

SOUTHWESTERN LAW SCHOOL

SALARY SURVEY - NEW (FIRST YEAR) ASSOCIATES *

Class of 2009

NUMBER OF ATTORNEYS IN THE FIRM	SALARY RANGE FOR NEW ASSOCIATES	AVERAGE STARTING SALARY	MEDIAN STARTING SALARY (HALF AS MANY SALARIES ON THE SURVEY WERE ABOVE THIS LEVEL, HALF WERE BELOW)
2 - 10	\$45,000 to \$70,000	\$61,000	\$61,000
11 - 25	\$52,000 to \$100,000	\$68,000	\$67,000
26 - 50	\$75,000 to \$90,000	\$78,000	\$75,000
51 - 100	\$60,000 to \$95,000	\$77,000	\$77,500
101 or more	\$75,000 to \$160,000	\$121,000	\$125,000

* Note re: Law Clerks

Very little statistical information is available on standards for paying student law clerks. Most firms have internal compensation practices tied to the amount and complexity of the work students undertake as well as arrangements as to how that student time is billed to clients. Large law firms can more easily predict those variables and maintain commensurate workloads and compensation. Therefore, \$1,500 - \$3,000 weekly is not unusual for clerks in large firms through their Summer Associate Program. However, smaller firms, with less workload and billable predictability, usually pay clerks \$17 - \$25 per hour.