

# Student Representative Roles & Responsibilities

Equal Justice Works Student Representatives help spread the word about public interest law while building a national coalition of public interest and social justice law students for future campaigns.



## Be a voice for public interest law.

As an Equal Justice Works Student Representative, you are in a prime position to share public interest law resources with your law school colleagues.

You can easily spread the word about public interest law resources and opportunities through emails and social media, but don't be afraid to speak up during classes, at law school clinics, and during internships. There are many misconceptions about public interest law, and it is your duty to stop the spread of misinformation. Examples include:

- **Lawyers can't afford to do public service.** Many students falsely believe there is no way to afford a public service career with staggering amounts of law school debt. Let them know about [Public Service Loan Forgiveness](#) and [Income-Driven Repayment plans](#), and invite them to listen to our [monthly debt relief webinars](#) for law students and lawyers. We provide legislative updates and more.
- **Public interest lawyers just couldn't land any other job.** Nothing could be further from the truth. Competition for public interest law jobs are actually increasing, especially with the private job market



*For three decades Equal Justice Works has created opportunities for public interest lawyers committed to building a more just society. We believe that the poorest and most vulnerable among us deserve the same access to justice and quality legal representation as the privileged. To achieve this, we offer a continuum of opportunities for law students and lawyers that provide the training and skills that enable them to provide effective representation to underserved communities and causes.*

remaining stagnant. Public interest law jobs go to graduates with a demonstrated commitment to service, so encourage your classmates to start looking for internships early if they are thinking about going into public interest law.

- **You can't get a public interest job right after graduation.** Although not all postgraduate positions are paid, there are many ways to get your foot in the public interest law door. Equal Justice Works and Skadden Fellowships offer great opportunities, as well as the variety of entry-level jobs being posted everyday on [PSJD.org](https://www.psjd.org). Equal Justice Works sends out a Jobs Digest newsletter every month with new postgraduate jobs and fellowships for recent law grads.
- **Money equals happiness, so higher-paid private attorneys are happier.** It may be difficult for some to believe, but [studies have actually shown](#) that public interest lawyers have increased job satisfaction.

## Recruit new JDs for Justice Network members.

Equal Justice Works is in the beginning stages of building a national coalition of public interest law students, and we need our Student Representatives to help us!

The mission is simple: we give our Student Representatives their own unique link to the JDs for Justice Network sign-up page, and our Reps share that link and get as many law school friends to sign up as possible.

We have lots of campaigns in the works to save Public Service Loan Forgiveness and advocate for increased public interest programming on law school campuses throughout the country. If you've got an idea for a national campaign, email Law School Engagement & Advocacy manager Ashley Matthews at [amatthews@equaljusticeworks.org](mailto:amatthews@equaljusticeworks.org).

## Share Equal Justice Works programs & resources.

Equal Justice Works has lots of programs and resources to help mobilize the next generation of public interest lawyers and law students. A select few:

- **[Debt Relief Webinars](#):** These monthly webinars on student debt relief offer in-depth analysis of Public Service Loan Forgiveness, Income-Driven Repayment plans, Loan Repayment Assistance Programs, and more.
- **[Crash Course Webinar Series](#):** These 20-minute presentations cover a variety of topics relevant to public interest law students, including digital branding & social media, public interest law job hunting, summer internship funding, and more.
- **[Take Control of Your Future Student Debt E-Book](#):** A comprehensive guide to managing student debt for lawyers and law students, this book is especially valuable to anyone who wants to protect their financial future. Bookmark it now, thank yourself later.
- **[Conference & Career Fair](#):** Usually held in October every year, the Equal Justice Works Conference & Career Fair is the largest national public interest legal career fair in the country.
- **[Student Justice Center Resource Library](#):** This site has guides, an events calendar, a blog, and videos to help public interest law students navigate life on campus.

## 2016-17 National Advisory Committee Members

Your [National Advisory Committee](#) members are here to help you complete your duties as a Student Representative. If you ever need any help, just contact one of the ambassadors below:

### NORTHEAST REGION

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