

University of Idaho College of Law

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■ Introduction

Emphasizing quality over quantity, the College of Law offers a distinctive legal education founded on collegiality and a dedication to the highest ideals of a noble profession. Each student is assured individual attention. The college provides emphases in natural resources and environmental law, business law and entrepreneurship, and advocacy coupled with mediation and dispute resolution. Students may combine study in a small residential environment with an opportunity to spend a semester in Boise, Idaho, one of America's fastest growing metropolitan areas.

The College of Law was established in 1909. It has been a member of the AALS since 1914 and has been accredited by the ABA since 1925. The College of Law is located on the main campus of the University of Idaho, about 90 miles southeast of Spokane, Washington, and about 8 miles east of Pullman, Washington. The Moscow-Pullman community is the cultural center of a vast inland area of the Northwest covering parts of Idaho, Washington, and Oregon. This area is renowned for outstanding opportunities for outdoor recreation, in addition to cultural events available from two major research universities.

■ Enrollment/Student Body

Approximately 60 percent of our students are Idaho residents. Historically, our nonresident students have come from all over the United States and Canada. Although the total enrollment of the College of Law is relatively small (approximately 300), students typically represent over 70 different colleges and universities. The administration and student body welcome and actively seek diversity in the student body, with particular attention to students of color and those who have overcome socioeconomic disadvantage. Due to our highly selective admission process and positive learning environment, which includes an academic support program run by a licensed attorney, academic attrition is less than 5 percent.

■ Library and Physical Facilities

The College of Law occupies a building designed for, and dedicated to, its use. The law library houses a collection of more than 235,000 volumes and volume-equivalents and around 4,000 serial titles. This is combined with two computer labs, wireless Internet access throughout the building, and LexisNexis, Westlaw, Dialog, and HeinOnline services. The law library is located across the street from the main university library.

The law library subscribes to CD-ROM libraries. Membership in the Western Library Network and the Inland Northwest Library Automation Network allows users to access holdings of libraries across the nation.

Law students have access to the other libraries of the University of Idaho and those at Washington State University.

■ Curriculum

The College of Law focuses on professionalism, featuring small-group discussions with distinguished lawyers and

judges during New Student Orientation. The college combines a traditional first year of study with opportunities to pursue specialized interests in the second and third years. Students may choose to focus on natural resources/environmental law, business law/entrepreneurism, or advocacy/dispute resolution. The curriculum also provides enrichments in international law, technology and the law, and ethics and civic leadership. Real-world exposure is provided through extensive clinical opportunities, a Semester in Practice program in the Boise metropolitan area, and our Externship program.

The school operates on a semester basis with 88 semester credit hours required for the JD degree. Graduates of the college are educated and prepared for careers throughout the nation.

■ Special Programs

The College of Law operates a variety of clinical programs. Law students in their third year may qualify as interns under the laws of Idaho and work in the live-client clinic. Interns are eligible to present cases in court under appropriate supervision. The live-client offerings include a general practice clinic, an appellate clinic in which students argue before federal and state appellate courts, a tribal/immigration law clinic in which students serve as public defenders in the Nez Perce Tribal Court and represent clients in federal immigration matters, a small business legal clinic, a tax clinic, a domestic violence clinic, and a victim's rights clinic. The college also sponsors a special trial advocacy course and is home to the Northwest Institute for Dispute Resolution.

Externships are available with the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals of Idaho, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, the United States District Court for the District of Idaho, the Attorney General of Idaho, the United States Attorney for the District of Idaho, various county offices, and selected nonprofit organizations. Eligible third-year students may participate in the Semester in Practice program in Boise.

A concurrent JD/MS (Environmental Science) degree is available in cooperation with the University of Idaho College of Graduate Studies Environmental Science Program. Students may be able to obtain both degrees in four rather than the usual five years.

A concurrent JD/Master of Accounting degree in cooperation with the University of Idaho College of Business and Economics is available. The program allows students to obtain both degrees in as few as seven semesters.

A joint JD/Master of Business Administration is being developed in cooperation with Washington State University.

■ Admission

Applications are accepted beginning in September preceding the year in which enrollment is desired. Entering students are admitted only for the fall semester. Applicants must submit LSAT scores and college transcripts for evaluation through LSDAS. Late fall application is recommended as completed applications may be reviewed as early as December; applications completed after February 15 will be reviewed, but timely applications will receive priority consideration. The Admission Committee looks at each applicant holistically,

including but not limited to LSAT score, academic record and background, writing ability, personal statement, work and life experiences, and recommendations.

■ Student Activities

Students belong to more than 20 active student organizations. The Student Bar Association represents student interests, both educational and social. The *Idaho Law Review*, which covers topics ranging from state and regional problems to national and international issues, and the *German Law Journal*, a widely read journal of German and international public law, give students valuable writing and editing experience. The Board of Student Advocates and the Law Students for Appropriate Dispute Resolution coordinate intramural competitions and provide opportunities for students to participate in national competitions that build professional skills. Student successes have included the 2001 National Bankruptcy Moot Court Championship. Other groups include the Multicultural Law

Caucus, Spanish Speaking Law Students, and the Women's Law Caucus. Please visit our website at www.law.uidaho.edu for a complete list of our student groups.

■ Career Services

The college features a career resources office staffed full time by a licensed attorney. The office sponsors a variety of activities designed to facilitate students' career planning and assist in their employment search as summer clerks or for permanent positions. Employers in the legal field come to the College of Law for on-campus interviews, and the office coordinates recruit-by-mail programs for employers who are unable to visit the campus. Historically, 90-95 percent of graduates find employment within six months of graduation or go on to advanced graduate study. A majority of students find employment in Idaho, although Utah, Washington, and Oregon continue to be popular. Idaho graduates are employed throughout the US and several foreign countries.

Applicant Profile

University of Idaho 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		
	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	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
170-174	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	1
165-169	6	6	2	2	2	2	4	4	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	17	15
160-164	9	9	21	19	11	10	12	12	11	6	3	3	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	72	63
155-159	28	25	25	13	37	24	30	13	31	11	8	3	6	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	168	89	
150-154	23	12	46	14	72	25	60	16	45	7	17	1	5	2	2	1	1	0	2	0	273	78		
145-149	18	2	34	1	33	2	29	2	24	1	17	1	6	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	165	9		
140-144	4	1	8	0	13	0	14	0	15	2	15	0	4	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	75	3		
135-139	0	0	5	0	4	0	9	0	2	0	4	0	3	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	31	0		
130-134	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	8	0		
125-129	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	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	90	56	141	49	173	63	158	47	131	27	66	9	30	6	9	1	6	0	9	0	813	258		

Apps = Number of Applicants

Adm = Number Admitted

Reflects 99% of the total applicant pool.