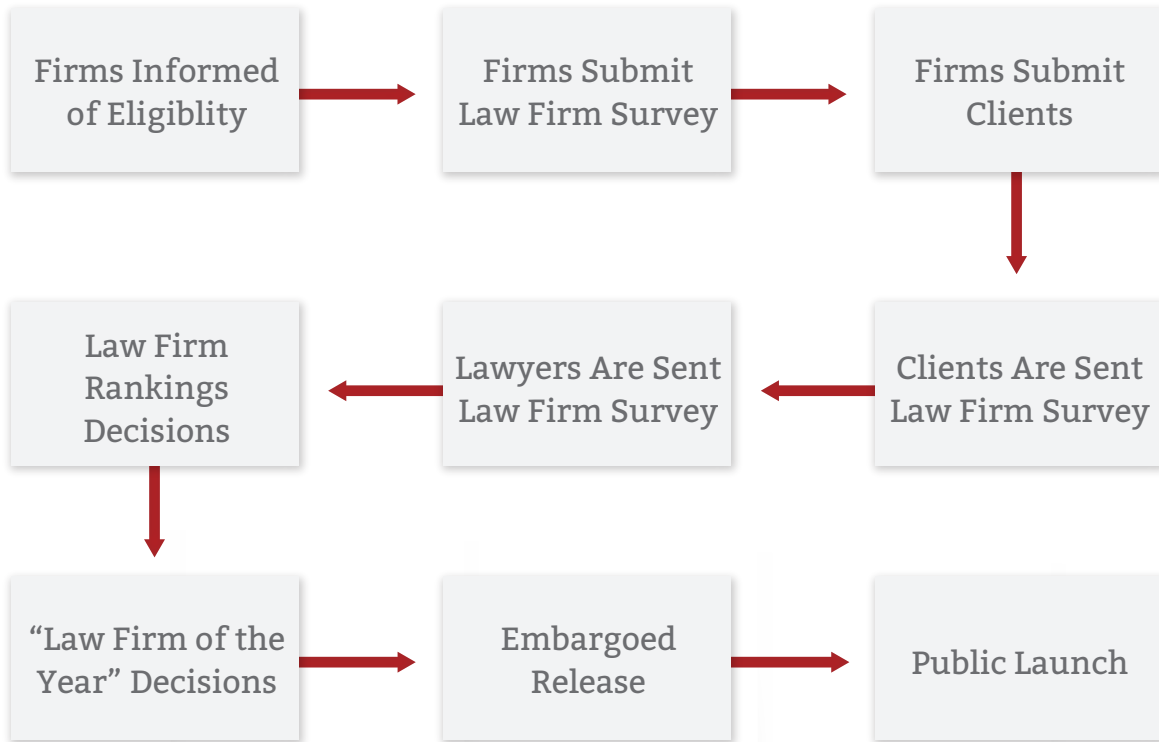


BEST LAW FIRMS PROCESS

The *U.S. News - Best Lawyers*® “Best Law Firms” rankings are based on a rigorous evaluation process that includes the collection of client and lawyer evaluations, peer-review from leading attorneys in their field, and review of additional information provided by law firms as part of the formal submission process.



METHODOLOGY DETAILS

ELIGIBILITY

Firms must have a listed lawyer in the specific practice area.

SUBMISSIONS

Submissions packets sent to firms in January.

DATA COLLECTION

Law Firm Survey
Client Survey
Lawyer Survey
Firm Leaders Survey

INCLUSION

Data collected is analyzed for National and Metro-based rankings.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Firms are notified of embargoed rankings prior to the public release.

U.S. News - Best Lawyers®
“Best Law Firms” - 2015 EDITION

TIMELINE

2014

EARLY JANUARY

Submission packets for the 2015 U.S. News – Best Lawyers “Best Law Firms” rankings sent via email. These will include secure links to your law firm’s customized client submission form and Law Firm Survey, along with instructions for completing these forms.

The 2015 “Best Law Firms” rankings will be based on the following components:

- Client Survey
- Law Firm Survey
- Best Lawyers Peer Review and Law Firm Survey

MARCH 14

Deadline for firms to submit clients.

APRIL 1

Client Surveys will be sent via email.

MAY

MAY 1

Law Firm Survey completion deadline.

MAY 16

Client Surveys completion deadline.

JULY/AUGUST

Pre-release of embargoed rankings and Law Firm of the Year recognitions to ranked law firms.

NOVEMBER

Public announcement of the 2015 U.S. News – Best Lawyers “Best Law Firms” rankings.

2015