

The George Washington University Law School

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■ Introduction

Established in 1865, The George Washington University Law School is the oldest law school in the District of Columbia. Its history of academic excellence, significant contributions to legal scholarship, and outstanding record of service to the community have earned GW a position of local, national, and international prominence. Its talented student body is one of the most diverse of any national law school, and its students graduate to become leaders in all areas of practice. While GW has long been recognized as a leader in fields including intellectual property law, international law, environmental law, government procurement, and clinical education, all of the Law School's academic programs reflect the demands of a changing profession and the global nature of society and the law.

■ Facilities and Library

The Law School complex extends along two sides of the University Yard, the largest open space on GW's urban campus. Its attractive and comfortable classrooms and three moot courtrooms incorporate technology to support a broad range of teaching methods. "Smart podiums" provide access to the Internet and local network and support video conferencing. Cameras and microphones allow faculty to teach online in streaming video or record classes for later viewing or listening. Power outlets for notebook computers are provided at each student station in most classrooms, and there are more than 70 wireless access points throughout the facility, including in the spacious student lounge areas.

More than 500,000 volumes are at the core of the Jacob Burns Law Library's research collection. In addition, the library offers a variety of legal and law-related databases and automated indexes to enhance research capabilities. A staff of 40 full-time and numerous part-time employees administers and maintains the library during its liberal hours of operation and offers information, instruction, and other research support services.

Law students also have full access to the many amenities of the GW campus, including the Lerner Health and Wellness Center, a state-of-the-art complex featuring a wide range of fitness facilities and classes.

■ Curriculum

One of the Law School's greatest strengths is the richness and diversity of its curriculum. With more than 240 elective courses and seminars, students have an opportunity to sample a broad array of areas of the law and to tailor their programs to their interests and career aspirations. In addition to traditionally taught classes, the curriculum includes a number of simulation courses that teach skills such as drafting, trial and appellate advocacy, negotiations, and mediation, as well as over a dozen different clinical programs in which students learn skills while working directly with clients.

To teach this extensive curriculum, a dynamic and accessible full-time faculty is joined by distinguished members of the bar and bench who teach some of the more specialized courses on an adjunct basis. Excellence in teaching is highly prized at GW, a fact that is readily apparent from scores and comments on semester course evaluations.

■ Clinical Programs and Public Interest

GW's long-standing commitment to public service has culminated in a wide variety of opportunities for students to serve the community while gaining important practical experience. A nationally recognized clinical program gives students the opportunity to work with real clients—many of whom might otherwise be without representation—while at the same time honing their skills. Clinical programs include civil litigation, consumer mediation, federal and criminal appeal, environmental law, health rights law, immigration, international human rights, older prisoners, public justice advocacy, small business/community development, and vaccine injury.

A student-faculty public interest committee publicizes and encourages student participation in volunteer legal activities, provides career development programs, and administers the Pro Bono Program, which extends special commendation to students who engage in a certain number of pro bono hours while attending the Law School. The Law School makes public service a more feasible option for its students by providing special forms of financial assistance in the form of summer subsidies, fellowships for third-year students, and loan reimbursement assistance for recent graduates of the Law School.

The Law School takes full advantage of its location in the nation's capital through its extensive externship program, which lets students work on a broad range of issues in government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and courts.

■ Joint-degree and Study Abroad Programs

Joint degrees are offered in the areas of business, public administration, public health, public policy, international affairs, history, and women's studies.

Summer study abroad opportunities include the Oxford-GW Program in International Human Rights Law, the GW-Munich Intellectual Property Law Program, and the GW-Augsburg (Germany) Student Exchange Program. GW is also a member of the North American Consortium on Legal Education, which allows students to study at member Canadian and Mexican law schools.

■ Student Activities

Membership is available on four publications—the *Law Review*, *International Law Review*, *Public Contract Law Journal* (cosponsored by the ABA section), and the *American Intellectual Property Law Quarterly Journal* (published by AIPLA and housed at GW). Three skills boards—the Moot Court Board, Mock Trial Board, and Alternative Dispute Resolution Board—provide opportunities for participation in inter- and intrascholastic competitions. In addition, approximately 40 student groups are active at the Law School, sponsoring social, educational, career, and public interest-related programs. Each year, the Enrichment Program hosts a series of distinguished speakers. Recent guests have included Supreme Court justices, legal scholars, popular authors, and leaders from government and public interest organizations.

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■ Career Development

The Career Development Office provides effective career advising services to students and alumni, enabling them to engage in a meaningful job search, to compete as professionals in the employment market, and to make well-informed choices leading to long-term career satisfaction. The CDO offers a broad range of services, including individual counseling, group seminars, substantive legal practice area programs, interviewing programs, job and internship fairs, online job postings, handouts, a career resource library, an alumni career advisor network, a biweekly newsletter, and a comprehensive website.

■ Financial Assistance

The Law Financial Aid Office counsels and assists applicants and current students in applying for various sources of financial aid: federal and commercial loans at negotiated, competitive terms; need-based tuition grants; and outside scholarships. All applicants are considered for merit-based aid. An estimated 85 percent of GW Law students receive some sort of financial aid.

The Law School's Loan Reimbursement Assistance Program (LRAP) is designed to alleviate the financial burdens of GW Law graduates who pursue public interest employment. The LRAP assists qualified graduates by providing "forgivable" loans to those whose annual income—after taking into consideration their annual law school loan payments—falls below a certain target income.

Applicant Profile

The George Washington University Law School

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

LSAT Score	GPA																				Total			
	3.75 +	3.50 - 3.74	3.25 - 3.49	3.00 - 3.24	2.75 - 2.99	2.50 - 2.74	2.25 - 2.49	2.00 - 2.24	Below 2.00	No GPA														
	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm		
175-180	20	20	26	23	12	10	12	8	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	73	61
170-174	93	90	124	120	81	56	58	8	29	2	11	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	401	277	
165-169	423	392	599	489	471	182	240	31	97	5	36	0	11	0	1	0	0	0	0	17	6	1895	1105	
160-164	779	206	1109	137	859	86	443	29	193	3	71	3	19	0	4	0	0	0	0	45	4	3522	468	
155-159	357	26	674	45	659	31	404	25	186	4	75	0	23	0	10	0	2	0	39	1	2429	132		
150-154	163	7	289	26	364	27	282	9	151	0	73	0	26	0	9	0	3	0	23	1	1383	70		
145-149	55	0	114	2	138	0	121	0	90	0	48	0	16	0	12	0	1	0	17	0	612	2		
140-144	17	0	31	0	53	0	67	0	49	0	31	0	15	0	6	0	0	0	13	0	282	0		
135-139	6	0	6	0	21	0	30	0	16	0	17	0	16	0	5	0	3	0	7	0	127	0		
130-134	1	0	3	0	6	0	4	0	2	0	9	0	6	0	1	0	0	0	6	0	38	0		
125-129	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	7	0		
120-124	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total	1914	741	2975	842	2665	392	1662	110	816	14	374	3	135	0	49	0	9	0	170	13	10769	2115		

Apps = Number of Applicants

Adm = Number Admitted

Reflects 99% of the total applicant pool.