones, U.S. District Court for the District of Nevada</td>
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<tr>
<td>NEW HAMPSHIRE 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manchester</td>
<td>Nelson Kinder Mosseau &amp; Saturley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEW MEXICO 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Albuquerque</td>
<td>The Honorable James O. Browning, U.S. District Court for the District of New Mexico</td>
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<tr>
<td>Santa Fe</td>
<td>The Honorable Bruce D. Black, U.S. District Court for the District of New Mexico</td>
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<tr>
<td>NEW YORK 17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Albany</td>
<td>New York State Senate Fellowship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Garden City</td>
<td>Rosenberg Calica &amp; Birney</td>
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<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>China Labor Watch</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Hughes Hubbard and Reed</td>
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<td>Legal temporary agency</td>
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<td>Linklaters</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Milbank Tweed Hadley &amp; McCloy</td>
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<td></td>
<td>New York City Law Department – 3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Olshan Grundman Frome Rosenzweig &amp; Wolosky</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shearman &amp; Sterling</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Simpson Thacher &amp; Bartlett</td>
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<td>Sullivan &amp; Cromwell – 2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Venable</td>
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<tr>
<td>NORTH CAROLINA 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asheville</td>
<td>Pisgah Legal Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte</td>
<td>Bank of America</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Legal contract work – 2</td>
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<td>OREGON 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Silverton</td>
<td>Self Employed, non-legal</td>
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<tr>
<td>OHIO 5</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cincinnati</td>
<td>Squire Sanders &amp; Dempsey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbus</td>
<td>Baker &amp; Hostetler – 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vorys Sater Seymour and Pease</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lehman</td>
<td>1st National Bank</td>
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<tr>
<td>OKLAHOMA 1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tulsa</td>
<td>Legal Aid Services of Oklahoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OREGON 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silverton</td>
<td>Self Employed, non-legal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PENN S YLVAN IA 2

King of Prussia Philadelphia Suburban Development Corp.
Philadelphia The Honorable Anita B. Brody, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania

SOUTH CAROLINA 2

Myrtle Beach Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough
Pawley's Island Schutjer Bogar

TENNESSEE 37

Chattanooga Miller & Martin
Franklin Office of the District Attorney (21st District)
Knoxville The Honorable Thomas W. Phillips, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee
Memphis Bellamy Law Group
The Honorable Camille R. McMullen, Tennessee Criminal Court of Appeals
The Honorable Julia Gibbons, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
Murfreesboro The Honorable Robert E. Corlew III, Tennessee Chancery Court, 16th District
Nashville Adams and Reese
Barrett Johnston
Bass Berry & Sims
Bradley Arant Boult Cummings – 3
Burr & Forman
Covenant Surgical Partners
Department of Law for the Metropolitan Government
Disability Law & Advocacy Center of Tennessee Inc.
Ethics & Palliative Care, St. Thomas Hospital
Federal Public Defender
Gideon Cooper & Essary
Heritage Group
Kay Griffin Enkema
Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee
Nashville General Hospital at Meharry, Office of General Counsel
Metro Council
Metropolitan Nashville Department of Law
MGLAW
Nashville Teaching Fellows
Self-employed
Sherrard & Roe
Southwestern Co.
State Senator Brian Kelsey’s office
The Honorable Thomas W. Brothers, Tennessee Circuit Court, 20th District
The Honorable Cornelia A. Clark, Tennessee Supreme Court
The Honorable Martha Craig Daughtrey, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
The Honorable Gilbert S. Merritt Jr., U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
The Honorable Jane Branstetter Stranch, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
The Honorable William J. Haynes Jr., U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee
The Honorable John T. Nixon, U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee
U.S. Internal Revenue Service
The Law Offices of Woods & Woods
Waller Lansden Dorich & Davis – 2
White Law Group

TEXAS 11

Austin Children’s Advocacy Center of Texas
Dallas Haynes and Boone – 2
Vinson & Elkins
Houston Baker Botts – 2

UTAH 1

Logan Logan City Attorney’s Office

VERMONT 1

Bennington Vermont Superior Court, Bennington County

VIRGINIA 3

Arlington Public Defender’s Office
McLean Watt Tieder Hoffar & Fitzgerald
Richmond Williams Mullen

WASHINGTON 2

Seattle Foster Pepper
Seattle Public Defender

WEST VIRGINIA 1

Charleston The Honorable Joseph R. Goodwin, U.S. District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia

INTERNATIONAL / U.S. TERRITORIES 2

Korea Supreme Court of Korea
U.S. Virgin Islands The Honorable Curtis V. Gomez, U.S. District Court for the District of the Virgin Islands

GRADUATE DEGREES 5

England
United States – 4
Start Your Search From a Strong Position

Prospective students are understandably concerned about the impact of the economic downturn on employment for new law graduates. As one of the nation’s top law schools, Vanderbilt entered the downturn in a strong position in the legal marketplace. Many different employers and a global network of devoted alumni seek to hire Vanderbilt graduates.

National Employment Market for New Law Graduates

Although Vanderbilt’s position is fortunate, the job market for new graduates of all American law schools has changed rapidly in recent years. According to the National Association for Legal Career Professionals (NALP), the employment rate for new law graduates had reached a 23-year high of 91 percent in 2007. Just four years later in 2011, the rate had fallen to 85.6 percent, the lowest since 1994, during the aftermath of the last significant economic recession. (Source of national NALP data in this article: Jobs and JD’s, Class of 2011: Employment and Salaries of new law graduates, 2012, NALP.)

In the private sector, law firms have reduced their summer associate programs and have hired fewer new law graduates. The national percentage of 2011 graduates who accepted jobs for which bar passage is required was the lowest percentage NALP has ever recorded – 65.4 percent compared to 74.7 percent for 2008 graduates. The 2011 percentage of those employed who obtained jobs in private practice (49.5 percent), was 6.4 percent lower than 2009.1

Public service employment—including government, military, judicial clerkships and public interest jobs—has long been challenging for new law graduates, and has become even more competitive in the downturn, not only because contraction in the private sector has meant more new law graduates seeking public service employment, but also because government and public interest employers have reduced hiring due to budget cuts.

Shifting Job Search Strategies

With fewer jobs available for new law graduates, legal employers have scaled down their on-campus interviews at law schools across the nation. In 2011, less than 13 percent of jobs nationally were obtained through on-campus interviews, the lowest percentage recorded since NALP began collecting this information in 1993. As a result, law students seeking employment sought job sources beyond on-campus interviews. Most prominently, letters or other self-initiated contacts were the source of about 24 percent of jobs obtained by 2011 graduates, referrals accounted for about 19 percent, and job listings about 15 percent. The corresponding figures for the Vanderbilt Class of 2011 (all employer types): on-campus interviews, 24.6 percent2; letters/self-initiated contacts, 49.7 percent (including judicial clerkship applications)3; referrals, 8.9 percent; and job listings, 4.5 percent.

---

1 Please note that NALP and law schools sometimes refer to percentages of all graduates and other times refer to percentages of employed graduates or percentages of jobs. Particularly when comparing data across law schools, take care to compare apples to apples. Note also that some statistics describe “reported” data. For example, some graduates report their employment, but not their salaries, and therefore are excluded from salary statistics.
2 Vanderbilt OCI was the source of 60.3 percent of the jobs reported in law firms of 51 or more attorneys.
3 Self-initiated contacts were the source of 80 percent of reported government jobs and 96.2 percent of reported public interest jobs.
**Additional Assistance in a Changing Employment Market**

Vanderbilt has taken several steps in response to the changing employment environment, including additional Career Services staff and more resources that directly help students secure employment:

- **Stepped-up outreach to legal employers** and alumni nationwide
- **The Public Service Initiative**, a “bridge to practice” program that helps new graduates gain valuable legal experience in public service positions while continuing to search for permanent employment in locations of the graduates’ choice
- **On-site employment interview programs** in New York, Washington, D.C., and Chicago with additional programs planned for Houston and Florida

**A travel fund** to support second- and third-year students who obtain interviews from job postings or direct applications to private employers, government and public service organizations

- **An expanded array of summer and semester opportunities** for students to gain practical legal experience through **externships and public interest stipends**
- **A workshop series** on valuable employment topics, such as “Law Firm Economics,” “Professionalism and Young Lawyers,” “Life as a Litigator,” “How to Nail an Interview” and “How to Ensure, Not Sabotage, Success in Your Summer Job”

**Enhanced communication** between alumni and students

---

**Employment Outcomes for Recent Vanderbilt Graduates**

To show how Vanderbilt graduates have fared in this rapidly changing legal job market, the following charts compare NALP data describing 2007–11 law graduates nationally to the Vanderbilt Law Classes of 2007–11:

**Employment Status**

Classes of 2007–11

Nine months after graduation

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†ABA changed this category label in 2012

*2011 employed include 1,973 school-funded positions — information not collected in prior years

**Employed include PSI school-funded positions: 17 in 2009; 22 in 2010; 31 in 2011**
Public Service Initiative: Vanderbilt-funded Positions

To assist new graduates during the economic downturn, VLS launched the Public Service Initiative (PSI) in 2009. By design, the PSI helps new graduates gain valuable legal experience while continuing the search for permanent employment in locations of the graduates’ choice. New graduates secure volunteer legal internships with government agencies, in judicial chambers, with public defenders’ or prosecutors’ offices, or with non-profit advocacy organizations and receive school-funded PSI stipends for up to one year after graduation.

Vanderbilt Employment Status Known

Showing PSI-funded Positions

School-funded Positions: A National Perspective

American Bar Association (ABA) data show that 141 of 197 ABA-approved law schools (71.5 percent) reported at least one graduate in a school-funded position nine months after graduation for the Class of 2011, while 56 schools reported zero. Eighty-one schools reported 1 to 9 graduates in school-funded positions, while two schools reported 80 to 84 graduates. With 31 graduates employed in PSI positions, Vanderbilt is one of the 11 schools in the 30 to 39 graduates group:

Count of Law Schools by Number of Graduates In School-funded Positions, 2011*

ABA data indicate that nationally, 1,973 new law graduates were employed in school-funded positions, of which 530 (26.8 percent) were graduates of US News Top 18 ranked schools:

School-funded Positions – US News Top 18

Number of positions by law school – 2011*

*Based on ABA data: http://employmentsummary abaquestionaire.org
Employment Location of New Graduates

Law schools’ new graduates exhibit a range of geographic footprints as measured by the total number of states in which graduates take employment.

This graph shows generally higher percentages of new graduates remain in-state for schools located in the largest legal employment markets. Among these 18 schools, the seven with the highest percentages of new graduates employed in-state (59 percent or greater) are located in New York, California and Texas, states in which large numbers of new law graduates obtain jobs each year. In contrast, the seven schools with the lowest percentages of graduates employed in-state (20.8 percent or less) are located in states with smaller employment markets: North Carolina, Massachusetts, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, and Connecticut. Despite the greater geographic dispersion of new graduates, all seven schools in the second group identified New York as the state bar examination taken by the largest number of their 2010 graduates (based on ABA – LSAC Official Guide, 2012 Edition data).

![Geographic Dispersion](image-url)

Calculations based on ABA-LSAC Official Guide data, 2008 through 2012 editions
Vanderbilt Graduates’ Locations

Vanderbilt is a small school with an expansive reach. Our graduates traditionally have chosen employment in a wide variety of locations, and legal employers across the nation are familiar with the qualities of Vanderbilt graduates. Rather than being heavily dependent on one or two employment markets, Vanderbilt graduates have most often dispersed widely across nine major cities – Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Houston, Los Angeles, Nashville, New York, San Francisco and Washington, D.C. – and to many other locations across the nation and around the world.

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>U.S. Navy JAG</td>
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<tr>
<td>Somalia</td>
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<tr>
<td>U.S. Army JAG</td>
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<td>1</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</table>
Vanderbilt Class of 2011 Salary Data

The Vanderbilt Class of 2011 included 198 total graduates, of which 189 (95.5 percent) were known to be employed nine months after graduation. Of the 189 employed, 104 (55 percent) reported their salaries. Because reported salaries do not necessarily represent the full distribution of all employed graduates’ salaries, the following salary distributions provide rough but useful measures of salary outcomes. Note, also, that graduates may be more likely to report higher salaries than lower ones, potentially skewing reported salary distributions.

Salary by Location for New Law Graduates

New law graduates’ salaries vary by location. The chart at right shows salary distributions by region for 2011 national graduates as reported by NALP and for 2011 Vanderbilt graduates. The NALP data indicate that median salaries across regions varied from $51,000 in the West North Central region to $72,000 in the Pacific region. Median reported salaries for the Vanderbilt Class of 2011 ranged from $83,900 in the East South Central region to $160,000 in the Mid-Atlantic and West South Central regions. Vanderbilt 2011 salary distributions are not reported in regions where fewer than five Vanderbilt 2011 salaries were reported (New England, West North Central, and Mountain).

The chart also includes “percent of reported” for comparison of the geographic dispersion of 2011 new law graduates nationally to Vanderbilt 2011 graduates. For example, 5.2 percent of national 2011 law graduates took jobs in New England compared to 2.1 percent of Vanderbilt 2011 graduates. The far right columns show the number and percentage of Vanderbilt Classes of 2007 through 2011 taking jobs in the region (e.g., 20 and 2.1 percent for New England).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Full-time salaries for jobs reported across all sectors</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td># jobs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>rptd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New England</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT</td>
<td>Vanderbilt 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NALP 2011</td>
<td>1,832</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Atlantic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NJ, NY, PA</td>
<td>Vanderbilt 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NALP 2011</td>
<td>6,508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West North Central</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD</td>
<td>Vanderbilt 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NALP 2011</td>
<td>1,815</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Atlantic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DE, DC, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV</td>
<td>Vanderbilt 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NALP 2011</td>
<td>8,099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East South Central</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AL, KY, MS, TN</td>
<td>Vanderbilt 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NALP 2011</td>
<td>1,275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West South Central</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AR, LA, OK, TX</td>
<td>Vanderbilt 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NALP 2011</td>
<td>3,378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AZ, CO, ID, MT, NV NM, UT, WY</td>
<td>Vanderbilt 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NALP 2011</td>
<td>2,060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AK, CA, HI, OR, WA</td>
<td>Vanderbilt 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NALP 2011</td>
<td>5,151</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

934 100.0%
Salary by Employment Categories

New law graduates’ salaries vary by type of employment. Public interest positions, most in legal services organizations or public defenders, are typically lower-paid than private practice positions.

Since 2008, new law graduates have experienced the greatest changes in hiring among law firms. NALP 2011 data show that the median salary at law firms based on those reporting a salary stood at $85,000, compared to $104,000 for 2010. According to NALP, the decrease reflects relatively fewer jobs in the largest firms and a shift by some firms away from $160,000 and to $145,000 as a starting salary for new lawyers.

Judicial clerkship salaries are set according to government salary scales. Although salaries are comparatively low, clerkships are extremely competitive because they provide credentials and experience that can greatly enhance long term employment options, and many Vanderbilt graduates enter judicial clerkships with post-clerkship employment offers already in-hand.

Vanderbilt Class of 2011 Private Practice Salaries by Firm Size

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size of firm</th>
<th># rptd.</th>
<th>% of rptd.</th>
<th>with salary</th>
<th>25</th>
<th>PERCENTILE</th>
<th>Median</th>
<th>75</th>
<th>NALP 2011</th>
<th># salaries</th>
<th>25th</th>
<th>Median</th>
<th>75th</th>
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<tr>
<td>2 to 10</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14.4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$85,000</td>
<td>$110,000</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>7,570</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>11 to 25</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13.3</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
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<td>–</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 to 50</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
<td>$110,000</td>
<td>$122,500</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
<td>1,085</td>
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<tr>
<td>51 to 100</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
<td>$97,500</td>
<td>$120,000</td>
<td>$88,000</td>
<td>888</td>
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<td>101 to 250</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17.8</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>$122,500</td>
<td>$142,500</td>
<td>$110,000</td>
<td>1,010</td>
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<tr>
<td>251 to 500</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>$105,000</td>
<td>$132,500</td>
<td>$160,000</td>
<td>$145,000</td>
<td>891</td>
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<tr>
<td>more than 500</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
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<td>$160,000</td>
<td>$160,000</td>
<td>2,856</td>
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Vanderbilt Class of 2011 Reported Salaries by Employment Categories

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Employment categories</th>
<th># rptd</th>
<th>% of rptd</th>
<th># with salary</th>
<th>25</th>
<th>Median</th>
<th>75</th>
<th>PERCENTILE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Vanderbilt 2011</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
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<td>–</td>
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<td>269</td>
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<td>$45,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vanderbilt 2011</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$70,000</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>$117,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>NALP 2011</td>
<td>6,442</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
<td>2,144</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>$65,000</td>
<td>$83,100</td>
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<td>Judicial Clerkships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vanderbilt 2011</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>15.9%</td>
<td>22</td>
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<td>$57,000</td>
<td>$58,000</td>
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<td>NALP 2011</td>
<td>3,346</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>2713</td>
<td>$43,437</td>
<td>$51,900</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanderbilt 2011</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
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<tr>
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<td>2,442</td>
<td>$42,999</td>
<td>$52,000</td>
<td>$62,038</td>
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<td>Private Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vanderbilt 2011</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>47.6%</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>$105,000</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
<td>$160,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>NALP 2011</td>
<td>17,666</td>
<td>49.5%</td>
<td>9,913</td>
<td>$55,000</td>
<td>$85,000</td>
<td>$160,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Interest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vanderbilt 2011</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1,106</td>
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<td>$50,000</td>
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Vanderbilt Class of 2011 Employment and Salaries by Sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># jobs</th>
<th>% jobs</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>PERCENTILE</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private sector</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>57.1</td>
<td>76</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public sector</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>42.3</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Standard of Living: Sometimes Less Is More

New law graduates’ salaries vary by location, as does the cost of living, but the two do not always go hand in hand. Suppose two new graduates take jobs in law firms that pay $160,000, one in Washington, D.C., and the other in New York. Although these might appear to be equal outcomes, a $160,000 salary in Washington, D.C., offers about 54.7 percent more buying power than the identical salary in New York due to the relative cost of living (NALP Buying Power Index Class of 2010: How much buying power did salaries offer? at www.nalp.org—contains Buying Power Indexes for each of 70 American cities).

Sometimes less is more. A new graduate taking employment with an Atlanta firm paying $135,000 might appear to have done less well than the two graduates above, but $135,000 in Atlanta offers about 36 percent more buying power than $160,000 in Washington, D.C., and 91 percent more buying power than $160,000 in New York. The 2010 NALP median salary in Nashville of $90,000 offers about 37 percent more buying power than $160,000 in New York.

A 2011 National Jurist study shows that “where you work and what debt payment option you choose could significantly impact how much disposable income you will have as a recent graduate.” To determine standard of living, the study used median private practice starting salaries, average debt payments, estimated federal and state taxes, and cost of living adjustments. The study then ranked American law schools by the resulting cost-of-living adjusted incomes of their graduates. Vanderbilt ranked third among American law schools in the National Jurist study and was the highest-ranked private law school. (Best Law Schools for Standard of Living, National Jurist, June 30, 2011)
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