

Your Best Connection to the New York City Legal Community

Membership in the New York City Bar Association provides an incredible opportunity for firms and their attorneys. Become part of a 23,000-member organization providing you with business development training, leadership roles, mentoring, networking with in-house counsel, an opportunity to advocate for changes in the law, free and discounted CLE, pro bono opportunities, speaking roles, and more.

COMMITTEES

[Joining a committee](#) and participating in the meaningful work of issuing reports and producing programs can provide a satisfying sense of purpose. This City Bar benefit can provide a sense of community and connection. Participation on one of our 150 committees expands your professional network. It creates business development opportunities by allowing you to collaborate in a small setting with other law firm attorneys, in-house counsel, government officials, and others. By working on important legal and policy issues and taking on leadership roles, you can make a significant impact and build your brand as a thought leader.

CLE

New York City Bar CLE programs attract leaders in the profession and create networking opportunities. Programs create speaking opportunities for active City Bar members. **Members who are recent law graduates (not yet admitted) or newly admitted attorneys (admitted 2020 - 2022)** can attend CLE programs that are four hours or less and our popular Bridge-the-Gap program for free. Our programs are offered live and via live webcast, and our library of on-demand programs is extensive.

FOCUS ON IN-HOUSE COUNSEL

The New York City Bar has increased its focus on in-house counsel in a variety of ways, including offering a discounted membership rate and increasing their participation on committees, thereby adding a diversity of perspectives and providing increased opportunities for law firm attorneys to **meet in-house counsel**.

SHARING POLICY

Committees participate in **shaping public policy** by commenting on pending legislation, drafting proposed legislation, writing amicus briefs, testifying at hearings, and making lobby visits. City Bar reports and policy decisions are communicated to key players at the most impactful times. Our committees have been extremely active in responding to the pandemic and its many implications on the profession, the court system, and the people they serve. At the same time, our committees have also kept their focus on other pressing issues for changes in the law, free and discounted CLE, pro bono opportunities, speaking roles, and more.

PRO BONO

The City Bar Justice Center provides pro bono access to justice for New Yorkers struggling with poverty and systemic socioeconomic barriers by leveraging the volunteered time and expertise of the New York City legal community. The City Bar Justice Center benefits nearly 25,000 New Yorkers each year. Some of their programs include the Legal Clinic for the Homeless, Veterans Assistance Project, Immigrant Justice Project, Cancer Advocacy Project, Consumer Bankruptcy, Federal Pro Se Legal Assistance Project, Neighborhood Entrepreneur Law Project, Planning and Estates Law Project, LGBT Advocacy Project, Elder Law Project, and the Homeowner Stability Project. **The Vance Center for International Justice** provides pro bono legal representation worldwide to dozens of social justice organizations. It engages hundreds of law firms in this work while promoting diversity in the legal profession. The Vance Center provides pro bono legal representation worldwide to dozens of non-governmental organizations and international governmental bodies relating to human rights, access to justice, environmental, and good governance issues and situations.

Members have an opportunity to be trained and volunteer for **pro bono projects** through the City Bar Justice Center and international pro bono projects in human rights, free expression, environment, and others through the Cyrus R. Vance Center for International Justice.

The City Bar carries on a wide range of professional and public service activities that not only enhance the legal profession, but also make a difference in people's lives -- all while strengthening your skills and value

OFFICE FOR DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION AND BELONGING

The City Bar Office for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (ODEIB) works with New York City legal employers to foster more diverse and inclusive work environments while supporting and regularly tracking the progress of more than 160 [signatory law firms and law departments](#) on key diversity representation metrics.

The Office and the NYC Bar Committees with the Diversity and Inclusion group

host a number of programs to support excellence in innovation and execution on diversity and inclusion initiatives, such as the Associate Leadership Institute and the ODEIB Podcast Series. The Office also provides a comprehensive [pipeline initiative](#) which supports high school, college and law students to develop necessary professional skills and gain exposure to the legal profession through programs that provide participants with academic support and preparation for law school, exposure to the profession, professional and substantive skill development, and networking/mentoring opportunities.

Law firms and attorneys can support the Office by participating in our programs, joining one of our eight [Diversity & Inclusion Committees](#), volunteering with our [pipeline initiatives](#) and more.



SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

From **substantive programs to networking events**, the City Bar brings influential speakers in on various topics and offers more than 200 non-CLE programs annually, free or discounted for members. City Bar events are topical and provide pathways to furthering an attorney's understanding of a particular practice area and building their career. Our *Lawyers Connect* programs provide a mix of live and online activities for junior attorneys to build their network. The *City Bar Professional Development Workshop Series* focuses on topics such as leadership, communication, feedback, and client development.

SUPPORTING THE LEGAL PROFESSION

Membership in the City Bar supports various programs and services that benefit society and reflect well on the profession, such as our ethics hotline and the Lawyer Assistance Program (LAP). LAP is a free, confidential service for attorneys, judges, and families struggling with alcohol, drug abuse, other addictions, depression, anxiety, stress, and other health issues. The City Bar's Lawyer Assistance Program provides critical support to the legal profession. For example, LAP has reached out to new lawyers struggling with uncertainty and increased stress, offering programs and group support. The City Bar's Mindfulness and Well-Being Committee has also been active in supporting the profession during these turbulent times, offering weekly programming to support well-being and launching a **Mindfulness and Well-Being Toolkit**.

**NEW YORK
CITY BAR**

Build Your Brand as a Thought Leader

To join, please access the special membership application [here](#).

We remain a secure, second home for our members to connect, network, and advance their careers. Join today, and we will waive your admission fee* (a savings of \$140 or more) - simply make a semi-annual dues payment to start your membership!

Membership Class

Recent Law Graduate (*graduated within 2 years and sitting for bar exam/pending admission*)

Resident*

Admitted 2010 - and prior

Admitted 2011 - 2014

Admitted 2015 - 2016

Admitted 2017 - 2019

Admitted 2020 - 2022

Initial Semi-annual Dues Payment

\$60

\$245

\$240

\$165

\$130

\$80

Applicants pay an admission fee that is a one-time payment equal to their first year's dues. The admission fee is waived in certain circumstances. Membership dues are based upon the earliest year of admission to any bar in any state or country.