

Seattle University School of Law

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■ Introduction

Seattle University School of Law is a vital part of Seattle University, the Northwest's largest independent university. Here students are trained to lead and serve others with integrity and compassion by faculty dedicated to their growth in the law. In our community, curriculum, and programs, the School of Law as a Jesuit institution seeks to reflect a tradition of academic distinction and open inquiry.

The School of Law serves an impressive body of students, whose diversity encompasses age, life experience, and cultural heritage. Fittingly, the law school has been recognized nationally for its diverse faculty and welcoming environment for older students. Home to the only part-time legal education program in the state of Washington, Seattle University School of Law educates lawyers who distinguish themselves through their outstanding legal skills and their dedication to law in the service of justice.

The law school is fully accredited by the ABA and holds full membership in AALS. Students may pursue a Juris Doctor or an LLM in American Legal Studies (limited to students with law degrees from non-US institutions).

Sullivan Hall, home to the School of Law, lies on the eastern boundary of Seattle University's 42-acre campus. The five-floor, handsomely appointed structure features a street-front law clinic, media-equipped classrooms, a modern and impressive law library, a spacious courtroom, and comfortable activity areas. Wireless connectivity is available throughout the entire building, allowing students to use laptops to connect to classes, the SU law community, and the Internet. Together, these amenities provide an attractive and accommodating setting in which students can learn and thrive.

■ Location

Seattle University School of Law sits in a landscaped, urban setting in the First Hill neighborhood of Seattle, less than a mile from downtown. A sophisticated city, Seattle is also one of the most livable cities in the United States, offering a rich mix of business, culture, adventure, and industry that provides a natural extension of our classrooms.

Being minutes from a vibrant downtown only enhances prospects for students seeking career-building opportunities. We are part of a strong legal community that welcomes new talent, and our students pursue summer and school-year employment with multinational and regional law firms, public agencies, private corporations, and boutique partnerships whose legal specialties reflect the special interests of Northwest natives.

■ Focus Area Curriculum

After completion of rigorous first-year studies that emphasize sound legal analytical skills, the law school curriculum allows students to select a primary area of interest and support that interest with enrollment in a prescribed range of courses. Students may focus their upper-division legal studies in one of 14 substantive areas, including Civil Advocacy, Criminal Practice, Environmental Law, Health Law, Labor and Employment, and Real Estate Law.

■ Faculty

Seattle University law faculty always places teaching first. This means instruction uses numerous pedagogical styles, from Socratic classroom dialogue to drafting laboratories and seminar discussion.

While emphasizing the importance of teaching, faculty also recognize the critical role that scholarship plays in academic excellence. Since 1997, law school faculty have published more than 20 books, 25 book chapters, and 100 articles that have appeared in law reviews—including several of the most frequently cited publications—and specialized journals.

We do not choose among teaching, scholarship, and service. Our faculty engages in cutting edge scholarship while at the same time engaging with our students and challenging them to not only learn but to live the law, through clinical programs and externship. We value innovation and creativity that enrich the classroom experience and deepen understanding.

■ Academic Enrichment Programs

Access to Justice Institute—The Access to Justice Institute is an outgrowth of the law school's dedication to social justice and the need to deliver legal services to underrepresented communities. Through the institute and under the supervision of an attorney, students can work at one of AtJI's Community Justice Centers directly serving low-income persons. The institute also sponsors in-house projects, including the Immigration Court Project, the Language Bank, and the Unemployment Insurance for Battered Women Project. Over 300 law students volunteer with AtJI each year.

Center on Corporations, Law, and Society—The Center on Corporations, Law, and Society serves as a platform for enhanced scholarly inquiry while providing a forum for sustained discussion among academics, legal practitioners, business leaders, activists, policymakers, and citizens on the complex and important relationships between business enterprises and their many stakeholders.

International Initiatives—The law school's new International and Comparative Law Program prepares students for a career in the law that is increasingly global in scope. In keeping with our mission, the program emphasizes issues of globalization and social justice. Students can complement their coursework with hands-on experience in the only human rights clinic in the Pacific Northwest or spend the summer working overseas with a variety of organizations engaged in activities involving human rights or sustainable development.

■ Admission and Financial Aid

In admission decisions, the law school places equal emphasis on three factors: (1) LSAT performance; (2) the undergraduate academic record; and (3) personal achievements, especially talents or factors that contribute to our law school community in special and significant ways.

We also admit a limited group of applicants annually through a wholly discretionary process. The law school's **Alternative Admission Program** addresses those cases where traditional admission criteria are inadequate predictors of

success in law school and in the practice of law. Members of historically disadvantaged, underrepresented, or physically challenged groups are among those individuals considered for this program (limited to no more than 10 percent of the entering class).

The law school’s **Scholarship Program** is among the most ambitious in the region, awarding over \$2 million per year to approximately 350 students. Its objectives are twofold: to offer to all students—regardless of economic or social background—the advantages of a private legal education; and to recognize and reward—regardless of financial need—the

achievements and outstanding potential of the most highly qualified students in the applicant pool. Upon admission to the School of Law, all entering students are automatically considered for scholarships.

Consistent with preparing students who are committed to contributing to the common good by shaping an equitable legal system, the **Loan Repayment Assistance Program** and the three-year, full-tuition **Scholars for Justice Award** support students and graduates who choose full-time public interest legal careers as licensed attorneys doing law-related, public interest work in both content and spirit.

Applicant Profile

Seattle University School of Law

| LSAT Score | GPA | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--------|----------|
| | 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 | |
| 175-180 | Likely | | | | Possible | | | | | | Unlikely |
| 170-174 | Likely | | | | Possible | | | | | | Unlikely |
| 165-169 | Likely | | | | Possible | | | | | | Unlikely |
| 160-164 | Likely | | | | Possible | | | | | | Unlikely |
| 155-159 | Likely | | | | Possible | | | | | | Unlikely |
| 150-154 | Possible | | Possible | | Possible | | | | | | Unlikely |
| 145-149 | Possible | | Possible | | Possible | | | | | | Unlikely |
| 140-144 | Possible | | Possible | | Possible | | | | | | Unlikely |
| 135-139 | Possible | | Possible | | Possible | | | | | | Unlikely |
| 130-134 | Possible | | Possible | | Possible | | | | | | Unlikely |
| 125-129 | Possible | | Possible | | Possible | | | | | | Unlikely |
| 120-124 | Possible | | Possible | | Possible | | | | | | Unlikely |

Likely
 Possible
 Unlikely

Of applicants in the Unlikely category, about one in 20 candidates was admitted to the Alternative Admission Program.