



346 Partners
314 Associates
Opened in 1909

PRACTICE AREAS

- Corporate
- Employee Benefits
- Intellectual Property
- Litigation
- Real Estate
- Restructuring
- Tax
- Trusts & Estates

Kirkland's Chicago office is the Firm's oldest and largest location. With more than 650 attorneys and a variety of practice areas, the Chicago office is an exciting, energetic place to work. Our summer program provides summer associates with an opportunity to explore our practice, learn about our attorneys and our Firm, and experience life as a young professional in the Windy City.

Kirkland's tradition of giving junior associates early responsibility begins with the summer program. As a summer associate in the Chicago office, you'll work on sophisticated matters alongside the Firm's associates and partners, who are eager to support and guide you along the way.

“Our summer program gives law students the true Kirkland experience: early responsibility, rich training and dynamic culture.”

SHELLY HIRSCHTRITT, partner

Kirkland gives its attorneys — including summer associates — immense freedom and flexibility. The Firm's open assignment system lets you direct your career path by allowing you to choose the matters that interest you and work with attorneys from whom you wish to learn.



Illinois Powerhouse Firm,
Law360, 2017



Best Law Firm in Chicago,
Vault, 2017



Top Illinois Firm for LGBT
Inclusiveness and Equality,
Equality Illinois, 2017



Kirkland's Chicago summer associates enjoy a variety of events, including a boat cruise on Lake Michigan, a Cubs game and volunteer-focused outings.

Summer in Chicago

The summer program in Chicago gives our summer associates an opportunity to get to know our lawyers, our work and our city. Our associates participate in a series of fun social events, interesting work projects, and robust training and development programs.

Through the Kirkland Institute for Trial Advocacy (KITA), summer associates conduct a one-day mock trial, with opening and closing arguments and direct and cross examinations of live witnesses. Kirkland partners serve as judges, providing coaching and feedback during the mock trial. To prepare for KITA, summer associates participate in a series of trial practice workshops including witness examinations, the rules of evidence and the use of demonstratives. Through our litigation lunch series, we highlight recent trials that showcase the breadth and depth of our litigation practice.

Summer associates also participate in seminars on the nuts and bolts of Kirkland's deal practice, culminating in a mock deal negotiation with Kirkland partners serving as coaches. Additionally, we also conduct a panel discussion on how our various transactional practices work collaboratively with one another in a hypothetical deal.

Our Chicago summer associates enjoy all that the city has to offer. They get to know Kirkland lawyers outside of the office at events like dinners at partners' homes, a community service project, baseball games, cocktail receptions, sailing lessons, kayaking along the Chicago River and a boat cruise on Lake Michigan.

“The open assignment system, our firm’s culture and my colleagues, who appreciate family and outside interests, enable me to organize my life around my family and my practice.”

AISHA LAVINIER, associate