



CDO: WIP Bidding Now Open

1 message

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Subject: CDO: WIP Bidding Now Open
To: <students-2ls@law.berkeley.edu>

Lots of information here -- please read the entire thing.

WIP BIDDING PERIOD NOW OPEN

Bidding for the Winter Interview Program (WIP) employer interviews is now open. You can view WIP employers by selecting "2021 WIP" as the Session from the OCI Section of b-Line. An instruction guide on how to place your bids is attached. You can also find it in the Document Library on [b-Line](#) (under Resources).

If, in your research, you were working from an earlier downloaded spreadsheet of WIP Employers from the Document Library, you should re-check the list of participating employers and locations for which they are interviewing by going to the OCI Section of b-Line itself. There were some additions/cancellations over the course of the last month and b-Line's OCI Section is where you will find the most up-to-date list.

FYI -- The application window for WIP Resume Collect employers will open one month from today, so you have some additional time to prepare and upload those application materials. 2021 WIP Resume Collect employers are viewable by selecting "2021 WIP Resume Collect" as the Session in the OCI Section of b-Line.

WIP bidding will close on Monday, November 30 at 5:00 pm sharp. You can access all of the key WIP dates and deadlines [here](#).

ADDITIONAL WIP BIDDING INFORMATION

The absolute maximum number of interviews students can receive as a result of bidding is 20. If the past is any guide, most will get 15 and some even more. You will be able to find out the bidding

results and access your WIP interview schedule at 9 am on December 18th. Also, beginning on that day, and up until Friday, January 8th, you can add yourself into as many open interview slots as you want. You and your classmates can also cancel unwanted interviews during that time, which opens up slots into which others can sign up in real time. In the past, students have averaged more than 20 interviews (bids and open slots combined) during the on-campus interview process.

If you want to give yourself the best chance at maximizing the number of interviews you get, you should probably submit between 30 and 40 bids. Bidding on more would be excessive for a 2L in our experience.

There is no advantage to submitting your bids early and you can change the ranking up until 5 pm on November 30th. It's only after the bidding window closes that the b-Line randomizes the order of participating students and begins to process bids according to their rank. You should print a copy of your bids for your records because you won't have access to them once bidding closes.

NOTE: There is no final "submit" button for your bids. Whatever your ranking is as of 5 pm on Monday the 30th will be what the scheduler will automatically process.

For further advice and details about bidding, see the relevant section of the **2021 WIP Guide** from [b-Line's](#) Document Library (under Resources) -- our comprehensive "go-to" resource for all WIP procedures and policies.

APPLICATION MATERIALS

Resume Only For the Bidding Phase

You must attach a version of your resume to each bid you submit. However, you DO NOT need to submit any other application documents (e.g., writing sample) at this stage. If you are applying for different types of employers (e.g., private firms as well as government, or NY firms as well as LA firms), you may want to consider having and attaching different versions of your resume (emphasizing different things) to different bids.

For those multi-office employers that request you to indicate your office location preference on your resume, simply note it in the upper right hand corner of the version you upload for that employer (e.g., OFFICE PREFERENCE: [CITY]). Click on the "Review" button next to an employer's name in the list of OCI employers in b-Line to see whether an employer has made this type of request.

Uploading Additional Application Materials Post-Bidding

Once your interview schedule becomes viewable on December 18th, you can then begin uploading your additional pre-interview application materials. *All* employers will want to see a copy of your writing sample as well as a list of references. In addition to these materials, a minority of employers, perhaps 20% of them, are also requesting a cover letter. The Employer Details section of b-Line (viewable by clicking on the Review button next to an employer's name in the OCI Section) is where to find such an additional request.

NOTE: Employers are NOT permitted to request transcripts in advance of your WIP interview -- nor should you provide one.

The way in which you will provide these requested additional materials (writing sample, references list, and, in some cases, a cover letter) is to combine them -- ALONG WITH A COPY OF YOUR RESUME -- into a single PDF document and attach that to every one of your successful bids. **The deadline for providing these additional materials via b-Line is 5 pm on Tuesday, January 5th, 2021.**

This -- and other useful information about the mechanics of the WIP process -- appears in the the **2021 WIP Guide**, available via [b-Line's](#) Document Library (under Resources).

FLEXIBILITY IN TARGETING EMPLOYERS

Flexibility remains one of our watchwords. For many of you, if obtaining a summer position with a large law firm is a priority, it would be a mistake to bid on/submit applications solely to firms/offices in the Bay area. The competition for these positions is perennially tough. The more geographically flexible you can be, the better your odds. You can also increase your odds of success by pursuing other avenues in addition to WIP. Visit our [OCI Alternatives webpage](#) for some ideas.

Also, remember to regularly check the Jobs section of b-Line. Employers who are interested in Berkeley Law students, but who have not signed up for WIP or Resume Collect for whatever reason, may post a job announcement there.

Questions about the logistics of WIP applications or b-Line in general? Contact Liz Granlund at egranlund@law.berkeley.edu or 510-643-7242.

Questions about bidding/application strategy, interviewing, etc.? Schedule a video or phone appointment with one of the CDO attorney-counselors.

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 **2021 Winter Interview Program Bidding Instructions (1).pdf**
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