

# Delaware Law 2L Career Roadmap

## Execute Your Job Search Across Delaware, Philadelphia & New Jersey

Your 2L year is your **most important recruiting year**. Success requires more than OCI—it demands a **multi-channel strategy**:

- ✓ OCI + job fairs
- ✓ Direct applications (pre-cruiting & cold outreach)
- ✓ Alumni networking
- ✓ Strategic positioning across DE / Philly / NJ

The **CDO should be your central partner** throughout.

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## SPRING (1L → Rising 2L): Build Momentum Early

### April–June | Pre-Recruiting Starts NOW

- 📄 Update resume + cover letter (add 1L summer plans, skills, interests).
- 👤 Meet with CDO for **market strategy** (DE vs Philly vs NJ).
- 🚀 **April 1: Pre-cruiting opens**
  - Apply directly to large firms (especially **Wilmington offices**)
- ✨ Apply to:
  - **Delaware Diversity Job Fair (DDJF)**
  - **Philadelphia Area Diversity Job Fair**
- 💰 Apply for **Federal Work Study** (if eligible).
- 🤝 Attend spring networking events—start building relationships **before hiring decisions are made**.

#### ✅ **Strategy Tip:**




Delaware firms often hire early and value demonstrated interest in corporate law and Chancery practice.

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## SUMMER (Rising 2L): Position Yourself for OCI

### June–August | Critical Preparation Period



- 📁 Perform strongly in your summer role (this may become a reference or offer).

-  Produce **polished writing samples** (essential for courts + firms).
-  Update resume with summer experience (mid-summer).
-  Get resume reviewed **before OCI bidding deadlines**.

## Recruiting Actions

-  Participate in:
  - **OCI bidding (June/July)**
  - **Resume Collect programs**
-  Apply to:
  - **GPALS Philadelphia Job Fair** (due August)
-  Monitor and apply:
  - Government roles (USAJobs, Arizona Guide)
  - NJ state opportunities (many are rolling)

## Clerkship Preparation

-  Begin research on:
  - Delaware courts (Chancery, Supreme Court)
  - **New Jersey Superior Court clerkships** (structured pipeline)
-  Start building:
  - Writing sample
  - Reference list
  - Judge target list




### **Strategy Tip:**

New Jersey hiring is often **relationship-driven and less structured**—early outreach matters.

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## FALL SEMESTER (2L): Peak Recruiting Season

### June–October | Interview + Apply Aggressively

-  Participate in **OCI (June–August interviews)**
-  Interview at:
  - GPALS (September)
-  Continue applying beyond OCI:
  - Small/mid-size firms
  - NJ firms (often hire later and informally)
  - Government agencies



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## Core Action Areas



### 1. Expand Beyond OCI

-  Check **Symplicity weekly**
-  Send **targeted applications** (not mass mailing):
  - Delaware boutiques
  - South Jersey firms
  - Philly mid-size firms


### 2. Government & Public Interest

-  Apply early to **Honors Programs** (deadlines: early September)
-  Use:
  - PSJD
  - USAJobs


### 3. Clerkships (HIGH PRIORITY at Delaware Law)

-  Apply to:
  - Delaware courts (fall hiring begins)
  - Pennsylvania appellate courts
  - **New Jersey courts (applications open early June; ongoing review)**
-  Monitor federal clerkships via **OSCAR**

### 4. Skill Building

-  Enroll in:
  - Clinics
  - Externships

### 5. Networking

-  Attend:
    - Delaware State Bar events
    - Philly Bar networking events
    - **New Jersey bar and alumni events**
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# LATE FALL (Nov–Dec): Fill Gaps + Stay Aggressive

## If You Don't Have an Offer—ACT FAST

- 📧 Launch **targeted cold outreach campaign**:
  - Use Martindale, NALP, LinkedIn
  - Focus on:
    - Smaller Delaware firms
    - South Jersey firms
    - Local prosecutors/PD offices
- 👤 Meet with CDO for a **revised strategy plan**

## Additional Actions

- 📌 Register for **PIPS Job Fair**
- 🏛️ Apply to:
  - **Philadelphia Judicial Externship Program**
- 📝 Plan for the **MPRE**

### ✅ Strategy Tip:

Many **NJ and smaller firms hire later**—this is not “too late,” it’s often *prime time*.

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# SPRING SEMESTER (2L): Finalize Your Path

## January–February | Re-Engage Recruiting

- 🎯 Participate in **Spring OCI**
- 📌 Attend **PIPS Job Fair**
- 📖 Continue:
  - Direct applications
  - Government outreach
  - NJ employer networking

## Clerkships

- 🏛️ Track deadlines:
  - Delaware courts
  - NJ courts (may continue reviewing)
- ✨ Apply for:

- **Wolcott Fellowship (prestigious Delaware pathway)**
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## March–May | Lock In Outcomes

- 👤 Meet with CDO to finalize plan
  - 🧑🏫 Consider:
    - Research assistant roles
    - Journals (if still available via competitions)
  - ⚖️ Finalize:
    - **Clerkship application lists**
  - 📣 Report summer plans
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## 2L SUMMER: Launch Your Post-Grad Career

### June–August | Convert Experience into Offers

- 📁 Perform at a high level (this may lead to a **post-grad offer**)
- 💛 Build relationships—especially in:
  - Delaware corporate practice
  - NJ courts/government (pipeline-heavy)
- 📄 Strengthen writing sample

### Career Prep

- 📄 Update resume + references
- 👤 Meet with CDO before OCI (if still searching)
- 🎯 Apply to:
  - Post-grad roles
  - Fellowships (e.g., Skadden)

### Ongoing Applications

- 🌐 GPALS Job Fair
  - ⚖️ Government roles
  - 🏛️ Clerkships (DE + NJ + federal)
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# Delaware Law 2L Strategy Keys

## 1. Don't rely on OCI alone

Many Delaware and NJ employers hire **outside formal recruiting**.

## 2. Be geographically clear

- Delaware → corporate focus
- Philly → broader legal market
- New Jersey → relationship + clerkship-driven

## 3. Post-Graduation Judicial Clerkships are a major advantage

- Delaware = elite + corporate pathway
- **New Jersey = direct pipeline to practice**

## 4. Networking drives outcomes

Especially true in:

- Wilmington
- South Jersey
- Mid-size firms

## 5. Use CDO consistently

Not just for documents—but for **strategy, accountability, and access**.

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