

JUDICIAL CLERKSHIP INFORMATION

Appalachian School of Law
Career Services Office

KEY JUDICIAL CLERKSHIP APPLICATION RESOURCES

OSCAR

(<http://oscar.uscourts.gov>)

The Online System for Clerkship Application and Review (OSCAR) provides information about:

- Which federal judges are hiring clerks (and which are not),
- Clerkship position details (length of term, required application materials, etc.),
- Preferred application method for particular clerkships (online, paper, fax, etc.), and
- General information about clerking (duties/salary/benefits of all federal judicial clerks)

OSCAR is also the means by which clerkship candidates apply to judges who have chosen to receive applications online. Recommenders also submit their letters supporting these online applications through OSCAR.

You can obtain basic clerkship information without having to register. However, in order to be able to save your searches, receive email updates, and apply to participating judges online, you will need to create an OSCAR account and log in.

OSCAR is the best available resource for finding out about federal clerkship opportunities, but it is, unfortunately, not comprehensive. Judges' participation is voluntary and currently only a little over half of the federal judiciary have created OSCAR accounts (though signups increase each year). A smaller number chose to provide details about their hiring and a little over 700 in total chose to accept applications online.

ALMANAC OF THE FEDERAL JUDICIARY

Aspen Law & Business eds., Almanac of the Federal Judiciary (Aspen Law & Business 2008): A two-volume, semi-annually updated directory of all federal judges containing biographical information, evaluations submitted anonymously by lawyers, and summaries of noteworthy opinions.

This directory is located in the Appalachian School of Law Library and online (except for the attorney evaluations) via Westlaw (database identifier: AFJ).

Other references located in the ASL Library or the Career Services Library:

Bureau of National Affairs eds., BNA's Directory of State and Federal Courts, Judges, and Clerks (Bureau of National Affairs 2008).

Congressional Staff Directory eds., Judicial Staff Directory (Congressional Staff Directory 2008).

Reginald Bishop Forster & Associates eds., The American Bench: Judges of the Nation (18th ed., Reginald Bishop Forster & Associates 2008).

Leadership Directories eds., The Leadership Library (contains Judicial Yellow Book)(Leadership Directories 2008)(available at <http://ldi.bvdep.com/>).

Westlaw eds., Profiler—Profiles of Attorneys and Judges (Westlaw 2008) (available at WL, PROFILER-WLD database).

These books are available in the Career Services Library in the Career Services Office on the second floor of the Booth Center:

CQ Press, Directory of State Court Clerks and County Courthouses (CQ Press 2008).

CQ Press, Federal-State Court Directory (CQ Press 2008).

CQ Press, Judicial Staff Directory (CQ Press 2008).

Deborah M. Strauss, Behind the Bench the Guide to Judicial Clerkships (BarBri 2002).

Vermont Law School, The 2007 Guide to State Judicial Clerkship (Vermont Law School 2007).

ALLIANCE FOR JUSTICE, JUDICIAL SELECTION PROJECT

(<http://www.judicialselectionproject>)

This site provides information such as the names and numbers of judges in each Circuit and their demographic breakdowns. You can also find out about a particular judges' ethnicity and which president appointed him or her.

FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER

<http://www.fic.gov/>

The FJC website contains the Federal Judges Biographical Database, which you can use to create customized lists of judges based on multiple categories, including nominating president, type of court, dates of service, and demographic groups.

It also contains a Biographical Directory of Judges, which contains a brief resume (of education and professional career highlights) for each judge and, when available, information about his or her race or ethnicity and the name of the nominating president.

WEST LEGAL DIRECTORY OF JUDGES

A database of court office profiles and profiles of individual full time judges from all 50 states and Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and the District of Columbia (database identifier: WLD-JUDGE).

LexisNexis and WestLaw can also be used to find news articles about and decisions written by a particular judge. Lexis also has Courtlink, which facilitates researching the caseload of the circuit and district courts, several state courts, and individual district court judges.

GUIDE TO STATE JUDICIAL CLERKSHIP PROCEDURES

(published by Vermont Law School)

http://www.vermontlaw.edu/Resources/Judicial_Clerkship_and_Internship_Resources.htm

Comprehensive online guide to procedures for applying for state court judicial clerkships at all levels in all 50 states and some U.S. territories. ASL has a yearly subscription to this resource.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR STATE COURTS

www.ncsconline.org

Provides links to state court websites. Some courts list law clerks under employment opportunities.

RECENT JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS AND CONFIRMATIONS

www.mdoj.gov/olp

The United States Department of Justice's Office of Legal Policy maintains a list of federal court nominations, confirmed nominees and vacancies for each Congress. Background information on each nominee is also included.