New Directions for Attorneys

What is New Directions?

New Directions is a comprehensive program designed to assist licensed attorneys relaunch or reenter their legal careers or pivot to a different area of practice. The diverse curriculum consists of numerous substantive law classes; practical legal skills training including legal research and writing taught by Pace Law School faculty members; career development workshops and hands-on job search assistance, resume and cover letter review, and mock interview preparation; and the opportunity to obtain a legal externship with an employer that provides supervised practical experience and mentoring. Participants will receive 24 New York State Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits for their involvement in the program.

What is the design and time commitment of New Directions?

The program begins with an eight week classroom component where participants meet three to four times a week in Pace University’s mid-town Manhattan campus (551 Fifth Avenue) and learn about numerous areas of the profession from practicing attorneys, work with career counselors and faculty members to build their skills, confidence and resume. After the classroom work, participants will work with New Directions staff to find a 12 week externship placement, gaining practical hands-on experience in their chosen field.

Where do New Directions participants intern?

Some past internship employers include: Bristol-Myers Squibb, New York City Police Department, Hunter College, Christie’s, Bank of China Group, New York City Law Department, ASPCA, and Barnard College.

When does the program run and what is the cost?

The program runs for September - February and from January - June (including externship portion). The cost for the session is $6,500 for tuition plus a one-time $300 nonrefundable administrative fee that includes and course materials and all CLE credits.

Is the course offered online?

We are currently working to offer this program online for the January 2017 session. It would be conducted live via webcast, and meetings and correspondence would be done via Skype and email/phone. If you are interested in participating online, please contact us.

For more information about the program, please visit our website at www.law.pace.edu/newdirections or contact the director, Jill Backer, at jbacker@law.pace.edu or 914.422.4218

“I entered the New Directions program after 14 years as a stay-at-home mom. I emerged with updated legal and job-seeking skills, restored professional confidence, and a much better sense of what I was looking for in this second stage of my legal career. Thanks to the program, I have been able to create a satisfying professional life that works for me and my family. New Directions is a wonderful program for lawyers seeking to reenter the workforce.”
Sharman, New Directions graduate

“I didn’t know if I could ever return to law. This was my third act. The computer skills, the legal writing, and all the presenters were so helpful. Now I am at a public interest law firm. I got more out of the program that I ever hoped.”
Jay, New Directions graduate