In response to the current economic climate, and consistent with its commitment to public service as exemplified by the summer stipend program and the Pro Bono pledge, Vanderbilt Law School created the Public Service Initiative, which provides a modest stipend for any graduate who secures a position working at a public interest organization (i.e., not-for-profit, NGO, governmental entity, judicial internship). The Program seeks to assist graduates in acquiring and refining practice skills; in building resumes; in helping to ensure that graduates make professional contacts in the geographic region in which they intend to practice; in facilitating transition into full-time employment; in helping graduates become acquainted with the rewards of public interest work; and in making it possible for graduates to make meaningful and lasting contributions to their communities.

Class of 2011
- Number of participating graduates: 47
- Percent finding full-time employment: 41%

Class of 2012
- Number of participating graduates: 43
- Percent finding full-time employment: 37%

Class of 2013
- Number of participating graduates: 44
- Percent finding full-time employment: 61%