

**WASHU LAW STUDENT HANDBOOK
2026-2027**

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
2026-2027 STUDENT HANDBOOK

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NOTICE & RESERVATION OF RIGHTS: Many of the matters covered in this Student Handbook and, thus, the provisions of the handbook itself, are subject to change at any time. The Law School expressly reserves the right, without notice, to change the rules, requirements, policies, and all other matters contained in this handbook.

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Introduction

Welcome to WashU Law. This handbook contains important information about the law school, including many of the rules and regulations that you are required to observe. All students are responsible for being familiar with its contents.

The handbook is one of several sources of information of vital importance to all students. Other sources include: (1) your WashU (Outlook) email account; (2) your course [Canvas](#) pages; (3) notices posted on the digital screens, and/or the screens outside classrooms throughout the law school; and (4) the WashU Law intranet website. Students are expected to check these other sources on a regular basis.

Although every effort has been made to make this handbook both accurate and complete, the information provided is subject to change or correction at any time. The current handbook will be available on the WashU Law Intranet website.

Dean's Welcome

Welcome all new and returning students to WashU Law!

We are thrilled to have you as a member of our community. As you embark on this professional and intellectual journey, know that you are stepping into a place where innovation, inclusivity, and integrity are at the heart of everything we do.

This Student Handbook is designed to be your guide throughout your time here. While some portions of the handbook provide essential information, others contain mandatory policies and rules. Please keep it available as it will equip you with information you will need to succeed.

At WashU Law, we pride ourselves on our strong culture of professionalism and support. We are committed to partnering with you on your path to becoming an outstanding lawyer, and we are here to assist you with any questions or concerns you may have. We encourage you to take full advantage of the many resources available, from our student and affinity organizations and experiential opportunities to our supportive faculty and staff.

We believe that a legal education at WashU Law is not just about acquiring knowledge, but also about fostering a spirit of intellectual curiosity and camaraderie. We are confident that you will find your time here to be transformative, challenging, and deeply rewarding.

Welcome to WashU Law. We look forward to a fantastic academic year together!

My best,

Stef Lindquist
Nickerson Dean

2026-2027 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

[Revised 7/23/2026]

FALL SEMESTER 2026

AUGUST

10	Mon	LL.M., MLS and Exchange Student Mandatory Orientation Begins
14	Fri	First-Year J.D. Student Orientation
17-20	Mon-Fri	Introduction to Negotiation Course (1Ls, Transfer Students, NDR LLM Students)
21	Fri	Transfer Student Orientation
24	Mon	First day of classes
30	Sun	Last day to add an upper-level course without faculty approval *

SEPTEMBER

4	Fri	All Waitlists Cleared (full term courses)
7	Mon	Labor Day holiday (no classes)
20	Sun	Last day to drop an upper-level course without a transcript W (withdrawal)*

OCTOBER

5-6	Mon-Tue	Fall Break (no classes)
18	Sun	Last day to drop an upper-level course without faculty approval*

NOVEMBER

10	Tue	7:30am - Online registration for spring classes for 3Ls
11	Wed	7:30am - Online registration for spring classes for 2Ls & all Graduate Law
25	Wed	Monday classes meet (Wednesday classes do not meet)
25	Wed	Last day of fall classes
26-27	Thu-Fri	Thanksgiving Break
30	Mon	Reading Day

DECEMBER

1	Tue	Final Exam period begins
11	Fri	Final Exam period ends

SPRING SEMESTER 2027

JANUARY

11-15	Mon-Fri	January Intersession
18	Mon	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday (no classes)
19	Tue	First day of spring classes
24	Sun	Last day to add a spring upper-level course without faculty approval*
29	Fri	All Waitlists Cleared (full term courses)

FEBRUARY

14	Sun	Last day to drop an upper-level course without a transcript W (withdrawal)*
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MARCH

14	Sun	Last day to drop an upper-level course without faculty approval*
14-21	Sun-Sun	Spring Break (no classes)

APRIL

20	Tue	7:30am - Online registration for fall classes for current 3Ls
21	Wed	7:30am - Online registration for fall classes for current 2Ls
22	Thu	7:30am - Online registration for fall classes for current 1Ls & all Graduate Law
23	Fri	Last day of classes
26	Mon	Reading Day
27	Tue	Final Exam period begins

MAY

7	Fri	Final Exam period ends
21	Fri	Commencement Day

* Unless otherwise specified in course description, by professor, or by Academic Services Office.

Academics

Academic Planning

Beyond those courses deemed so fundamental by the law faculty and the ABA that they are required for graduation, students can select their own courses based on their interests and career paths. The planning process should be initiated early and reviewed from time to time and adjusted as necessary. Students should consider familiarizing themselves with the subjects covered in any bar examination they may contemplate taking. Review the “[Comprehensive Guide to Bar Admissions Requirements](#)” as a good starting point. Students are also encouraged to seek guidance from their academic advisor, faculty members, administrators, and/or other students.

The Law School offers academic planning assistance on several fronts. Course and section information are updated prior to each semester’s registration period in Workday. The Law School’s [Course Information & Registration Process](#) page contains general registration information, an Academic Planning Guide, and scheduling grids. The [Academic Advising Center](#) holds registration information sessions in Fall and Spring of each year. The Spring sessions are required for all 1L students. First-year students are encouraged to schedule a one-on-one session with their Academic Advisor, an [upper-level Peer Academic Advisor](#), to discuss the student’s interests and objectives and develop an overall academic plan.

Graduate and International Programs students (LL.M./MLS/Exchange) should contact [Assistant Dean & Director of Graduate and International Programs](#) for academic advising.

Academic Records

The Law School’s [Assistant Dean for Academic Services](#) and [Associate Dean of Students](#) oversee the maintenance of student academic records and services. The Office of Student Life staff coordinates registration, administers examinations, handles various letter requests and forms (including Bar Exam forms), processes degree audits, and performs all other tasks associated with Academic Services (A-B Hall, no. 210).

Academic Rules

The academic rules of the Law School are established by the faculty. The [Associate Dean of Students](#) can answer most questions about the rules. For more on academic rules, see [Course-Related Policies and Rules](#) in this section of the handbook.

Academic Standing

- ***Good Standing***

To be eligible for graduation, a student must be in academic good standing:

- For **JD students who matriculated prior to Fall 2026**, to be in academic good standing a student must achieve 1) a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.00 at the end of each academic year and 2) a yearly grade point average of at least 3.00 at the end of the 2nd year.
- For **JD students who matriculated in Fall 2026 and later**, to be in academic good standing, a student must achieve 1) a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.10 at the end of each semester; 2) a yearly grade point average of 3.10 for all courses taken during the second academic year; and 3) except in their final semester before graduation, does not earn an individual grade of 2.6 or lower if their cumulative GPA is 3.4 or lower.

- ***Academic Disqualification***

Academic disqualification and related matters are governed by the Faculty Rules

- For **students who matriculated prior to Fall 2026**, subject to certain exceptions (including one involving academic probation), if a J.D. student fails to achieve at the end of each academic year a 1) cumulative grade point average of 3.00 for all Law School courses taken, or 2) a yearly grade point average of 3.00 for all courses taken during the second academic year, the student is excluded from school for poor scholarship. The academic year begins with the summer school term and ends with the spring semester. The rule does not apply until a student has examined in at least 15 hours and has been enrolled in the Law School for at least two semesters. Students who are academically dismissed or put on academic probation receive notification from the [Associate Dean of Students](#).
- For **students who matriculated in Fall 2026 or later**, subject to certain exceptions (including one involving academic probation), a JD student who fails to achieve 1) a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.10 at the end of each semester, or 2) a yearly grade point average of 3.10 for all courses taken during the second academic year, or 3) who, except in their final semester before graduation, receives a grade of 2.6 or lower and whose cumulative grade point average is 3.4 or lower, will be excluded from school for poor scholarship. The academic year begins with the summer school term and ends with the spring semester.

Students enrolled part-time in any LLM or MLS degree program must successfully complete one course per term absent approval from the Associate Dean for Graduate and International Programs.

- ***Probation***

- For **JD students who matriculated prior to Fall 2026**: Any student 1) whose cumulative grade point average at the end of each academic year is between 2.98-2.99, inclusively, or 2) whose yearly grade point average for the second year is between 2.98-2.99, inclusively, is allowed to continue his or her studies for one additional year on scholastic probation. If at the end of that probationary year the student's cumulative GPA is at least 3.00, and, in the case of the student with the yearly GPA deficiency, the combined average for that year and the preceding one is 3.00 or higher, the student is removed from probation and returns to academic good standing; if, on the other hand, the student does not adequately increase his/her cumulative and combined first and second-year or second and third-year GPAs to at least 3.00, he or she is excluded for poor scholarship.
- For **JD students who matriculated in Fall 2026 or later**: Any student 1) whose cumulative grade point average at the end of each academic year is between 3.0-3.09, inclusively, or 2) whose yearly grade point average for the second year is between 3.0-3.09, inclusively, or 3) who, except in their final semester before graduation, receives a grade of 2.6 or lower and whose cumulative GPA is 3.4 or lower, may continue their studies for up to two additional semesters on academic probation. If at the end of the first or second semester after the student was on probation the student's 1) cumulative GPA, and 2) the combined average of the second and third year for the student who had a deficient yearly GPA at end of the second academic year, is 3.1 or higher, the student will be removed from academic probation. If, on the other hand, these grade point averages remain less than 3.1 after two semesters of probation, the student will be excluded for poor scholarship.

Academic Support

Academic support, through scheduled programs, workshops and individual counseling, is available through the Office of Student Life. The [Assistant Director of Academic Success](#) and Peer Academic Advisors work closely with students to help them develop law study skills necessary to succeed in law

school. In addition to individual support sessions, there are group presentations on a variety of topics such as Class Preparation, Note Taking, and First Year Exam Preparation.

Students are also encouraged to seek such support on an informal basis from the [Associate Dean of Students](#), faculty members, and/or other students.

Changes in Student Status

- **Leave of Absence**

Students generally may obtain a leave of absence for up to one year upon request. Leaves for longer than one year are disfavored but may be granted in unusual circumstances. Any student who is interested in (or even thinking about) taking a leave of absence should consult the [Associate Dean of Students](#).

- **Visiting at Another Law School**

JD students are required to complete 6 semesters of residence at the Law School. Under exceptional circumstances, however, a student may be allowed to satisfy up to 2 semesters of this requirement by attending another ABA-accredited law school as a visiting student. To receive permission, the student must 1) submit to the [Associate Dean of Students](#) a written "Petition to Visit Another Law School" and 2) persuade the Law School that absent permission to visit away, "severe hardship would ... result." The Faculty Rules define "severe hardship" as a health emergency of the student, someone in the student's immediate family, or someone else of similar importance in the student's life; a need to engage in the daily care of a person of import in the student's life; or extraordinary educational opportunities that cannot be achieved on campus.

Prior to submitting a petition, students seeking to visit away must meet with the Associate Dean of Students and the [Director of Financial Aid](#) to discuss the process and requirements for visiting away. If permission to visit away is granted, credits earned for law school classes taken at the host school will transfer and count toward a WashU degree only if: 1) the student earns a grade of "C" or higher in the course; 2) the course is not duplicative of any other courses for which the student has already earned credit; and 3) the student arranges to have the host school send a final official transcript directly to WashU Law.

Students visiting away at another law school are required to pay the full cost of tuition and fees due to the host school. WashU Law institutional scholarship cannot be applied to a host school's tuition. WashU Law scholarship is not portable and can only be used while a student is attending WashU Law full-time.

Federal student loans are available to pay the costs associated with visiting another school. The aid will be processed by the WashU Law Financial Aid Office. A consortium agreement is sent to the host school. This agreement will state that WashU Law will determine financial aid eligibility and will disburse all sources of financial aid for the student during enrollment at the host school. This agreement must be signed by WashU Law and the host school before processing aid.

Federal loan funds are sent directly to the host school by Washington University to pay tuition and fees. Any remaining loan funds, after tuition and fees are paid, are given to the student in the form of a refund. This refund is generated by Washington University.

Students who have questions about tuition and fees while visiting away at another law school should contact Carrie Burns cjburns@wustl.edu.

- **Withdrawal from School**

Students considering withdrawing from school should consult with the [Associate Dean of Students](#). To withdraw, a student should provide written notification to and obtain written approval from the [Associate Dean of Students](#). Students who withdraw after the first day of a semester will ordinarily receive a tuition refund based on the date they notify the Associate Dean of Students in writing of their intent to withdraw. The refund rate is as follows:

within 1st week of classes	100%
within 2nd week of classes.....	80%
within 3rd or 4th week	60%
after 4th week and before end of 8th week. ...	40%

There is no refund after the eighth week of the semester except for [medical leaves of absence](#). Such reasons must be certified or verified by WashU Cares, in which case the Law School will make a pro rata refund of tuition if notice of withdrawal is received before the end of the twelfth week of the semester.

Students considering withdrawing should consult with the [Director of Financial Aid](#) about tuition and refunds.

Course-Related Policies and Rules

- **Adding and Dropping Classes**

- First-year Students - First-year students are required to take the prescribed first-year courses and are assigned to sections of those courses. First-year students may not change sections or drop courses except with the permission of the [Associate Dean of Students](#).
- Upper-level Students - General add/drop deadlines can be found on the Law School's [Academic Calendar](#). Students may add most classes through the end of the first week of classes subject to availability of space or unless otherwise stated in the course directory or syllabus. Students should add/drop courses online through [Workday](#) except for clinics, in which case, students should contact the [Clinical Operations Manager](#). No course may be *added* after the first week of classes unless the professor's permission is obtained with an [Add/Drop After Deadline Request](#) form. Courses may be *dropped* during the first eight weeks of the semester unless otherwise stated in the course directory, course syllabus, or in class (such as in the case of clinics, Pretrial, Trial, Advanced Trial, and some other applied skills courses). After the first four weeks of the semester, students may drop most courses with a "W" (withdrawal) appearing on their transcripts. After the first eight weeks, drops may be made only with the professor's or the [Associate Dean of Students](#)' approval.
- A student may not register for any course in which he or she has already examined, regardless of the grade received in that course.

- **Attendance/Preparation**

Regular class attendance and preparation is expected of all students. This is both a Law School rule and an ABA Law School accreditation requirement. In addition, faculty members may, and often do, establish their own specific attendance and preparation requirements, the violation of which may result in the lowering of a grade or exclusion from class. Specific attendance policies are published in course syllabi or on Canvas.

- **Audits**

JD students may audit courses subject to availability of space (determined by Academic Services) and permission of the professor. Faculty members may impose their own requirements for auditing and students should be clear about any requirements. An [Audit Request](#) form must be

completed, signed by the professor, and submitted to the Office of Student Life, Suite 210. Auditors do not examine in or earn any credit hours for the audited course, and the course is not included in computation of academic average or degree requirements. The audit is recorded on the student's transcript. A student who audits a course may not later take the same course for credit. A course may not be changed to audit if the student has taken the final exam. If a student who has been given permission to audit wishes to change back to credit, she/he can do so with the professor's permission. The student should complete an [Audit Request](#) form and check the box indicating a change back to credit and obtain the professor's signature (or attach an email from the professor).

Graduates of the Law School may audit one course without charge with the consent of the professor and subject to availability of space. Other auditors will be charged the regular tuition rate for an audited course.

- ***Cancellation of Classes***

When professors cancel a class, an email notification or Canvas notification will be sent to the class. When severe weather occurs, some professors may cancel class and will notify the class via email or via Canvas. For more information, see [Severe Weather](#) in the STUDENT INFORMATION section of the handbook.

- ***Classroom Assignments***

A few weeks before the first day of classes each semester, classroom assignments are finalized. They then appear on class schedules in Workday. Last-minute classroom changes will be emailed to students and reflected in Workday.

- ***Course Conflicts and Overlaps***

Students may not take courses whose class meeting times conflict or overlap. Any student who registers for classes that conflict or overlap will be required to withdraw or will be withdrawn from as many courses as necessary to eliminate all conflicts and overlaps from their schedule and risks not receiving credit for those courses.

- ***Credits per Semester***

Minimum and Maximum - (See "Pass/Fail Limitations" for information on maximum number of pass/fail courses.) Law students may take up to 17 units each fall semester and 18 credits each spring semester if one of those credits comes from an Intersession course. Students enrolled in the J.D., LL.M. in US Law, LL.M. in Tax Law, LL.M. in IP Law, Master of Law, and Master of Legal Studies programs must be enrolled in at least 9 units to be considered full-time. Exchange students may have a higher minimum set by their home institution. The J.S.D. program is offered only as a full-time program. Students in the J.D. and U.S. Law LL.M. programs may not be enrolled for less than full-time without permission from the [Associate Dean of Students](#). Students enrolled for less than full-time do not earn a full semester's worth of residency (which is pertinent to J.D. students) and may have complications associated with financial aid or loans – please see the [Director of Financial Aid](#) regarding financial aid/loan questions. (Students with certain foreign visas are required to be enrolled full-time and to purchase health insurance whether enrolled full or part-time. All full-time students are required to have health insurance.)

Incomplete Grade Policy

Students who will not complete their work by the required deadline for a course or a for-credit project may take a temporary grade of Incomplete ("I") upon arrangement with the instructor. The terms and conditions for the completion of the course or the project are at the discretion of the instructor, and should be clearly conveyed to the student, but in all cases cannot extend past the last day of class of the semester that immediately follows. An "I" grade shall become a 2.5 (F) on the last day of classes of the

following semester if no grade has been offered to replace it. Once an “I” becomes a 2.5 it will appear on the student's record and factor into the student's GPA. The grade of 2.5 is a permanent grade and the student will not receive academic credit for the course. The normal rules regarding withdrawals are permitted during the period in which the work was originally due. However, under this policy, students may not withdraw during the period of any extended time granted to complete their work.

Nonlaw Courses for J.D. Credit

An upper-level J.D. student may apply to receive up to six hours of credit towards their J.D. for coursework offered by another school of the University. The course must: 1) be listed as a graduate-level course (usually the number must be 5000- level or higher); 2) must not duplicate a Law School course; and 3) must be logically related to the particular educational program or career plans of the student. In order to receive law credit for the course, the student must receive a “C” or better; the course cannot be taken as Pass/No Pass. The student must submit a [Non-Law Course for Credit Request](#) form. The student is responsible for registering online for the course via Workday. It's probably a good idea to register online for the course while awaiting approval from the various parties, as long as students abide by any restrictions set by the other department in terms of dates after which law students must wait to register. All schools reserve the right to remove students from their classes when it's warranted by any situation. Course listings for all University departments, including Law, can be found through Workday.

- ***Nonlaw Courses Not Taken for Credit (includes undergraduate courses)***

This free of charge opportunity for full-time law students is limited to courses offered in the following Washington University schools: Arts & Sciences, the Olin School of Business, the Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts, the School of Engineering and Applied Science, and the George Warren Brown School of Social Work. (Courses offered in evening and part-time continuing education divisions, such as Continuing and Professional Studies (CAPS) and Executive Education programs, are excluded.) Credits taken under this agreement are not eligible to be applied to a future degree program. Non-law courses must be approved by the professor. In some cases, certain courses are not open to students outside the home school. Enrollment is also based on space-availability. Students are responsible for registering themselves for the non-law course in Workday. After registering, the student should contact the professor for approval. Then the [Non-Law Course for No Credit Request](#) form should be turned in to the [Office of Student Life](#) (Suite 210). Each department reserves the right to drop a student from another department for any reason they deem reasonable, even if the student successfully added themselves via Workday; therefore, students should turn in the approval form as soon as possible after registering to make sure they have official approval to take the course. Law students may take these courses on a pass/no pass or audit basis if approval is given by the professor. Classes taken under this agreement will not count toward the Law degree, and the grade will not be included in the Law GPA.

- ***Pass/No Pass Courses***

Few courses offered at the Law School are strictly “Pass/No Pass” and students are not permitted to choose whether to take a course pass/fail. More commonly used (although still a small minority) is the “Modified Pass/No Pass” grading scale, which offers the grades of “High Pass,” for which a 3.9 is recorded; “Pass,” for which no numeric grade is recorded; “Low Pass,” for which a 3.0 is recorded; and “No Pass”, for which 2.5 is recorded. (For more on the workings of the Modified Pass/No Pass grading scale, see “[Grades & Grading](#),” “[Computation of Academic Average](#)” in this section of the handbook.) If a course is not graded by the usual numeric grading scale, the grading method will typically be mentioned in the course description in the course directory.

- ***Pass/No Pass Limitations for J.D. Students***

J.D. students may not take more than a grand total of 19 units in non-law courses, or courses that do not provide attendance in regularly scheduled class sessions (this includes: competitions, Research Assistance, Supervised Research, Supervised Practicum, Supervised Moot Court, moot court teams, Trial Advocacy Competition, Government Lawyering Externship, Semester-in-Practice Externship, Judicial Clerkship Externship, Lawyering Practice Externship, and student publications). This is based on an ABA rule.

FOR J.D. STUDENTS IN THE TOP 10% - ORDER OF THE COIF PASS/NO PASS COURSE LIMITATION.

[Order of the Coif](#) is an honorary scholastic society, the purpose of which is to encourage excellence in legal education by fostering a spirit of careful study, recognizing those who as law students attained a high grade of scholarship, and honoring those who as lawyers, judges and teachers attained high distinction for their scholarly or professional accomplishments. Members are selected by the faculty from the graduating J.D. students who rank in the top 10% of their class. Based on Order of the Coif rules, in order to be eligible a student must have taken 75% of his/her credits "graded." If a student plans to graduate with the 86 minimum credits required for the J.D, this means they must take at least 64 graded credits graded, and no more than 22 non-graded credits. According to the Order of the Coif, "Graded courses are those for which academic accomplishment is recorded on the basis of educational measurement involving four or more discriminators." WashU Law's modified pass/fail courses (HP 3.9, P, LP 3.0, NP 2.5) such as Pretrial and Trial count as graded courses, per this definition. Courses such as Law Review, Moot Court, Supervised Research, Judicial Clerkship Externship, and non-law courses do not count as graded courses under the "Coif definition" because there are only two grade discriminators - pass or no pass. In most cases, it would be difficult for a WashU Law student to take more than 22 credits non-graded; however, this is information that students who are vying for the top 10% may wish to keep in mind - especially if considering applying for a semester abroad (which would likely involve at least 12 non-graded credits) or a full-time externship. Eligible students must also be approved by the faculty – i.e., students who have questionable disciplinary/behavioral record, may be disqualified from making Order of the Coif, even if they are in the top 10%.

- ***St. Louis University Agreement***

[SLU](#) and WashU Law Schools have entered into an agreement that allows students to take up to one course at the other school without additional charge. (Any part-time WashU student would have to pay WashU tuition to WashU for the credits taken at SLU.) This [agreement](#) applies to students enrolled in the J.D. program who have completed their first 30 hours of course work, and it extends to upper-level (not first-year) courses, including upper-level writing seminars. However, the course taken at SLU must not be offered by WashU during the academic year in which the student takes the course at SLU. (For students who will be away for one semester in an academic program that does not take place in St. Louis, the SLU course must be one that is not offered at WashU during the semester in which the student is in St. Louis.) The option of taking a course at SLU is on a space-available basis with students at SLU receiving initial priority over WUSTL students for the spaces in the course (just as WashU students will receive initial priority over SLU students in WashU courses). WashU students will have the opportunity to register approximately one week after all SLU students have had their first opportunity to register for classes. Each student is eligible to take no more than one SLU course for credit toward their J.D. degree. If you are interested in taking a particular course at SLU and would like to know if it qualifies for this no-charge program, please contact the [Associate Dean of Students](#).

Degree Requirements

- ***Completion of Program of Study***

The JD degree must be completed within seven years. The JSD must be completed within 5 years. The LLM in IP, Tax, and NDR must be completed within 4 years.

- ***JD (Juris Doctor) Degree***

To receive a JD degree, students must provide the Law School with all documents necessary to complete the student file (including a final official undergraduate transcript) and must satisfy the following requirements:

- Courses - Complete all first-year courses prescribed for the year in which the student originally enrolled, an Ethics course, a seminar, and 6 units of Experiential coursework
- Credit Hours - Earn a total of at least 86 credit hours (67 in Law Classroom Units*);
- Cumulative Average - Have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.00 (3.10 for students matriculating in Fall 2026 or later) based upon all courses taken, and a yearly grade point average of at least 3.00 (3.10 for students matriculating in Fall 2026 or later) based upon all the courses taken in the second academic year whether or not credit is earned; and
- Residence Credit - Complete six semesters of residence at the Law School, which means 6 semesters (or the equivalent) in which the student completes a minimum of 9 hours of work.
- 5 Class Hours of BCCCR Courses – Students starting the JD program in Fall 2023 or later must complete designated coursework that provides at least five class hours of instruction related to bias, cross-cultural competency, and racism (BCCCR courses). Students can satisfy this requirement by completing up to three BCCCR courses.

* The ABA requires that 67 credits be earned in “regularly scheduled class sessions at the law school”, or LCUs (Law Classroom Units). Students who graduate with exactly the required 86 credits must not take more than 19 outside-the-classroom (non-LCU) credits. WashULaw follows ABA Standard 310 in determining credit hours, and each credit hour consists of at least 42.5 hours of in-class and out-of-class work. The 42.5 hours equals the equivalent of 50 minutes of in-class instruction per week and 120 minutes of out-of-class preparation time per week for 15 weeks, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time. Time spent preparing for and taking a final exam is included in the 42.5 hours. WashULaw schedules classes so that each credit requires a minimum of 700 minutes of in-class instruction (12 hours), and courses are structured to require at least an additional 30.5 hours of additional work, including time spent preparing for and taking a final exam for courses with exams.

A student may also be allowed to satisfy up to two semesters of the residence requirement at another AALS member law school by successfully petitioning the faculty for permission to do so. For more on how this works, see Changes in Student Status, “Visiting at Another Law School” in this section of the handbook.

- ***Other Degrees***

- The Law School offers several graduate law degrees: the J.S.D., professional LL.M. degrees in Taxation and in Intellectual Property & Technology Law, a general LL.M., the LL.M. degree in U.S. Law, and the Masters in Legal Studies (MLS) degree. For the most part, these either are 1-year programs or are subject to a specific limitation on the length of the program. Students who received their J.D. from Washington University School of Law may transfer up to 9 units of courses considered to be of an advanced level in the particular specialty taken while in the J.D. program toward the LL.M. in Taxation or the LL.M. in Intellectual Property & Technology Law. Tax LL.M.: Units for the basic Federal Income Tax course do not transfer; however, any other course that was listed in the Graduate Tax Course Directory can be counted (up to 9 units). Interested students should contact the [Director of the Graduate Tax Program](#).

- **IP LL.M.:** Courses designated as part of the IP Curriculum are eligible for transfer with the following exceptions: 1) courses designated as “related” on that list are not transferable, and 2) one of the introductory IP courses (Copyright & Related Rights, Patent Law, and Trademarks & Unfair Competition) is not transferable - if you took more than one of these introductory IP courses, the other(s) are transferable. Interested students should the [Director of the IP LLM Program](#).

Evaluation of Graduation Requirements

JD students are encouraged to track their degree requirements and completion in [Workday](#). The academic progress report breaks down JD degree requirements (units, course requirements, GPA, and residency) in a convenient format for students to review. Law Academic Services sends out regular communications to students prior to each registration period to remind students to run fresh degree audits and track their progress. While it is ultimately the students’ responsibility to meet all degree requirements, Academic Services also monitors student records and is available to answer questions and/or address concerns.

Non-JD students should make themselves familiar with degree requirements specific to their programs and monitor their progress in [Workday](#). The [Assistant Dean of Graduate & International Programs](#) completes degree audits on all non-JD students each summer and in the early spring and communicates with the students regarding anticipated graduation and any issues or concerns.

For a discussion of the degree requirements themselves, see [Degree Requirements](#) in this section of the handbook.

Exams

- ***Accommodations/Special Situations***

Arrangements for accommodations at WashU for students with disabilities must be made with [Disability Resources](#). Most questions can be answered by reviewing their website and by consulting with the [Assistant Director of Student Life](#). Any other requests for special circumstances must be made directly to the [Associate Dean of Students](#). Any student experiencing a crisis during the exam period, such as a death in the family or a serious illness, should contact the Associate Dean of Students. Consistent with the school's anonymous grading policy, in no event should a student contact a professor directly about a special situation or need related to the taking of an exam.

- ***Computer Use***

Students who properly register their laptops and download special software (at no charge) in accordance with instructions issued and by the deadline set by Academic Services are permitted to take exams on their laptops unless the exam instructions for a particular course state otherwise.

- ***Scheduling***

The dates of the exam period for each term appear on the [academic calendar](#). The exam schedule is distributed approximately 6-8 weeks into the fall and spring semesters. All 1L exams are scheduled for a specific day and time, with at least two days in between each exam. Beginning with the fall 2026 term, all upper-level exams will be scheduled. There will be a designated Reading Day at the beginning of each exam period.

Faculty Plagiarism Rules

Students should familiarize themselves with the [Faculty Plagiarism Guidelines](#) and make themselves aware of what constitutes plagiarism and when it can rise to the level of an [Honor Code](#) violation.

Faculty Rules

As stated at the beginning of this section of the handbook, Law School policies and procedures concerning academics are governed heavily by Faculty Rules. Please check with the [Associate Dean of Students](#) if you have any questions concerning academic matters.

Forms

Students often are required to fill out and submit forms in connection with requests pertaining to academic matters. Forms are available on the law school's [intranet page](#). Most of the forms give instructions as to when and where they should be turned in, but if there are any questions, students should inquire at the Office of Student Life (AB Hall, No. 210), or email [Academic Services](#). Please allow at least 5 working days turnaround time on such requests, and even longer than that during peak activity times, such as exam periods and when grades are being processed.

Grades & Grading

- ***Anonymous Grading***

Final exams are graded anonymously. Because of the anonymous grading policy, students should note that disclosure of a student's identity or status on an exam is an [Honor Code](#) violation. Papers and assignments are sometimes also graded anonymously. Students are not expected to memorize their final exam numbers, as they are printed on the outside of the exam envelope which contains each exam. Exam numbers are assigned to students by Academic Services and are used in place of student names on final exams as well as on any other anonymously graded work. Certain classes, due to the nature of the work involved, cannot be graded anonymously (e.g., Clinics, Pretrial, Trial, Seminars and most Experiential skills classes).

- ***Computation of Academic Average***

Cumulative and semester grade point averages for J.D. students are computed at the end of the fall and spring semesters. Yearly grade point averages for J.D. students are computed at the end of the spring semester. The academic year, for purposes of calculating the yearly GPA, begins with summer and ends with spring. Averages are computed as a weighted average by multiplying the numeric grade for each course attempted by the number of credit hours given for the course and dividing the total by the number of numerically graded hours attempted (pass/no pass, transferred hours, and non-law courses are not included in these computations). A "Fail" in a Pass/No Pass course (whether Modified or straight pass/no pass) is recorded as a 2.5 and is used to compute the student's average. A "Low Pass" in a Modified Pass/No Pass course is recorded as a 3.0 and also is used to compute the GPA. A "High Pass" in such a course is recorded as a 3.9 and also is used to compute the student's average, unless the effect would be to lower the student's cumulative GPA. A "Pass" in a modified Pass/No Pass course is recorded as a P and does not affect the GPA.

- ***Grading Deadlines***

Grades for the spring semester are due 4 weeks after the last day of the exam period, grades for the summer session are due 4 weeks after the last day of the exam period, and grades for the fall semester are due as follows: i. All 1L grades are due 3 weeks from the last day of the exam period. ii. For faculty members who teach only one Fall course, grades are due 3 weeks from last day of the exam period if that course is not a 1L course. iii. For all other faculty members, grades are due 4 weeks from the last day of the exam period.

- ***Grading System***

The grading system uses a numeric scale of 4.3-2.5. The faculty has agreed upon the following conversion scale for students to compare the Law School's numeric grades with letter grades: A+ = 4.3-4.0; A = 3.9-3.8; A- = 3.7-3.6; B+ = 3.5-3.3; B = 3.2; B- = 3.1-3.0; C+ = 2.9; C = 2.8; D = 2.7; F = 2.6-2.5.

The required mean in all graded courses is fixed at 3.6. Grades in courses with an enrollment of 10 or fewer JD students are not subject to a required mean; grades are subject to a median grade of 3.6. Seminars have a mandatory median of 3.6. If the class has an even number of students, the average grade of the two middle students must meet the required median. No more than one third of the students in the seminar may be assigned a grade of 3.9 or above. Non-JD students and JD students visiting from other universities will be excluded from these calculations. Courses strictly defined as Graduate Tax courses have no mean or median grading requirement.

Grades for the Clinics, Pretrial Practice and Trial Practice courses, and any other course so specified in the Course Directory graded on a "Modified Pass/No Pass" basis. Under this grading scheme, a "High Pass" equals a 3.9, "Pass" has no GPA impact, a "Low Pass" equals 3.0, and a "No Pass" equals a 2.5. Any student who earns a "High Pass" but whose overall average at the end of each semester exceeds 3.9 receives a "High Pass" on his or her permanent record and no numerical grade shall be calculated into his or her cumulative average, and any student who earns a "Pass" but whose average at the end of his or her first year is below 3.0 receives a 3.0 on his or her permanent record. The number of "High Pass" grades awarded to J.D. candidates in a modified pass/no pass course may be as low as zero and shall not exceed one-third of the number of J.D. candidates who receive grades in that course. In practice, it should be rare for a faculty member to award one-third of the J.D. candidates a grade of "High Pass." Accordingly, the faculty intends this one-third rule to be the outer limit rather than a new norm to be followed for any course that uses modified pass-fail grading.

For JD students, a grade of 2.7 or better is necessary to earn credit in a course and a cumulative 3.00 average (3.10 for students matriculating in Fall 2026 or later) is necessary to remain in good standing, and at the end of the 2nd year a GPA of 3.00 (3.10 for students matriculating in Fall 2026 or later) is required based solely on the 2nd year grades.

Students in the LL.M. in Taxation program must receive a minimum grade of 3.0 to receive credit for a course. Students in the LL.M. in Intellectual Property and Technology Law program need a grade of 2.7 or better to receive credit for a course; they are required to earn a cumulative GPA of 3.00 to graduate. Students in the LL.M. in U.S. Law, Master of Laws or Master of Legal Studies program need a grade of 2.7 or better to receive credit for a course, and they are not required to meet a minimum GPA.

- ***Notification of Class Standing For J.D. Students***

At the end of the fall and spring semesters, a GPA percentile table is created for each J.D. class. The GPA percentile table lists the 1%, 5%, 10%, 15%, 20%, 25%, 30% and 33 1/3% cut-offs for each J.D. class. This information is sent by email to all students. The Law School does not report exact ranks of J.D. students, except for those in the top 5% of each class.

Students in other degree programs other than the J.D. program are not ranked. There is, however, an award granted after all grades have been submitted to the student with the highest GPA in the LL.M. in Taxation program and to the student with the highest GPA in the LL.M. in Intellectual Property and Technology Law program.

- ***Viewing Grades***

Students can view their grades in Workday. Upper-level grades are posted on a rolling basis as they are finalized. All first-year grades are posted on the same date and time, which is announced in advance by the Office of Student Life.

Holds

The University can place a "Hold" on a student's record for various reasons, the most common of which is financial (a past due balance). If you have a hold on your record, you will not be allowed to register for classes in the upcoming semester. Holds should be cleared up with the department that placed the hold (such as by paying your bill at Student Financial Services, Summers Welcome Center, 935-5900). Questions about financial holds should be directed to the [Director of Financial Aid & Student Life](#). The Office of the University Registrar places onboarding holds on records of students who do not enter current address (Home and Local) and telephone information. Students will also receive holds for failing to comply with campus immunization compliance rules and Title IX training.

Honor Code

Matters relating to academic and professional integrity are governed in large part by the Law School [Honor Code](#). Students should be thoroughly familiar with the entire Honor Code as they will be held accountable for all its provisions.

Honors and Awards

Numerous [honors, awards, and prizes](#) are given each year and at graduation in recognition of outstanding academic achievement.

Dual Degree Programs

The Law School offers several dual degrees with other WashU graduate programs, including a JD/Masters in Social Work, JD/Masters in Public Health, JD/Masters in Business Administration, and JD/ Masters in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies. Additionally, the Law School is willing to participate in a combined degree program with any other graduate school within the University as long as an agreement can be reached with the other participating graduate school. For all dual degree programs, the Law School applies nine (9) hours of credit earned in other schools toward the J.D. degree. Each of the other schools participating in formal dual degree programs applies varying amounts of credit earned in the Law School toward its degree. This arrangement permits the student to earn a J.D. degree and another graduate degree in considerably less time than if he or she were to pursue the two degrees independently. For further information about these programs, inquire with [Academic Services](#).

Petitions

Students sometimes want to do something that requires special permission from the Law School – e.g., visit at another law school, be readmitted following exclusion for poor scholarship, etc. To obtain the necessary permission, a written petition must be submitted to the [Associate Dean of Students](#). The petition process is governed by the Faculty Rules and students will be notified of final decisions in writing by the [Associate Dean of Students](#).

Registration

First year law students are pre-registered in their sections by the Office of Student Life – in July for the fall semester, and in December for the spring semester. Once registered, students can see their registration in [Workday](#). This is a pre-set curriculum and students do not choose their courses or sections.

Students in LL.M., J.S.D., M.L.S., Exchange Student, or Visiting Scholar programs should follow instructions they receive from their program directors. For JD students, registration for upper-level courses is a two-step process: (1) students *pre-register* for Clinics and Externships (for both Fall and Spring semesters); and (2) students *register* for other courses one semester at a time (most via Workday). Except for Clinics and Externships, upper-level students register in April for the fall semester and in November for the spring semester.

For all matters pertaining to registration, timing is critical. Students should pay close attention to the pre-registration deadline for Clinics and Externships, and to the online registration dates noted on the

Academic Calendar, which is posted on the web and included in the course directory. For more information on registration, students should visit the “Academics” intranet page.

Study Abroad

Students interested in [studying abroad](#) can apply to study at one of several English-language foreign law schools that have agreed to admit a limited number of WashU law students for a semester. Under these arrangements, a student continues to pay tuition to WashU and receives law school credit for approved courses taken at the foreign law school. Students are responsible for costs of travel and living expenses while abroad. In addition, we have informal arrangements with many law schools around the world, under which a highly motivated and qualified law student may be able to study abroad on an *ad hoc* basis. For further information about any of these programs, contact the [Graduate & International Programs Office](#).

Summer School

- ***Other Law Schools***

J.D. students may request permission from the [Associate Dean of Students](#) to attend summer school at another law school for credit toward the J.D. degree by completing a “[Taking Law Class Elsewhere Request](#)” form. The form must be completed prior to attendance in the summer program. Students may not receive credit for more than seven hours of summer school. To receive credit, a grade of “C” or better must be earned and an official transcript sent to [Academic Services](#), upon completion of the course. If the student is taking a pass/fail course, the Registrar’s Office will accept a letter from the professor or Registrar from the other law school confirming that the student did “C” or better work in the class. It is the student’s responsibility to request these documents as soon as their grades have been posted.

- ***Washington University***

Students may enroll in Lawyering Practice Externship during the summer session. There are no scholarships, but financial aid is available. No student who is known to be excluded from the Law School for poor scholarship is permitted to enroll in summer school. First year students may enroll in summer school; however, summer school grades are never considered in determining whether a first year student will be promoted to second year status.

Transfer to JD

Graduates of our LL.M. in U.S. Law program, as well as international students who are graduates of our IP, Tax LL.M., and General LL.M. programs and have not yet earned a J.D. from a U.S law school, are eligible to be considered for admission to our J.D. program. If they are admitted to the J.D. program, they may receive credit toward their J.D. degree for all LL.M. work done in a regular course in the J.D. curriculum (which excludes courses that are generally open only to LL.M. students and for which they receive a passing grade as an LL.M. student). Their J.D. transcript will show the grades received as LL.M. students, along with grades received after they start the J.D. program. Their GPA and class rank as J.D. students will be calculated solely based on the grades they receive after entering the J.D. program. All J.D. requirements must ultimately be met by LL.M. transfer students, including all first-year courses (that must be completed during the student’s first year in the J.D. program), the ethics requirement, the seminar requirement, the experiential requirement and the BCCR requirement. LL.M. students interested in applying to the J.D. program should reach out to the Admissions office.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Academic Calendar

The Law School Academic Calendar can be found at the front of this handbook and [online](#).

Advising

Law students have access to a range of advising and support services. Through the [Academic Advising Center](#), all students are assigned an advisor during their 1L year. Students are encouraged to meet with their advisor regularly. The academic advisor for all LL.M., MLS and Exchange students is the Assistant Dean and Director of Graduate and International Programs. The school offers a series of events and programs aimed at both upper-level students and 1Ls. The [Assistant Dean of Academic Services](#), the [Assistant Director of Academic Services](#), the [Associate Dean of Students](#), the [Assistant Director of Student Life](#) and the [Assistant Director of Academic Support](#) are available to answer questions about what is available and/or to help students locate a particular type of program or service. For more information about services and programs, see “[Academic Planning](#)” and “[Academic Support](#)” in the section on ACADEMICS.

Announcements

Announcements about Law School events and programs and other matters of importance to students can be found in the following places: email addressed to your Outlook account; the law school intranet page; digital screens on the first, second and third floors; and handouts distributed to and/or posters posted near student lockers on the 2nd floor.

Audio Visual and Multimedia Services

The AV/Multimedia Department is located on the 2nd floor of Anheuser-Busch Hall. AV/Multimedia support is available to students for school assignments and activities. Some service limitations apply and equipment is not loaned for personal use or non-law school related activity. To request service, send an email to [AV](#). IMPORTANT: 48 hours minimum advance notice is required for all multimedia requests and students should not contact AV directly to record classes.

Students wishing to film and/or videotape using law school facilities should contact the [Marketing & Communications \(MarComm\)](#).

Banking Services

There are three Bank of America ATM locations on the Hilltop Campus: 1) Northeast entrance to Mallinckrodt Center; 2) Southeast corner of Gregg House, near Clock Tower (South 40); 3) Campus Police Dept. (South 40 - behind Umrath Residence Hall).

Books and Course Materials

Textbooks are generally available at the [Campus Bookstore](#).

Campus Shuttle

Washington University runs several shuttles to the areas surrounding the campus. The service is free of charge to anyone who wishes to ride. The shuttle travels to the Danforth, Medical School and West Campuses, shopping centers, and certain of the surrounding residential areas. For schedule and route information, visit [Parking & Transportation](#) or call (314) 935-4140.

Campus Store

The [Washington University Campus Store](#) sells books (both textbooks and other types), office and school supplies, computers and computer equipment, and a wide variety of gifts and other items. The store is

located on the main level of the Mallinckrodt Center. The general phone number is (314) 935-5500; the course textbook department is (314) 935-5584.

WashU Law Career Center

The Career Center is a resource for all WashU Law students and alumni throughout their legal careers, partnering with students to define and achieve their career goals through individualized career strategies and professional development.

Career Advisors leverage industry expertise, a wide network of connections, and other cutting-edge resources to meet each student's unique needs. Career Advisors work with students to understand their career interests and craft innovative plans to explore them. Coupling access to the best career resources with established relationships with local, national, and international employers, the Career Center works with students to secure outstanding internships, externships, and long-term employment opportunities. In addition, the Career Center partners with students, employers, the Law School, and the university community to provide professional development programming and opportunities to ensure that each student is situated to succeed in the legal profession.

- ***Career Center Availability***

The Career Center is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Students may also communicate with advisors or request appointments outside regular business hours as needed.

The Career Center is eager to support students and can be reached via:

- Email: lawcareers@wustl.edu
- Phone: (314) 935-6451
- Appointment Scheduling: [Simplicity](#) > Counseling
- Walk-ins: Suite 325

- ***Career Center Services***

The Career Center encourages you to maximize your use of its services and resources. You are not limited in the number of appointments you can make or programs you can attend, whether exploring the possibilities, seeking help navigating challenges professionally, or strategizing for specific opportunities. The Career Center offers application material review (*e.g.*, resumes and cover letters), interview preparation, strategy meetings, campus interview programs, individual career and academic advising, and more.

- ***Pay It Forward***

Just as students before you have helped to pave the way for your success, you can help to pave the way for the next generation of law students. We encourage you to contact the Career Center to report on your interviews and summer experiences.

- ***General Policies***

The Career Center will communicate information vital to your success and professional development at WashU Law. Be sure to reply promptly to emails, texts, and voicemail messages from the Career Center and employers. Schedule appointments, RSVP for events, and follow through with those commitments. Always remember to be professional; you represent Washington University School of Law.

Communications

The Law School relies *heavily* on email communication. Students are expected to check their email daily; in fact, both the faculty and the administration assume that they do so. Students who don't check run the risk of missing crucial information.

- ***Communicating with Faculty***

Some faculty members observe an “open (office) door” policy for students; others have posted office hours. Likewise, some make their own appointments, while others rely on a faculty assistant. Faculty can also be reached by phone or email.

- ***Communicating with Other Students***

Student email addresses (as well as faculty and staff) can be found in Outlook.

Computer Services and Support

Students are provided with a variety of computer services. A detailed description may be found at the [Student Technology Services](#) page. However, please remember that computers and computer software can fail without warning. Make sure that you always make at least one backup copy of all information with which you are working. Each student is provided a [BOX](#) account to store and share files while they are enrolled.

- ***Getting Help***

If you are having difficulty with any of the student computer lab computers, student walk-up terminals, printing, accessing your email account, or wireless access please consult [Student Technology Services](#). PC Support is available between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Course Materials/Handouts

Information about course materials is posted on Canvas.

Course Mailboxes

Most (though not all) classes have a course mailbox on the 5th floor.

Counseling

[Mental Health Counseling](#) is available through the [Center for Counseling and Psychological Services](#) on the South 40. Services provided include short-term counseling, consultation, and outreach and prevention programs. Additionally, the [Missouri Lawyers Assistance Program \(MOLAP\)](#) provides 24/7 confidential counseling to law students.

Disability Resources (DR)

The [Disability Resources](#) office is Washington University’s resource for students with disabilities. DR assists students with disabilities by providing guidance and accommodations to ensure equal access to our campus, both physically and academically. Under the Americans with Disabilities Act and University policy, students with disabilities must submit documentation of their disability to DR before formal accommodations can be made. Students seeking disability-related accommodations must go through the DR office and are encouraged to contact DR upon admission or once diagnosed. Eligibility for accommodations is determined on an individual basis supported by appropriate documentation, which may need to be renewed periodically. Any student with questions about receiving accommodations at the Law School should contact the [Assistant Director of Student Life](#).

Eating on Campus

There are several [campus area dining options](#), including cafes at the Law School, Mallinckrodt Center, the Village, Bear’s Den, and Umrath Hall. There is also a self-serve area located by the Student Commons with hot and cold foods, beverages, and snacks. To report issues with the self-serve or kitchen area of the Student Commons contact the [Facilities Office](#) (No. 102).

Email

Email is the most used form of communication in the Law School. To repeat a caveat given elsewhere in this handbook, *students who don't check their email daily run the risk of missing crucial information.*

Facilities

The [Facilities Office](#) is located on the first floor of Anheuser-Busch Hall (No. 102). The office is open from 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Mailing Services are available through the Facilities Office.

Faculty Mailboxes

Every full-time faculty member has a mailbox in the faculty mailroom (AB 550B). Mail for adjunct faculty may be delivered to the Office of Student Life (Suite 210).

Faculty Facilitator

Each year a faculty member is named to serve as Student/Faculty Facilitator. The facilitator is available to help students work out difficulties with members of the faculty. This year's Student/Faculty Facilitator is [Cormac Smith](#).

Financial Aid

Student financial aid is handled through the Law School's Financial Aid Office, which is in the Office of Student Life Suite (No. 210). The Law School Financial Aid Office administers all forms of financial assistance available through WashU Law, including scholarship funds and federal student loans. Contact the [Director of Financial Aid & Student Life](#) with questions.

Furniture

Furniture should not be rearranged or moved from one area of the building to another except by prior arrangement with the [Director of Law Facilities and Building Operations](#). Furniture should be returned to its prior location after it is used.

Health Insurance

Washington University's 2026-2027 health insurance plan is underwritten by United Healthcare Insurance Company and administered by United Healthcare Student Resources. Domestic students may choose to [waive](#) WashU coverage if they can document that they have adequate coverage through another plan. The University plan is mandatory for international students. Annual coverage runs from August 1, 2026, through July 31, 2027. The insurance premium is billed annually and will appear on the fall billing statement. WashU assesses a student health and wellness fee designed to improve the health and wellness of the entire WashU. For details about the insurance plan and other available health and wellness services, please visit the [Student Health Center](#) website.

Health and Wellness

The [Student Health Center](#) supports each student's well-being through medical and psychiatric services. The Center is in the Nathan Dardick House on the South 40. The main phone number for Student Health Services is (314) 935-6666.

Identification Cards

All students are issued an official WashU student identification card. The card displays a color photo, your student identification number, division code, and date of issue. The magnetic stripes on the back of your card provide access to various academic buildings and labs, campus housing, the athletic complex, the library, and on-campus student activities, as well as meal plans and check cashing services. The ID card is yours to use, but it remains the property of WashU. Report a lost or stolen card in person to the [Campus Card Services](#) immediately. The cost of a replacement card is \$25. You must present some form of positive identification with a picture ID to obtain a replacement student ID card.

Identification Numbers/Passwords

A WashU KEY is the combination of your WashU CONNECT Login ID and password. Every student, faculty, and staff member has a WashU KEY credential and can use it to access WUSTL CONNECT-enabled applications, including Workday and the Student Health Services Portal.

Law Library

The Law Library is a major academic research facility with strong print and electronic collections. It provides research services, an extensive online collection, quiet work areas, group study rooms and a study break area. The [Law Library website](#) is your portal to a vast amount of legal research material as well as to information about library services, policies, and facilities. The Law Library acquires both primary and secondary source materials to support the needs of students and faculty. The collection includes state and federal statutes and court reports, periodical indexes, legal encyclopedias, an extensive collection of legal treatises, U.S. government documents, and legal journals. The library also maintains substantial collections in Chinese and international law materials.

WashULaw students have 24/7 access to the physical & virtual Law Library. When classes are in session, the Library Circulation Desk is open and staffed:

Monday - Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Saturday - Sunday: Noon to 4 p.m.

During these hours, Reserve items may be checked out and study rooms may be reserved. Holiday hours and closings will be posted. You may also call the library at 314-935-6450 to confirm hours. When the Library is closed, Reserve items are not available and group study rooms are available on a first come, first served basis.

- ***Library Resources***

As a WashULaw student, you may check out materials from any Washington University Library. The [Library Catalog](#) includes records for all materials (books, journals, newspapers, treatises, databases, etc.) whether in print or electronic form at a Washington University Library.

- ***Print Sources***

You may request a print book be delivered to the Law Library by clicking on the "Request" button and entering your WUSTL Key information ... just be sure to choose the Law Library as your Pickup Location.

- ***Renewing Materials***

To renew materials, go to the [Library Catalog](#) and click on My Catalog, or stop by the Circulation Desk. Books can be renewed up to three times.

- ***Overdue Fine Policy***

The Law Library does not charge fines for overdue books. It does, however, charge for lost and damaged materials. After you are sent two email notices about non-returned material, it is considered lost and the Office of Student Financial Services auto-generates an invoice for the cost of the book plus a \$25 processing fee and adds it to your tuition bill. If an item is returned after the invoice is generated, the Office will issue you a credit minus a \$25 administrative fee.

- ***Reserves & Course Reserves***

The [Library Catalog](#) allows you to search for print items your professor has placed on reserve for a class. The items may be checked out for two hours at the Circulation Desk. Some reserve materials may be checked out overnight one hour before closing. They are due back the following

day within one hour of the library's opening. Electronic format items should be on your Canvas course page.

- ***Electronic Resources***

As a WashU Law student you should have access to all e-resources in the [Library Catalog](#). The Law Library has an extensive list of [subscribed databases and research guides](#) and the main library has even [more](#). Authentication policies differ, however, so please ask a [reference librarian](#) if you cannot get into a resource.

- ***Lexis-Nexis, Westlaw, and Bloomberg Law***

These are three comprehensive online legal research services providing access to thousands of databases that cover primary and secondary legal resources as well as a variety of non-legal sources including news, technology and business information. First year law students receive passwords during Orientation and training in their Legal Research Methodologies class. Transfer, LLM, and JSD students who do not receive passwords during Orientation should email [Peter Van Brunt](#).

- ***MOBIUS***

This is similar to the Library Catalog except it contains materials from a multi-state network of participating libraries. To check out any book from a [MOBIUS](#) library, click on "Request it." Choose "MOBIUS – Washington University" as your library, and enter your WUSTL Key information. Be sure to choose that you want to pick up the item at the Law Library. Can't find the book or article you need on WU campus or in a MOBIUS library? Use [Interlibrary Loan](#) to borrow it from libraries around the nation!

- ***Interlibrary Loan***

If a book or article you want is not available at any WU Library or through MOBIUS, you may request the item through [Interlibrary Loan](#). Please feel free to ask a reference librarian for help finding your item.

* Journal/Law Review Members: Please do not use ILL or MOBIUS. See your publication's instructions about how to request items not available on campus.

- ***CALI***

This is a non-profit consortium of law schools that has developed an extensive library of lessons designed to enhance the student's learning experience. To obtain a CALI account, go to [www.CALI.org](#) and click on Register. You will need to enter our school's authorization code, WAUNIVstu230.

- ***Practice (old) Exams***

Some older [Practice Exams](#) are available on the [Student Commons](#) page of the Intranet. You should also check your [Canvas](#) course pages or consult your professors for a particular course.

- ***Reference librarians***

Librarians are available and eager to help you find and use library resources, including print, internet resources, and computer assisted legal research services. Please stop by the Circulation Desk and ask for one or [email us](#).

Library Policies

Respectful and courteous treatment is required of all students toward fellow students, faculty and library staff at all times.

- ***Food*** - Please take care when bringing drinks and snacks into the Law Library: keep food

contained, use spill-resistant drink containers, clean up any crumbs and spills, and place trash in the appropriate garbage or recycling receptacle. While drinks are allowed in the Reading Room, food is not.

- **Security** - Please do not leave personal books, papers, laptops, wallets or other belongings unattended on library tables or in carrels. The building is open to the public during the day and unfortunately, thefts do occur.
- **Reshelving Books** - Please leave any books you are finished using on the tables/carrels. The library keeps count of book usage...we WANT to re-shelve your books!
- **Seating** is available on all floors of the library on a first-come, first-served basis. Easy chairs are located on the 4th and 5th floors as well as in the 1st floor Study Break Room. Tables and carrels are wired for power and carrels have lighting. Carrels may not be reserved and there are no squatters' rights. After a warning slip is left, personal items left unattended for an extended period of time will be removed and placed in Lost & Found at the Circulation Desk.
- **Group Study Rooms** can be reserved at the Circulation Desk for up to two hours per day per group with your WashULaw ID.

Loan Repayment Deferment (undergraduate loans)

Students who borrow a federal student loan and who are enrolled at least half-time are eligible for a deferment. Most enrolled students will receive an automatic deferment through the National Student Loan Clearinghouse. If, however, you receive a deferment form from your lender or loan servicer and are still enrolled, bring the form to the Office of Student Life (A-B Hall, No. 210), where it will be forwarded to the Clearinghouse for processing. Students who are still enrolled and receive a letter stating they are in repayment because of an incorrect date of graduation may request a letter be sent to the lender with the correct date of graduation. Letter requests can be made to the [Office of Student Life Coordinator](#).

Lockers

Lockers are for daily use only. Lockers will be opened and codes reset every Friday beginning at 3:00 p.m. If you have a problem with your locker, including forgetting your combination, the [Office of Student Life Coordinator](#) will be able to help you.

Lost and Found

Students should check for lost and found items in the library at the Circulation Desk, (314) 935-6450. The University's Lost and Found is located in the Event Services offices at Mallinckrodt Center.

Mail

Registered mail, express mail and other services are available at the Washington University Post Office, which is located at the Village, in the Small Group Housing main building and North Campus. (Please also note that there are Airborne, FedEx and U.S. mailboxes behind the Law School by the Mallinckrodt Parking Garage.)

Maintenance

Maintenance problems should be reported to the [Facilities Office](#) (No. 102), 935-6435.

Mel Brown Family Loan Repayment Assistance Program (law school loans)

To help law students who want to secure employment in low paying public service and government jobs, Washington University School of Law adopted the Mel Brown Family Loan Repayment Assistance Program ("LRAP") beginning with the graduating class of 2002. Under the program, a loan is made to qualifying graduates to assist them with their law school loan repayment. The loan is fully forgiven at the end of the period in which the loan is made assuming the applicant meets the requirements of the program. For further information, contact [Director of Financial Aid & Student Life](#).

Multipurpose Rooms

During examinations, the Multipurpose Rooms will be reserved for group (defined as two or more people) studying. The rooms will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis, but individual students will be asked to vacate a room if a group would like to use it. Additionally, unattended items that are left in a study room for longer than one hour will be moved to the Office of Student Life if another group would like to use the room.

Name Changes

To change your name on your official Law School record, you must furnish the [Office of University Registrar](#) with a copy of the official legal document (marriage certificate, divorce paper, etc.). The Office of the University Registrar is in the basement of the Women's Building.

Notary

Notary services are available Monday-Friday by appointment only. This is a complimentary service offered to WashU faculty, staff, and students. To schedule an appointment with one of the notaries, contact the [Office of Student Life](#). Please note that there may be notary service blackout periods in certain offices.

Parking & Transportation Services

WashU has a zoned parking system. The Danforth Campus is divided into 5 zones. Zones 3 is closest to the law school. For information about zones and permits, visit [Parking & Transportation](#).

WashU offers extensive [transportation options](#), free of charge, to meet the needs of the campus community. These include a Metro Transit Pass, a campus circulator, and a Campus2Home Shuttle.

Pets

WashU's [Domestic Animal Policy](#) prohibits domestic animals in WashU buildings unless they are trained service animals to assist individuals with disabilities. Animals must be on leash no longer than 6 feet.

Privacy Protection

The Family Education Records and Privacy Act, or [FERPA](#), affords students certain rights with respect to their education records.

Public Interest Law & Policy Speaker Series

The annual, year-long [Public Interest Law & Policy Speakers Series](#) on "Access to Justice: The Social Responsibility of Lawyers" brings to Washington university nationally and internationally prominent experts in such areas as international human rights, the economics of poverty, racial justice, capital punishment, clinical legal education, government Public service, and pro bono private practice. Begun in 1998 as part of the Clinical Education Program's 25th anniversary celebration, this Series features outstanding academics, Public Interest advocates, and practitioners; illuminates the pro bono, Public service professional responsibilities of law students and lawyers; engages the University community in an interdisciplinary discussion about social justice; and produces scholarship in this important area.

Public Service Advisory Board (PSAB)

PSAB is a student-led organization that allocates public service funds among student groups, facilitates educational events about public service careers, creates opportunities for public service within the law school and in the larger St. Louis community, and administers the Pro Bono Pledge. PSAB achieves these goals through three committees and two chair positions that work together to create a vibrant set of opportunities for law students to learn about and participate in public service.

Reserving Rooms

The use of space in Anheuser-Busch Hall, including the Student Commons or Courtyard, requires a reservation. Reservations for library group study rooms must be scheduled at the library Circulation Desk. Reservations for classes and class-related activities take precedence over reservations for non-curricular activities (e.g. student organization meetings).

Classrooms and conference rooms must be reserved through the [Office of Student Life](#). Outside organizations are permitted to reserve rooms if they receive approval and there is no interference with Law School classes, activities, or events.

All student events that occur outside of normal business hours must receive prior approval from the Office of Student Life. Normal business hours are from 8:30-5:00 p.m.

Room rental, AV, and cleaning fees are charged to outside organizations for the use of our facilities.

Security/Safety

- ***Campus Police***

The Campus Police can be reached at **(314) 935-5555** or by picking up the receiver at one of the blue light emergency telephones located around campus. DO NOT CALL 911 when you are on campus.

- ***Security Within the Law School***

Members of the public often visit WashU Law. The accessibility of the building to the public can create the potential for security problems.

1. If you see someone committing a crime or a clear violation of security, you should call Campus Police at (314) 935-5555. DO NOT CALL 911.
2. Report any suspicious persons or activities to the attention the [Director of Law Facilities and Building Operations](#) (Room 102) or, if the problem occurs in the library, to the circulation desk. In the absence of either of these administrators, you may report the situation to any of the Deans or, if they are not available, to the Campus Police, (314) 935-5555.

- ***Emergency Management***

Students are encouraged to download the [WashU Safe App](#) which includes important safety alerts and access to campus safety resources. The [WashU Alerts](#) system provides information and updates on university-wide emergencies that pose an “immediate threat” to the campus community. WashU students are automatically enrolled in WashU Alerts.

Student Status Certification

Students sometimes need a letter certifying their student status and/or good standing at the Law School. Contact the [Office of Student Life](#) for letter requests. Due to the volume of requests, please allow 3-5 business days for your request to be completed and during peak busy times, such as exam period, please allow even more advance time.

Transcripts

Official transcripts must be ordered through the [Office of the University Registrar](#). Transcripts can be ordered online through [Parchment](#). There is a \$10.00 fee to order an official transcript.

Unofficial transcripts can be viewed in [Workday](#). Follow the instructions [here](#).

Tuition Policy

Tuition for all programs is published during the spring semester for the upcoming fall and the following year's spring semester and summer school, and shall be subject to the following:

1. No students, whether full-time or part-time, may earn a JD degree from Washington University School of Law until they have paid the equivalent of six semesters of full-time tuition at the regular full-time semester rate. Students entering as second-year transfers need to pay the equivalent of four semesters of full-time tuition. For joint-degree students, the semester-tuition minimum is five; for LLM students, it is two. For Two Year LLM students the semester-tuition minimum is four semesters. Students will be charged the full semester rate for their last regularly scheduled semester even if they require less than the full-time class load to graduate. Nine hours is the full-time load for the for all residential law program. Effective September 1, 2009, summer school or other special-program tuition does not get credited towards the semester-tuition minimum for any degree student. The semester-tuition amounts indicated above are intended as a minimum, not a maximum. Thus, students who pay the minimum semester-tuition rate for their degree but fail to earn sufficient credits to graduate on time are still required to pay for any additional credits they need to complete their degree beyond the semesters for which they have already paid.
2. Students who take 9 or more hours in the fall or spring semester will pay the current regular published semester tuition. Subject to meeting the tuition requirements set out in the previous paragraph, students enrolled in fewer hours per semester will pay the published hourly tuition rate.
3. All individuals taking classes for credit or audit will pay the published full-time or part-time tuition rate. One exception to this policy is that JD, MLS, LLM, and JSD Alumni will be allowed to audit one class for free. Alumni who have audited one class at any time following graduation will be required to pay the full hourly tuition rate if they wish to audit another class. Also, the free audit is not available while they are enrolled in a subsequent degree program.
4. Full-time JD Students, who have paid 6 semesters of full tuition, and LLM students, who have paid for two semesters, but do not have the required credits to graduate for unforeseen reasons beyond their control may petition to take the number of hours to graduate at a reduced tuition rate. (Joint JD degree students could petition after paying for 5 full semesters. Transfer JD students could petition after paying for 4 semesters, provided they received transfer credit equivalent to the normal Washington University Law 1L course load.) Under normal circumstances requests for reduced tuition will only be granted if the student has paid tuition and received no credit due to authorized leaves of absence. Any petition for reduced tuition will be submitted to the [Associate Dean of Students](#).
5. JSD students pay two years' full tuition and a continuing semester fee thereafter. The continuing student fee for 2026-27 is \$3,000 per semester. The fee will increase with the rate of tuition in subsequent years. JSD students may audit courses during both of the first two years. They may not take courses for credit. JSD students will receive research credit each semester. If a student chooses to take a class in their 3rd year and beyond, they must pay the standard hourly tuition rate.
6. Distinguished Visiting Scholars are invited guests of the School of Law and pay no fees. These scholars are clearly distinct from our foreign visiting scholar program where participants are charged a fee. The Distinguished Visiting Scholars are administered by Dean's office. The paying visiting scholars are administered by the Graduate & International Programs Office.

U-Pass

WashU and Metro, the regional agency that provides public transportation services, work together on an agreement in which WashU pays Metro for the U-Pass program. The U-Pass program provides free, unlimited rides on MetroBuses, the MetroLink light-rail system, Call-A-Ride, and Madison County (IL) buses to full-time students. More information and registration is available with [Parking & Transportation](#).

NON-ACADEMIC POLICIES AND RULES

Address and Phone Number Reporting Rules

Students are required to enter a “Student Local Address” and a “Permanent Address” in [Workday](#). Complete onboarding instructions are [here](#). WashU and the Law School must have accurate home and local contact information for each student.

Faculty/Student Relations

- ***Addressing Problems:***

- *Sexual Harassment* - The Law School faculty believes it important that faculty members be accessible to students, and it strives to maintain an environment in which faculty/student interchange is meaningful, in which all students are treated with respect and perceive such respect, and in which students feel comfortable approaching faculty members when problems arise. If a student believes that (s) he has been sexually harassed by a faculty member, the student is encouraged to consult [Washington University's Sexual Harassment Policy](#) for possible options.
- *Other Issues* – For other issues, students are strongly encouraged to speak directly and constructively with any faculty member who, in the student's opinion, has acted improperly. The school appreciates, however, that some students will feel hesitant to do so. A student who would prefer to voice a complaint in another way thus has a range of options, including: asking another student or another person to accompany him or her to the faculty member's office; sending the faculty member a note or email; and approaching the [Associate Dean of Students](#), the Student/[Faculty Facilitator](#). Any of these individuals will be willing to counsel the student or act as a liaison to the faculty member in question, as the student wishes. A student may also consult any other member of the administration or faculty with whom the student feels comfortable, as any of these persons may be willing to act as a liaison as well.

- ***Sexual Relationships***

Faculty Rules state that faculty members shall not engage in sexual relationships with students whenever the faculty member has a professional responsibility for the student in such matters as teaching a course or in otherwise evaluating, supervising, or advising the student as part of a school program. Even when the faculty member has no professional responsibility for a student, the faculty member should be sensitive to the perceptions of other students that a student who has a sexual relationship with a faculty member may receive preferential treatment from the faculty member or faculty member's colleagues. All Deans and other members of the Administration should be sensitive to analogous concerns.

Nondiscrimination Policies and Rules

WashU Law is committed to the principles and practices of equal employment opportunity and does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, national origin, age, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, or military or protected veteran status. The facilities and services of the WashU Law Career Center are available only to employers whose employment practices are consistent with this policy and are similarly non-discriminatory. By submitting a job posting, using the facilities or services of the WashU Law Career Center, or otherwise recruiting with WashU Law, your organization certifies that it complies with WashU Law's non-discrimination policy.

Reporting Requirements

- ***Law School Application Information Update Reporting Requirements***

Students are required to promptly update information furnished to the Law School in their application for admission as circumstances change, without waiting to be asked, so that all such information continues to be true, complete, and otherwise accurate. This includes information

about such matters as arrests, convictions, and disciplinary action by a college, university, graduate or professional school, or trade or professional organization. Updates should be submitted to the [Associate Dean of Students](#).

Sexual Harassment Policy

The Law School is subject to [Washington University's Sexual Harassment Policy](#). Sexual harassment is defined as any unwelcome sexual advance, request for sexual favor or other unwelcome verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature, when submission to or rejection of the conduct is used or threatened to be used as a basis for employment or academic decisions or is otherwise tied to an individual's employment or academic advancement; or when the conduct unreasonably interferes with an individual's work or educational performance or creates an intimidating or hostile environment for work or learning. The University's policy allocates responsibilities for helping to ensure that it is fairly applied, explains the process by which complaints of sexual harassment may be brought forward, and provides sanctions for sexual harassment. If you believe you have been sexually harassed, the policy describes options about what you can do and where you can get help.

Student Complaints

As an ABA-accredited law school, Washington University School of Law is subject to the [ABA Standards](#) for Approval of Law Schools. Any student at the law school who wishes to bring a formal complaint to the administration of the law school of a significant problem that directly implicates the school's program of legal education and its compliance with the ABA Standards should do the following:

1. Submit the complaint in writing to the [Associate Dean of Students](#). The writing may consist of email, U.S. mail, or fax.
2. The writing should describe in detail the behavior, program, process, or other matter that is the subject of the complaint, and should explain how the matter implicates the law school's program of legal education and its compliance with a specific, identified ABA Standard(s).
3. The writing must provide the name, official law school email address, and a street address of the complaining student, for further communication about the complaint.
4. The [Associate Dean of Students](#) will acknowledge the complaint within three business days of receipt of the written complaint. Acknowledgment may be made by email, U.S. mail, or by personal delivery, at the option of the Associate Dean.
5. Within two weeks of acknowledgment of the complaint, the administrator, or the administrator's designee, shall either meet with the complaining student, or respond to the substance of the complaint in writing. In this meeting or in this writing, the student should either receive a substantive response to the complaint, or information about what steps are being taken by the law school to address the complaint or further investigate the complaint. If further investigation is needed, when the investigation is completed, the student shall be provided either a substantive response to the complaint or information about what steps are being taken by the law school to address the complaint within two weeks after completion of the investigation.
6. Appeals regarding decisions on complaints may be taken to the Dean of the Law School. Any decision made on appeal by the Dean shall be final.
7. A copy of the complaint and a summary of the process and resolution of the complaint shall be kept in the office of the [Associate Dean of Students](#) for a period of eight years from the date of final resolution of the complaint.

University Student Conduct Code

All students at WashU, including law students, are subject to the [Student Conduct Code](#). The Code permits each Graduate or Graduate Professional School of the University to establish a panel to hear and decide cases of alleged academic or professional misconduct by its own students, and the Law School does that under our [Honor Code](#). For other types of misconduct, the University Student Conduct Code applies. Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the Student Conduct Code.

BAR ADMISSION AND RELATED INFORMATION

Admission to the Bar

Each state sets its own requirements for admission to the bar. Although the requirements vary, in general, there are two distinct areas of inquiry. One has to do with an applicant's competence. In most states, the requisite competence is established if the applicant has a law degree and achieves a passing score on the state's bar exam. (See "[Bar Exams](#)" below.) In a few states, successful completion of specific law school courses is also required. The other area of inquiry involves the applicant's character and fitness to practice law. To make this determination, bar examiners seek background information about each applicant for admission, both from the applicant him/herself and from other sources, including the Law School. (See "[Character and Fitness Inquiry](#)" below.)

Each student is responsible for seeing to it that he/she has satisfied all bar admission requirements of the jurisdiction(s) where the student intends to practice law. Please don't wait until graduation, or even until your third year, to familiarize yourself with the rules of the jurisdiction(s) where you intend or think you may want to practice. Failure to obtain this information far in advance of graduation may unnecessarily delay your admission to the bar. Students can get most if not all of the information they need about bar admission from the [National Conference of Bar Examiners](#). In addition, states have well-maintained Bar Exam websites.

- ***Bar Forms***

Applicants for bar admission are required to submit various forms or letters, some of which must be filled out and/or signed by a Law School official. To comply, students should fill in their part(s) of the form, specify precisely what is needed from the Law School, and submit the form for processing to the [Office of Student Life](#) (Suite 210). Letter requests should also be sent to the [Office of Student Life](#). Students should make every effort to get this completed sooner rather than later, bearing in mind that *many* requests have to be processed each year.

- ***Character and Fitness Inquiry***

Committees on Character and Fitness in all jurisdictions conduct a background investigation on each applicant for admission to the bar. Again, the particulars vary, but in general, applicants are asked to provide detailed information about such matters as educational background; any disciplinary actions taken against them while enrolled in any school; employment history; charges of dishonesty during employment; employment discharges; involvement in any civil, quasi-criminal or criminal proceedings; credit history; and motor vehicle violations.

Most states also ask law school Deans to certify the good moral character and fitness of each graduate who seeks admission to the Bar. The [Associate Dean of Students](#) responds to such inquiries mindful of the following "Standard of Character and Fitness" in the Code of Recommended Standards for Bar Examiners jointly recommended by the ABA and the National Conference of Bar Examiners:

A lawyer should be one whose record of conduct justifies the trust of clients, adversaries, courts and others with respect to the professional duties owed to them. A record manifesting a significant deficiency in the honesty, trustworthiness, diligence or reliability of an applicant may constitute a basis for denial of admission.

All law students should be aware of these requirements and the inquiries addressed to the [Associate Dean of Students](#) and conduct themselves during their law school years accordingly.

At the risk of stating the obvious, it is absolutely essential that applicants answer all questions in the Character and Fitness inquiry honestly and completely. If there is any doubt whatsoever as to whether disclosure of a given matter is called for, applicants are well-advised to err on the side of disclosure. Although there are, in fact, some matters that may adversely affect licensing, often failure to disclose information will yield a more serious outcome than the underlying matter would have produced had the applicant disclosed it. Students with questions should contact the [Associate Dean of Students](#).

- ***Character and Fitness Inquiry Discrepancies***

Sometimes a question can arise as to whether information gleaned during a Character and Fitness inquiry is fully consistent with information reported by the student on his/her application for admission to the Law School, or as to whether the student has adequately informed the School of subsequent developments in the areas inquired about on the application. Any seeming inconsistency between information obtained during a Character and Fitness inquiry and that which the student has reported to the Law School is likely to be taken very seriously by examining authorities, and can delay, or in some cases even prevent, admission to the bar. Although such problems can arise under a variety of circumstances, two scenarios have recurred with some regularity. One is when a student fails to promptly update information provided to the Law School in his or her application for admission when circumstances change, so that all such information continues to be true, complete, and otherwise accurate (for example, failing to inform the school of an arrest that occurred sometime after the student was admitted). The other scenario occurs when a student has failed to disclose past charges for minor offenses or juvenile matters in response to the question on the Law School's application, "Have you ever been arrested, charged with, and/or convicted of a criminal offense?" If upon reflection students think this may have happened in their case, students should take steps to amend their Law School application immediately by addressing a letter to the [Associate Dean of Students](#) setting forth the details of the amendment and the circumstances surrounding the need to amend.

- ***Law Student Registration***

Some jurisdictions provide for registration for the bar during or just after the first year of legal studies. Law student registration allows for the early identification of problems that might otherwise delay or adversely affect licensing after law school graduation and helps expedite the processing of bar applications by permitting the completion of some of the preliminary work earlier in an applicant's law school career. Although law students who fail to register on the timetable set by the jurisdiction are permitted to take the bar examination in most cases, fees for late registration are commonly assessed. Students should check with the bar examining committee(s) in the state(s) in which they intend to practice to see whether the state also requires registration of intention to study law during the student's first year and, if so, what the deadlines are. Again, contact information for every jurisdiction can be found at www.ncbex.org.

Bar Exams

Each jurisdiction administers an examination requiring a threshold of knowledge for admission to practice law within the jurisdiction. Nearly all jurisdictions use one or more of the standardized examinations developed and administered by the [National Conference of Bar Examiners \(NCBE\)](#). A brief description of each is given below.

- **Multistate Bar Examination** (MBE) - a six-hour, 200 question, multiple-choice examination covering Contracts, Torts, Constitutional Law, Criminal Law & Procedure, Civil Procedure, Evidence, and Real Property.
- **Multistate Essay Examination** (MEE) - a three-hour, six-question essay examination covering MBE subjects and Business Associations.

- Multistate Performance Test (MPT) - two 90-minute skills questions covering legal analysis, fact analysis, problem solving, resolution of ethical dilemmas, organization and management of a lawyering task, and communications.
- Legacy Uniform Bar Exam ("Legacy UBE") – a two-day exam that incorporates the MBE, MEE, and MPT in a standardized format and it the most common bar exam used in the U.S.
- NextGen Uniform Bar Exam ("NextGen UBE") – a 1 ½ day exam that incorporates stand-alone multiple choice questions, integrated question sets, and performance tasks with foundational concepts and principles (Civil Procedure, Contracts, Evidence, Torts, Business Associations, Constitutional Law, Real Property, and Family Law [starting in July 2028]) in addition to 7 foundational skills (legal research, legal writing, issue spotting and analysis, investigation and evaluation, client counseling and advising, negotiation and dispute resolution, and client relationship and management).
- Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam (MPRE) - a 125 minute, 60 question multiple-choice examination that is given nationwide three times per year in March, August and November, and may be (and nearly always is) taken prior to graduation.

- ***Exam Requirements***

Bar exams differ from state to state and students should *never* assume that a particular state's approach is followed in any other state, or even that a single state will use the same approach year after year. Obtaining current, state-specific information is an absolute must. The National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE) publishes a [Comprehensive Guide to Bar Admission Requirements](#). However, the surest way to find current information for a particular state is to contact the state's bar examiner office directly. Contact information for every state can be found [Directory of State Bar Admission Offices](#). The [Assistant Director for Bar Success](#) coordinates information sessions about the bar exam and is also available to meet individually with students.

- ***Preparing for the Bar Exam***

Almost all students take a commercial bar preparation course that systematically exposes them to the doctrine necessary in each topic tested on their jurisdiction's bar exam. This commercial bar course builds upon the fundamental legal knowledge gained in your Washington University education and includes instruction in each of the areas tested in your jurisdiction's bar exam. This commercial course is intended to create a structured study plan between graduation and the bar exam (typically the last Tuesday and Wednesday of July). While many students do not find it necessary to take a course covering every doctrinal bar topic while in law school, as each commercial bar preparation course will provide a foundation to understand the covered topic, many students have reported feeling better prepared to take the bar exam after taking multiple doctrinal courses covering unfamiliar topics on their state's bar exam.

Student Practice Certification

Students enrolled in clinics in which court appearances are made can qualify to make such appearances themselves if they become certified to practice as a law student under Missouri Supreme Court Rule 13. (A student not enrolled in a clinic but who works/volunteers for a government or not-for-profit agency may also be able to become certified under Rule 13 or under another state's student practice rules and thus be permitted to appear in court under the supervision of a licensed attorney.) To become Rule 13 certified, a student must have completed legal studies amounting to one-half of the credits required for graduation. For Wash U students, at present, that is a minimum of 43 credit hours. Thus, the earliest a student can become Rule 13 certified is midway through his/her second year, as soon as enough of the student's fall semester grades are in to give the student the minimum required.

A student wishing to become Rule 13 certified must submit an [application form](#). After completing the appropriate form (including obtaining the supervising attorney's signature and having the form

notarized), the student should submit it to the Registrar's Office (Room 210), at which time the Dean's certification will be completed and the application (along with the \$50.00 cashier's check or money order from the student payable to "Clerk of the Supreme Court," if applicable) will be mailed to the Supreme Court of Missouri.

Many states have student practice rules similar to Rule 13, but the requirements and permissible activities vary from state to state. For example, the Illinois student practice rule, [Rule 711](#), requires successful completion of at least 3/5 of the credit hours required for graduation, which means 51 hours at WashULaw. As with all other bar-related matters, a student wishing to become student practice certified in another state should contact the state bar examiner's office directly.