

University of Puerto Rico School of Law

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■ Introduction

The University of Puerto Rico School of Law was founded in 1913 at its present site on the University Campus at Rio Piedras, within the metropolitan area of San Juan. The School of Law has been accredited by the American Bar Association since 1945, and the University of Puerto Rico is accredited by the Middle States Colleges Association. In 1948, the school was approved by the Association of American Law Schools. It is also accredited by the Council on Higher Education and the Puerto Rico Supreme Court.

■ Library and Physical Facilities

The law library is the largest law library in the Caribbean. Its collection reflects both the Romano-Germanic civil law and Anglo-American common law traditions. The law library contains a comprehensive collection of legal materials from the Caribbean Basin, including resources from Mexico, Central America, Venezuela, and Colombia, as well as the island jurisdictions. In addition to hard copy and microform materials, the law library subscribes to a variety of computerized legal research services. The law library has been designated as a European Documentation Center by the European Union and is also a selective depository for US government documents.

■ Clinical Program

The curriculum includes clinical programs for third-year students. The Legal Aid Clinic handles upwards of 1,300 cases per year. Rules for the participation of students before the local courts were approved by the Puerto Rico Supreme Court in March 1974 and by the US District Court in 1991.

■ Special Programs

The law school has student exchange programs with the University of Arizona College of Law, the University of Connecticut Law School, and the University of Chile Law School. Under these programs, the students will register at their home institution but will take a full courseload at the host institution. The credits and grades earned during a single semester will be awarded by the home institution according to the standard procedure of the home law school.

Students also have a chance to attend two different law programs at the University of Barcelona, Spain. The first one is a summer law program. The other alternative is a four-year program: three years of study at the University of Puerto Rico School of Law and one year abroad at the University of Barcelona. At the end of this program, the student will receive a Juris Doctor from the University of Puerto Rico and a law degree from the University of Barcelona, which will enable the student to practice law in the European Union.

The law school also has three joint-degree programs: a JD/MBA program with the University of Puerto Rico Graduate School of Business Administration, a JD/MPP program with the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Policy of the University of Minnesota, and a JD/MD program with the University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine.

The law school offers an LLM Program for Latin American Lawyers.

■ Admission

In order to be admitted to the University of Puerto Rico School of Law, applicants must take the LSAT and the Examen de Admision a Estudios de Posgrado (EXADEP), administered by the Educational Testing Service, no later than the February or March, respectively, of the year of application. Applicants must complete their undergraduate degree before enrolling in the law school. The LSAT, the EXADEP, and the graduating index are converted into the student's admission index.

The cases of applicants with disabilities, who, by reason of their disability, cannot take the required aptitude tests, are considered individually by the Admissions Committee.

The University of Puerto Rico does not discriminate against students on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, age, marital status, national origin, or disability.

■ Expenses and Financial Aid

Resident law students pay tuition and fees amounting to \$100 per credit each semester. Nonresident students who are American citizens pay the same amount that would be required from Puerto Rican students if they were to study in the state from which the nonresidents come, thus establishing a reciprocity principle.

Regular fees for basic medical services amount to \$337 for the first semester and \$473 for the second semester, which includes summer. The medical fee for the summer session is only \$135.

Nonresident students—Nonresident students who are not American citizens pay additional tuition and fees amounting to \$1,750 for eight or more credits for each semester.

Additional regular fees for basic medical services amount to \$115 for the first semester and \$161 for the second semester, which includes summer.

All financial aid for the University of Puerto Rico School of Law is administered by the school's Office of Financial Aid. Each student is considered on his or her own merit and need. Awards are made only after an applicant has been admitted.

■ Career Services

Since 1981, the school has had an Office of Student Affairs under an assistant dean that offers a variety of services, including placement. The Placement Officer, with the aid of the Puerto Rico Bar Association, the Department of Justice, and other government agencies, helps students obtain part-time jobs, full-time jobs, or scholarships.

The Office of Student Affairs has initiated a series of statistical studies on the school's alumni, which include a former governor of Puerto Rico, the secretary of justice, several Puerto Rico Supreme Court justices, and many cabinet members, judges, and legislators.

Applicant Profile

University of Puerto Rico School 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			
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	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
165-169	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
160-164	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2
155-159	0	0	4	4	7	5	6	6	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	17
150-154	7	7	3	3	8	7	10	10	3	1	4	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	37	33
145-149	21	17	17	15	21	19	21	9	9	3	4	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	4	1	99	66	
140-144	29	25	23	12	30	14	22	4	22	3	12	0	10	0	4	0	1	0	5	1	158	59	
135-139	37	13	28	6	33	1	34	0	16	0	9	0	10	0	1	0	0	0	10	0	178	20	
130-134	20	3	28	0	23	0	29	0	18	0	9	0	5	0	3	0	0	0	17	0	152	3	
125-129	5	0	13	0	10	0	8	0	6	0	1	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	18	0	66	0	
120-124	0	0	4	0	4	0	1	0	2	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	9	0	24	0	
Total	119	65	121	41	139	49	132	29	78	9	42	5	32	2	11	0	1	0	63	2	738	202	

Apps = Number of Applicants

Adm = Number Admitted

Reflects 98% of the total applicant pool.