

## Boston College Law School

Office of Admissions, 885 Centre Street

Newton, MA 02459

Phone: 617.552.4351; Fax: 617.552.2917

E-mail: bclawadm@bc.edu; Website: www.bc.edu/law

### ■ Introduction

Since its founding in 1929, Boston College Law School has earned a national reputation for educational excellence and the highest standards of professionalism while fostering a unique spirit of community among its students, faculty, and staff. The diverse curriculum is designed to help students develop the skills and knowledge needed to adapt successfully to changes in society and the legal profession. Boston College Law School is located on an attractive 40-acre campus in Newton, Massachusetts, just minutes from downtown Boston. It is fully accredited and has a chapter of Order of the Coif, the prestigious national law school honorary society.

### ■ Library and Physical Facilities

The Law School is the sole academic unit on Boston College's Newton campus. It consists of three interconnected buildings. Stuart House contains administrative and faculty offices as well as classrooms and a cafeteria. The law library accommodates 650 people and provides a technologically advanced environment for study and research. The East Wing, opened in 1999, includes five state-of-the-art lecture halls with data connections to every seat for use of computers. It also houses a greatly expanded Office of Career Services and student organization spaces, including the Curtin Public Interest Center.

All academic, administrative, library, and service facilities are accessible to physically challenged persons.

### ■ Curriculum

The faculty of Boston College Law School strongly believes in the importance of a general legal education designed to enable graduates to adapt to the changing demands of law practice. Areas of particular focus include international law, constitutional law, business law, dispute resolution, environmental law, family law, tax law, intellectual property law, and clinical programs.

In the first year, all students take traditional courses, including Civil Procedure, Constitutional Law, Contracts, Property Law, Criminal Law, and Torts, as well as Legal Research and Writing and an innovative skills course titled Introduction to Lawyering and Professional Responsibility. More than 100 courses offered in the second and third years are elective.

### ■ Clinical Programs

The Law School is committed to making clinical experiences available to all students who desire them. At the **Boston College Legal Assistance Bureau (LAB)**, students assume responsibility for representation of indigent clients through the **Civil Litigation, Homelessness, and Women and the Law** clinics.

Students in the **Criminal Justice Clinic** prosecute or defend criminal cases in state court. The **Judge and Community Courts** class examines the interaction between the local court and the community it serves. The **Judicial Process** course includes clinical placement with a specific Superior Court justice. In **Juvenile Rights Advocacy**, students advocate for troubled youth and work toward juvenile justice policy reform. In the **Immigration Law Clinic**, students advise clients and

work on administrative and appellate litigation under the supervision of practicing attorneys.

### ■ Externships

The **Semester in Practice** program offers individually designed placement with judges, government agencies, public interest organizations, and law firms in the greater Boston area. The **Attorney General Program** provides an intensive full-year clinical experience in the Government Bureau of the Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General. The **International Criminal Tribunals (ICT)** offer a unique opportunity to work on-site at the criminal tribunal established by the UN Security Council in The Hague, Netherlands. The **London Program** has both academic and experiential components. The program provides students with a critical insight into comparative legal institutions with special emphasis on international regulatory process, whether in environmental or securities regulation, antitrust, intellectual property, or human rights.

### ■ Student Activities

Selected students may participate in the following writing programs: *Boston College Law Review*, *Boston College Environmental Affairs Law Review*, *Boston College International and Comparative Law Review*, *Boston College Third World Law Journal*, and the *Uniform Commercial Code Reporter-Digest*.

Boston College Law School supports several annual moot court competitions that help students develop writing, courtroom-advocacy, and client-counseling skills. Over the years, Boston College has performed extremely well in regional and national competitions, which are judged by faculty, state and federal judges, and practicing attorneys.

### ■ Admission

The Law School has no minimum cutoff either for GPA or LSAT. Academic achievement and LSAT scores are extremely significant, but work and professional experience, college extracurricular activities, the quality of recommendations, and the personal statement also play an important role in decision making.

In evaluating the undergraduate record, class rank as well as courses taken are considered. If the LSAT has been taken more than once, scores are averaged unless a compelling reason is presented for considering a particular score. Consideration is given to the LSAT if the applicant has a history of academic achievement despite poor standardized test scores.

### ■ Minorities and Affirmative Action

Boston College Law School strongly encourages applications from qualified minority, disabled, or other students who have been socially, economically, or culturally disadvantaged. Each applicant is evaluated in an effort to ensure that all relevant credentials are favorably considered. The Law School has been very successful both in admitting minority and special students and in retaining them to graduation. Both academic support and minority student mentor programs are available.

## ■ Expenses and Financial Aid

The Financial Aid Office administers the Law School's scholarship and grant programs, federal and private loan programs, and the federal work-study program. Scholarship funds are awarded on the basis of both need and merit. Approximately 85 percent of the students currently enrolled are awarded financial aid and approximately 50 percent of these students receive scholarship and grant assistance as part of their financial aid awards.

Each year, several entering students are awarded Public Service Scholarships because of their demonstrated commitment to public service law. The Law School also offers a Loan Repayment Assistance program for graduates who pursue careers in legal services, government, and not-for-profit corporations.

## ■ Housing

Boston College does not offer law student housing; however, the Law School campus is surrounded by many rental housing

options and the university's Off-Campus Housing Office provides valuable information in securing housing. The office's website contains information about surrounding neighborhoods, lists of local rental agencies, maps of local areas, and public transportation information. The office also maintains housing listings that include renting rooms in private homes, apartments, and house rentals.

## ■ Career Services

The Office of Career Services is dedicated to helping students make the transition from law student to employed professional. The range of opportunities for graduates spans virtually the entire spectrum of legal practice. Each year more than 1,000 prospective employers solicit applications from Boston College law students. In 2004, approximately 400 law firms, government agencies, corporations, and public interest organizations from 25 states interviewed Boston College students as part of off-campus recruiting programs. More than 10,500 alumni are presently practicing in 50 states and 19 foreign countries.

## Applicant Profile

### Boston College Law School

This grid includes only applicants who earned 120-180 LSAT scores under standard administrations.

LSAT Score	GPA															
	3.75 +		3.50 - 3.74		3.25 - 3.49		3.00 - 3.24		2.75 - 2.99		Below 2.75		No GPA		Total	
	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm
175-180	8	8	9	9	7	5	5	3	3	0	0	0	1	0	33	25
170-174	59	51	76	56	62	32	38	12	16	0	11	1	2	0	264	152
165-169	217	173	349	246	299	115	136	24	54	7	38	1	3	1	1096	567
160-164	536	255	783	181	574	53	288	13	110	4	68	0	33	7	2392	513
150-159	388	25	668	33	647	26	380	13	172	6	118	1	31	2	2404	106
140-149	51	0	130	5	131	2	114	2	65	0	85	0	17	0	593	9
Below 140	6	0	10	0	22	0	21	0	23	0	40	0	4	0	126	0
Total	1265	512	2025	530	1742	233	982	67	443	17	360	3	91	10	6908	1372

Apps = Number of Applicants

Adm = Number Admitted

Reflects 99% of the total applicant pool.