

# JD/MSP Program

The **Juris Doctor/Master of Social Policy (JD/MSP)** joint degree offers students the opportunity to gain advanced legal training with critical knowledge and skills in social policy analysis, evaluation, management and leadership. It prepares students for positions in the public and private sectors and addresses the growing need for technical policy training.

## Who Should Consider a JD/MSP?

Students interested in the following areas may wish to pursue a JD/MSP:

- Social policy research and analysis
- Government administration and service
- Policy organizations and think tanks

## How Do I Apply for the Program?

A separate application must be submitted to both the School of Law and the Brown School. Prospective students should indicate to both schools, at the time they apply, that they are seeking admission as a joint degree candidate. WashULaw will grant all current Washington University graduate students who wish to pursue a joint degree an application fee waiver.

## How Long Does it Take to Earn a JD/MSP?

The JD/MSP takes four years or less to complete. Students must comply with the admission requirements for both degree programs. The equivalent of five semesters (earning 77 credits) are spent at the law school, and three semesters (earning 31 credits) are spent at the Brown School. Students who start in one program are welcome to apply to the other program and begin the JD/MSP during their second year of school.

## Why Washington University?

WashULaw and the Brown School are top-ranked schools in their respective fields. Both schools have outstanding placement rates and offer an extensive alumni network. Students in the JD/MSW degree program have access to the incredible resources of the Career Center at the law school and the Career Services office at Brown.

## Who Should I Contact for Additional Information?

- Email the Admissions Office (applylaw@wustl.edu) or call 314-935-4525.
- For questions related to tuition and financial aid, please email Carrie Burns (cjburns@wustl.edu), Director of Financial Aid and Student Life, or call 314-935-4605.

- For questions related to registration and residency or other course requirements, please email Sarah Hellin (sarah.hellin@wustl.edu), Assistant Dean of Academic Services & Registrar, or call 314-935-7458.
- For questions about academic advising, please email Elizabeth Walsh (ewalsh@wustl.edu), Associate Dean of Student Life & Academic Services, or call 314-935-5861.

## Degree Requirements JD/MSP

### Credit Requirements

Dual degree JD/MSP students are required to complete 108 credits between both schools. The majority of the credits (77) must be law credits; the remaining credits (31) must be taken in social policy. Students are able to transfer credits from one school to fulfill the degree requirements of the other school. For example, 9 MSP credits count toward the JD; 12 law credits count toward the MSP. Please visit the School of Law website for the JD requirements.

**Total units required for the JD/MSP degree: 108 credits**

Program	Credit hours required
Law	77
Transferred from Social Policy	9
<b>Total JD Degree</b>	<b>86</b>
Social Policy	31
Transferred from Law	12
<b>Total MSP Degree</b>	<b>43</b>

### Program Structure

Since students can start in either school, there is no set structure to the dual degree program. The following chart provides an example of how a typical dual degree JD/MSP student's program will be structured. Most of this sample structure can be modified, especially the layout of the summers.

Year of Program	Starting in Law	Starting in Social Work
1st Year	1L year - all 1L law courses	All social policy (mostly core) courses
1st Summer	Legal Internship	MSP Internship
2nd Year	Mostly (or all) social policy courses	1L year - all 1L law courses
2nd Summer	MSP Internship; one or two summer courses	Legal internship
3rd Year	Assorted courses (mostly law)	Assorted courses (mostly law)
4th Year	Assorted courses (mostly law)	Assorted courses (mostly law)

Every student's plan of study is slightly different, depending on the student's individual preferences.

## **Additional Program Information**

- JD Degree Requirement Information