

New York University School of Law

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■ Introduction

Founded in 1835, New York University School of Law has a record of academic excellence and national scholarly influence extending back into the nineteenth century. More than 100 years ago, it became one of the first law schools to routinely admit women and those from groups discriminated against by many other institutions.

NYU School of Law has been a pioneer in such widely diverse programs as clinical education, law and business, public service, interdisciplinary colloquia, and global studies.

These traditions remain vibrant today as the School of Law, located on the university's campus in Greenwich Village, continues to use its position in New York City to create a twenty-first century legal education in global justice, grounded in solid sociological and jurisprudential training and reflected in sensitive professional service to the world's peoples.

■ Library and Physical Facilities

As one of the largest academic law libraries in the world, NYU School of Law's collection boasts widely recognized strengths in tax, legal history, intellectual property, constitutional law, and the law of democratic institutions. The extensive public law collection is complemented by primary law materials for over 20 non-US jurisdictions. The library's award-winning home page is a gateway to specialized legal research guides, e-journals, annotated foreign and international law sites, and commercial databases.

In 2004, the School of Law opened Furman Hall, its first new academic building in 50 years. Furman Hall is adjacent to the newly renovated Vanderbilt Hall and connects underground via the law library. The law school also owns two apartment buildings which provide housing for more than 800 law students, many with spouses, partners, and children.

■ Curriculum

NYU School of Law's curriculum is distinguished by its strength in traditional areas of legal study, interdisciplinary study, and clinical education, and has long been committed to educating lawyers who will use their degrees to serve the public. Students enjoy the intellectual and pedagogical diversity of the law school by mixing traditional courses with colloquia, global courses, clinics, independent research, journal work, study abroad, fellowships, and more.

The JD program is enriched by the graduate program, which offers advanced degrees in corporation law, general studies, international legal studies, international taxation, labor and employment law, public service law, taxation, and trade regulation.

■ Institutes and Centers

The curriculum is complemented by 18 institutes and centers, which represent the law school's extraordinary commitment of resources and energy to the collegial study of law at the most advanced level. These include the Brennan Center for Justice, the Hauser Global Law School Program, the Institute for

International Law and Justice, the Center for Environmental and Land Use Law, and the Center for Law and Business.

■ Admission

The admission process is highly selective and seeks to enroll men and women of exceptional ability. The Committee on Admissions makes decisions after considering all the information in an application. It reviews the undergraduate transcript closely, with attention to factors such as trends in the applicant's grades, class rank, the ratio of pass/fail to graded courses, the diversity and depth of coursework, and the length of time since graduation. Factors other than undergraduate grades and LSAT scores may be particularly significant for applicants who have experienced educational or socioeconomic disadvantage. In all cases, however, other aspects of the application significantly influence the decision. The committee evaluates work experience and extracurricular and community activities for evidence of advancement, leadership, and capacity for assuming responsibility. A recommendation letter is particularly valuable when the writer provides substantive information about the applicant's abilities, activities, and personal qualities. The personal statement provides an opportunity for the applicant to supplement the information supplied in the application.

The committee seeks to enroll an entering class of students with diverse experience, backgrounds, and points of view. Applicants are encouraged to provide information to help the committee reach thoughtful, informed decisions on their applications.

■ Student Activities

Student-edited publications are *New York University Law Review*, *Annual Survey of American Law*, *Environmental Law Journal*, *Journal of International Law and Politics*, *Journal of Legislation and Public Policy*, *Review of Law and Social Change*, and *Tax Law Review*. *The Commentator* is the law school newspaper. There are more than 45 student organizations.

■ Financial Aid

NYU School of Law will award a number of Root-Tilden-Kern Scholarships to entering students chosen for their intellectual potential, capacity for, and demonstrated commitment to public service through law. A limited number of awards will also be made on the basis of outstanding intellectual potential or substantial records indicating that the student will enrich the educational experience at the law school. The An-Bryce Scholarship will be awarded to a small number of outstanding students who are the first in their immediate families to pursue a graduate degree. The Furman Academic Scholarship will be awarded to a small number of students who show promise in becoming legal academics. Scholarships are also available in the areas of business law, criminal law, environmental law, housing and urban policy, intellectual property, international law, Latino human rights, and law and economics. Federal and private loans also provide funding. Graduates who pursue careers in public service may be eligible for postgraduation benefits through the Loan Repayment Assistance Program.

■ Career Services

NYU School of Law has an extensive career services program. Career planning for first-year students includes personal career counseling, workshops on all aspects of the job search, specialty panels featuring speakers from all areas of practice, and a videotape mock interview program. In 2004, more than 540 private law firms, public interest organizations, government agencies, corporations, and public accounting firms visited the law school to interview students. Sixty-eight percent of these employers were from outside New York.

The focal point of the law school's public service activities is the Public Interest Law Center, which provides students interested in public service with comprehensive support, including advice on courses and career opportunities. The Public Interest Summer Scholarship Program guarantees funding to all first- and second-year students who want to work in public interest positions. The Public Interest Law Center, with area law schools, also annually sponsors a public interest legal career symposium.

Applicant Profile

NYU School of Law does not provide a profile chart because, while an applicant's undergraduate record and LSAT are important, they are not the sole determinants for admission to the law school. No index or cutoff is used in reviewing applications. There is no combination of grades or scores, therefore, that assures admission or denial.

An applicant's transcripts are analyzed for breadth and depth of coursework, trend in grades, and rank; the competitiveness of the school and major are taken into

consideration, as are special honors, awards, and activities. Other aspects of the application significantly influence the decision, such as letters of recommendation, activities, and work experience.

In making its decision, the committee aims to enroll an entering class of students with the strongest combination of qualifications and the greatest potential to contribute to NYU School of Law and to the legal profession.