

New England School of Law

154 Stuart Street

Boston, MA 02116

Phone: 617.422.7210; Fax: 617.457.3033

E-mail: admit@admin.nesl.edu; Website: www.nesl.edu

■ Introduction

New England School of Law was founded in 1908 as Portia Law School, the only law school in the nation exclusively for women. Coeducational since 1938, the law school is accredited by the American Bar Association and is a member of the Association of American Law Schools. It is an independent institution, not affiliated with a university, and, as a result, is able to make its own decisions on how to develop and improve its educational program.

■ Location

Situated in the heart of Boston's theater district and a block from the famous Public Garden, New England School of Law is within walking distance of prominent law firms, courthouses, and government agencies. This central location opens extensive possibilities for clinical placements, clerkships, and part-time employment.

Relying on a good public transportation system, residents can take advantage of the city's lively and varied neighborhoods, historic sights, fine cultural institutions, and professional sports teams. With nearly three dozen colleges, universities, and professional schools in the city, Boston has a large population of students and young professionals.

■ Curriculum and Academic Activities

The curriculum at New England School of Law prepares students to practice in any jurisdiction in the United States. In addition to required courses, students can choose from among approximately 150 electives. Courses and cocurricular activities can be combined to focus on areas such as tax, international, business, public interest, criminal, family, and environmental law. New England School of Law also has an extensive clinical program that allows students to combine fieldwork with classroom study in 17 subject areas. About 60 percent of the students take a clinical course while they are in law school.

The law school is a pioneer in incorporating relevant international law into domestic law courses throughout the curriculum. Students in Business Organizations, Contracts, Criminal Law, Family Law, Tax Law, and other classes learn about applicable international law, laws of other nations that impact Americans, and American laws that affect foreign nationals.

The law school has three nationally distributed scholarly journals, the *New England Law Review*, the *New England Journal on Criminal and Civil Confinement*, and the *New England Journal of International and Comparative Law*. The *Journal on Criminal and Civil Confinement* is the only publication produced by law students that is devoted solely to prison and incarceration issues.

The required Legal Research and Writing Program includes a moot court component in the first semester of the second year. The law school also sponsors six cocurricular advocacy teams. Competition teams have reached advanced rounds and won brief or oralist awards in recent years. The Phillip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Team advanced to the international competition in 2001 and received the best brief award.

Three programs provide various types of judicial clerkship opportunities. The school's Academic Skills Program offers optional academic support and supervised skills practice for first-year students.

■ Study Options

Students may enroll in the full-time day division, the part-time day or evening divisions, or the Special Part-time Program, a unique arrangement for parents with primary childrearing responsibilities.

New England School of Law accepts foreign lawyers in an advanced placement JD program or an LLM program in Advanced Legal Studies.

■ Academic Centers

New England School of Law is home to the Center for International Law and Policy, which sponsors an annual conference on a current issue in international law; other programs on international law; and the International War Crimes Prosecution Project, through which students provide research and analysis to the prosecutors of the International Criminal Tribunals for the Former Yugoslavia and Rwanda.

The Center for Law and Social Responsibility, also located at the law school, supports a variety of projects through which faculty and students engage in legal work that focuses on social problems. The center includes the following programs: criminal justice, environmental advocacy, public service, science and law, and sexual and domestic violence.

The Center for Business Law, the law school's newest center, builds on the law school's offerings in various areas of business law and serves as a forum for faculty and students to integrate coursework with policy research. Activities focus on the areas of intellectual property law, tax law, and corporate governance and ethics.

■ Study Abroad

Students may study in the law school's summer abroad programs in Galway, Ireland; London; Malta; or Prague, or in semester abroad programs in The Netherlands or Denmark. A summer program in California, Mexico, and Canada focuses on NAFTA. Students may also participate in an exchange program for a semester at the University of Paris X-Nanterre. An international criminal process clinic in The Hague enrolls students for the summer or semester.

■ Faculty

Full-time faculty members are dedicated teachers, accessible to students, and maintain a high level of scholarly publication. Nearly all have practiced in their fields of law. The full-time faculty is supplemented by an outstanding adjunct faculty of practicing attorneys and judges.

■ Technology

Wireless technology throughout the law school allows Internet access from anywhere in the building. All lecture halls and

portions of the library are hardwired for Internet access. The Computer and Media Center houses viewing equipment for audiovisual materials and reader/printers for microform materials. It maintains PC labs and provides laptops for checkout.

The law school's award winning website includes a web board that faculty use to post materials and answer student questions, student-run online discussions on class topics, and extensive links to legal research sites.

■ Financial Aid

Financial aid consists of a combination of federal loan programs, private loans, and institutional grants and scholarships. Most grants are need based; however, the law school awards several academic and merit scholarships. Federal work-study grants are also available.

■ Student Activities

New England School of Law has a Student Bar Association, which oversees more than two dozen student groups. Many of these organizations sponsor speakers, social events, and volunteer activities during the year. Student representatives sit on most faculty committees.

■ Career Services

The Career Services Office provides students with individual counseling, networking information, and programs on job-related issues. The office maintains an extensive resource library of directories of lawyers and legal organizations, books on practice areas, and periodicals. The career services website features a searchable job-posting database, more than 3,200 career-related links, online recruitment, and an e-mail service that communicates job postings to students. The office also organizes an alumni networking and mentoring program, which is accessible online. As a member of the Massachusetts Law School Consortium, New England School of Law participates in recruitment programs with the state's six other ABA-accredited law schools. The school is also a member of the Northeast Law School Consortium and participates in recruitment programs with eight ABA-accredited law schools in the region. The office also offers virtual recruitment using teleconferencing technology.

Most students take the Massachusetts bar exam, while many take exams in New York, the District of Columbia, Florida, New Hampshire, and New Jersey.

Applicant Profile

New England School of Law

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

| LSAT Score | 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 | | Total | | |
|------------|--------|-----|-------------|-----|-------------|-----|-------------|-----|-------------|-----|-------------|-----|-------------|-----|-------------|-----|------------|-----|--------|-----|-------|------|---|
| | Apps | Adm | Apps | Adm | Apps | Adm | Apps | Adm | Apps | Adm | Apps | Adm | Apps | Adm | Apps | Adm | Apps | Adm | Apps | Adm | Apps | Adm | |
| 175-180 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 |
| 170-174 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 1 | |
| 165-169 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 9 | |
| 160-164 | 7 | 6 | 18 | 16 | 34 | 30 | 19 | 19 | 18 | 7 | 14 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 118 | 84 | |
| 155-159 | 34 | 32 | 60 | 59 | 89 | 84 | 110 | 102 | 63 | 33 | 42 | 13 | 15 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 419 | 324 | |
| 150-154 | 73 | 67 | 161 | 149 | 214 | 201 | 218 | 198 | 193 | 71 | 105 | 12 | 52 | 4 | 5 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 9 | 3 | 1033 | 705 | |
| 145-149 | 47 | 13 | 138 | 40 | 234 | 54 | 249 | 32 | 187 | 21 | 112 | 4 | 60 | 1 | 19 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 6 | 2 | 1059 | 167 | |
| 140-144 | 21 | 1 | 53 | 2 | 80 | 0 | 101 | 0 | 98 | 2 | 67 | 1 | 32 | 1 | 20 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 489 | 7 | |
| 135-139 | 6 | 0 | 18 | 1 | 28 | 0 | 33 | 0 | 40 | 0 | 31 | 0 | 20 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 189 | 1 | |
| 130-134 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 12 | 0 | 14 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 53 | 0 | |
| 125-129 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 0 | |
| 120-124 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | |
| Total | 191 | 120 | 456 | 272 | 693 | 374 | 745 | 351 | 622 | 135 | 383 | 35 | 191 | 7 | 62 | 0 | 18 | 0 | 34 | 6 | 3395 | 1300 | |

Apps = Number of Applicants

Adm = Number Admitted

Reflects 99% of the total applicant pool.