

The Florida State University College of Law

425 West Jefferson Street

Tallahassee, FL 32306-1601

Phone: 850.644.3787; Fax: 850.644.5487

E-mail: admissions@law.fsu.edu; Website: www.law.fsu.edu

■ Introduction

The Florida State University College of Law is widely recognized for both its commitment to teaching and its cutting edge scholarship. The college subscribes to the idea that the best legal education is the result of a lively dialogue in an intimate learning environment. The law school's distinguished faculty is highly accessible to students and strives to provide a legal education with a personal touch.

The curriculum at the College of Law is continuously evolving to reflect the changes in the practice of law. Environmental and land use law, international law, and business law and economics are among the areas that have received increased emphasis in the curriculum in recent years. Students with an interest in these areas have opportunities to take a rich curriculum with interdisciplinary opportunities, work on student-run legal journals, and participate in extracurricular activities that help hone practical skills.

Tallahassee is also a wonderful community in which to study law. The college is situated blocks from the Florida Capitol, the First District Court of Appeal, the Florida Supreme Court, the United States District Court, and other centers for judicial and administrative activity. All branches of state government are headquartered in Florida's capital city, which is also home to local offices of top law firms from throughout Florida and the nation.

■ Enrollment/Student Body

More than 3,800 applications are received for approximately 250 places in the entering class. The current student body represents 34 states, 12 countries, and 209 undergraduate institutions. The student body is diverse and gifted, and the racial and ethnical mix represents society as a whole. The college prides itself on having a warm and collegial student body, which is also extremely competitive in state and national trial and appellate advocacy competitions.

■ Curriculum

The College of Law's three-year curriculum provides students with a foundational first-year program and a rich and varied offering of upper-level courses, seminars, clinics, and cocurricular opportunities. The curriculum is designed to prepare graduates for the basic demands of legal practice through a broad "liberal arts" approach to curricular offerings supplemented with a wide variety of specialized courses emphasizing the college's strengths in environmental and land use law and international law.

■ Special Programs

The College of Law offers seven joint-degree programs, two certificate programs, and an LLM program for foreign lawyers. The following joint degrees are available: JD/MBA, JD/MPA, JD/MSW, JD/MIS, JD/Master in International Affairs, JD/Master in Urban and Regional Planning, and JD/MS in Library Information Systems. The college offers certificate programs in Environmental, Natural Resources, and Land Use Law; and in International Law. The certificate programs are

rigorous, focused courses of study designed to prepare graduates to work in highly specialized areas of the law. The college also offers an LLM program for foreign lawyers, which provides foreign graduate students trained in law with the opportunity to develop an understanding of the American legal system and the role of law in the United States.

The college offers one of the most extensive clinical externship programs in the United States. Judicial externships are available with state trial and appellate courts, including the Florida Supreme Court and the federal courts. Externship opportunities with government agencies and commissions, the state attorney, the White House, the public defender, and legal services offices are also provided, as well as opportunities abroad with the International Bar Association in London and the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. The college's Children's Advocacy Center, an in-house legal clinic, offers law students an opportunity to represent children in a variety of legal areas under the supervision of clinical faculty.

The college also sponsors a summer program at Oxford University in England. As the oldest ongoing program in Oxford sponsored by a US law school, it provides students with a unique opportunity to study comparative law and the history of the common law and its institutions in their original setting.

■ Library and Physical Facilities

The College of Law has a wireless ethernet network that extends throughout the facilities. This provides Internet access to all wireless-capable laptops within range of the college at a speed of 11 megabits per second (over 100 times the speed of a conventional modem).

The physical facilities of the College of Law consist of B.K. Roberts Hall, opened in 1971; a separate, connected law library, opened in 1983; and the Village Green, completed in 1988.

Roberts Hall houses faculty, staff and student offices, lounges, classrooms, seminar rooms, and a practice courtroom making extensive use of video technology. Both Roberts Hall and the law library comply with all architectural regulations facilitating use for students with disabilities.

The law library's electronic and print titles are catalogued in the Florida State University libraries' online database, accessible through computer terminals located throughout the library and also available via remote access. The law library's collections are among the most significant law collections in the southeast. Individual and group study, video viewing, microform reading, and computer use and instruction are available within the law library.

■ Student Activities

One of the most attractive aspects of the College of Law's academic climate is the wide variety of educational and professional opportunities available outside the traditional classroom. The College of Law sponsors *Law Review*, the *Journal of Land Use and Environmental Law*, the *Journal of Transnational Law and Policy*, a nationally recognized moot court and trial advocacy program, and a variety of social and professional organizations. Some of the active student organizations include American Constitution Society; Real Estate Legal Society;

Public Interest Law Students; Women’s Law Society; Black Law Students Association; Christian Legal Society; Entertainment, Arts, and Sports Law Society; Federalist Society; International Law Society; Dispute Resolution Society; Environmental Law Society; Spanish-American Law Students Association; Asian Law Students Association; and Law Partners, a support group for spouses and significant others of law students. Both Phi Delta Phi and Phi Alpha Delta legal honoraries maintain a chapter on campus. The College of Law was granted a chapter of Order of the Coif in 1979. The Student Bar Association serves an active student government role and coordinates many law school-sponsored social activities, community projects, and programs.

■ Career Services

The College of Law’s Placement Office takes pride in helping students acquire the tools needed to successfully launch legal careers. The office offers individualized career planning, on-campus and off-campus interview programs, job search assistance, an alumni mentorship program, and skills workshops and seminars on topics ranging from effective résumé writing to interviewing techniques.

The college’s most recent placement statistics show that approximately 99 percent of its graduates reported they were either employed, seeking another graduate degree, or not seeking employment nine months after graduation. The college’s graduates work in 47 states and in major markets, including Atlanta, Chicago, New York, and Washington, DC. Graduates are prominent in all Florida cities.

Applicant Profile

The Florida State University College of Law

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		
175-180	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
170-174	4	4	1	1	2	2	3	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	10
165-169	14	7	24	20	20	14	13	9	8	5	14	3	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	97	60	
160-164	73	65	84	72	80	72	78	68	52	12	25	5	7	1	5	0	0	0	0	5	2	409	297	
155-159	154	88	233	110	221	92	165	67	80	10	56	0	19	2	12	1	0	0	4	0	944	370		
150-154	151	17	243	23	262	14	199	16	124	3	64	0	33	0	6	0	4	0	17	1	1103	74		
145-149	63	6	128	3	141	1	142	2	97	1	42	1	18	1	11	0	1	0	8	0	651	15		
140-144	12	0	45	0	67	0	69	0	67	0	39	0	17	0	7	0	1	0	13	0	337	0		
135-139	4	0	15	0	25	0	25	0	17	0	21	0	11	0	8	0	2	0	8	0	136	0		
130-134	0	0	2	0	4	0	8	0	10	0	5	0	4	0	3	0	2	0	2	0	40	0		
125-129	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	9	0		
120-124	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0		
Total	476	188	777	230	823	195	704	165	459	32	267	9	114	6	55	1	10	0	57	3	3742	829		

Apps = Number of Applicants

Adm = Number Admitted

Reflects 99% of the total applicant pool.