

University of Miami School of Law

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■ Introduction

Established in 1926 in Coral Gables, Florida, the University of Miami School of Law is part of one of the largest private research universities in the United States. The school's location on the main campus enables students to attend law school in a tranquil subtropical setting while taking advantage of the opportunities available in one of the most dynamic and rapidly expanding legal communities in the country. Miami is accredited by the ABA, is a member of the AALS, and has a chapter of the prestigious scholastic society, the Order of the Coif.

■ Faculty

The faculty of the University of Miami have exceptional credentials—including education at the world's top universities and law schools; significant prior work experience in private practice, government, and prestigious judicial clerkships; and extensive research, writing, and pro bono activities. Their expertise is especially strong in international and foreign law (with half of them having written or taught in those fields); taxation and estate planning; the interaction of legal doctrine with contemporary social issues, such as immigration, crime, the Internet, and intellectual property; legal ethics; and other fields.

■ Library

With approximately 600,000 volumes in print and microform, the Law Library is one of the largest in the Southeast. The library has liberal hours, a superb student/staff ratio, computer labs, and ample seating for individual study and group study rooms. Carrels throughout the library contain computers or ports for easy access to electronic resources. The campus is wireless.

■ Curriculum

The school provides a solid foundation in all the traditional subjects basic to understanding and practicing the law throughout the nation. It also offers ambitious programs designed to teach students the craft as well as the theory of the law, to develop the research and writing skills critical to the legal profession, and to expose students to other skills necessary for effective professional service.

Choosing from more than 160 courses, workshops, and seminars, students ordinarily complete the JD degree in three academic years of full-time study. Summer sessions are available. Miami's course offerings in inter-American, international, and comparative law are outstanding. Several international and comparative law courses are taught in Spanish, giving Spanish-speaking students the opportunity to learn foreign law in their original language. Joint JD/Masters programs are offered in business administration, public health, and marine affairs, and a JD/LLM is offered in taxation.

Master of Laws (LLM) programs include inter-American law, international law, ocean and coastal law, taxation, estate planning, real property development, and comparative law. A

JD degree (or equivalent degree from a foreign law school) is required for entrance into an LLM program.

■ Special Programs

The school offers one of the most comprehensive and sophisticated skills training programs in the nation, integrating trial, pretrial, and clinical experiences into one program. Directed by a full-time faculty member, distinguished trial attorneys and judges from both state and federal courts assist with the trial and pretrial courses and help supervise the clinical placements. Additional skills training is available in transactional skills, alternative dispute resolution, mediation, and domestic and international legal research.

The school has distinguished itself by winning state, regional, and national competitions in moot court, mock trial, negotiation, and client counseling.

The Center for Ethics and Public Service is an interdisciplinary project teaching the values of ethical judgment, professional responsibility, and public service.

The Children & Youth Law Clinic provides representation to abused and neglected children and youth in the foster care system.

The Community Health Rights Education Clinic is an interdisciplinary program providing legal advice and advocacy to vulnerable low-income populations in cooperation with the Schools of Nursing and Medicine.

H.O.P.E. (Helping Others Through Pro Bono Efforts) is the law school's community outreach and advocacy project, offering a myriad of service opportunities for the law school community.

The Center for the Study of Human Rights is an interdisciplinary program with a mission to increase knowledge and understanding of international human rights issues with three basic components—scholarship, community outreach, and curriculum.

The James Weldon Johnson/Robert H. Waters Summer Institute acquaints selected incoming students with the tools necessary to succeed in law school.

Study abroad options consist of five summer integrated module programs that are held in England, Spain, and the Mediterranean, as well as an optional semester in Barcelona.

■ Admission

Admission is competitive. LSAT scores and undergraduate averages are used in the selection process, and letters of recommendation are required. Also considered are the applicant's work and extracurricular history, special skills, and background. Entering students are admitted only in the fall semester. Applicants are urged to apply for admission as early as possible after September 1. Applications received after February 6 will be considered on a space-available basis.

■ The Student Body and Student Life

Miami's student body is highly talented and exceptionally diverse, enriching students' educational experience by exposing them to a wide variety of viewpoints and life experiences. The school is consistently among the leaders in

numbers of Hispanic, African American, and foreign students graduated from its JD program.

The school's many student activities include an active Student Bar Association, Honor Council, and more than 30 diverse student organizations, including the Black, Hispanic, and Asian/Pacific American Law Student Organizations, OUTlaw, Christian Legal Society, Federalist Society, European Union Law Society, International Law Society, Entertainment and Sports Law Society, Society for Peace and Justice, the Student Animal Legal Defense Fund, and many more. Students regularly take part in a wide range of pro bono activities. Miami's law journals include *The University of Miami Law Review*; the *University of Miami Inter-American Law Review*; the *University of Miami International and Comparative Law Review*; the *Business Law Review*; and *Psychology, Public Policy, and Law*.

■ Expenses and Financial Aid

Scholarship aid available through the school normally does not exceed the cost of tuition. Most scholarships are merit-based, although need is sometimes considered. Admitted applicants are automatically considered for most scholarship awards. Applicants who wish to be considered for a merit scholarship should complete their files prior to January 6. Most

scholarships are awarded on a rolling basis. Those admitted by February 1 are considered for the prestigious Harvey T. Reid and Soia Mentschikoff scholarships. In addition, admitted students are eligible to apply for the public-interest-related Miami Scholars Program, which requires a separate application with a deadline of March 15. The law school assists students in applying for public and private loans.

Federal loans may be applied for by filing the FAFSA online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Our Federal School Code is E00532. Private loans may also be applied for online, and this information is sent to students upon admission.

■ Career Services

The Career Planning Center (CPC) provides career counseling and resources to law students and alumni. The center's On-Campus Interviewing Program attracts national and local employers, providing interview opportunities with law firms, government agencies, public service organizations, corporate counsel, and the judiciary. CPC offers a wide range of job-related seminars and job fairs and also provides access to a career resource library, computer research terminals, and job postings via the Internet.

Applicant Profile

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

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	Good Possibility				Possible	Unlikely					
170-174	Good Possibility				Possible	Unlikely					
165-169	Good Possibility				Possible	Unlikely					
160-164	Good Possibility				Possible	Unlikely					
155-159	Good Possibility				Possible	Unlikely					
150-154	Good Possibility				Possible	Unlikely					
145-149	Good Possibility				Possible	Unlikely					
140-144	Good Possibility				Possible	Unlikely					
135-139	Good Possibility				Possible	Unlikely					
130-134	Good Possibility				Possible	Unlikely					
125-129	Good Possibility				Possible	Unlikely					
120-124	Good Possibility				Possible	Unlikely					

Good Possibility
 Possible
 Unlikely

When reviewing the grid, it is important to note that admission to the school is based upon all aspects of an applicant's background, and not limited to the LSAT and undergraduate grade-point average.