THE BEST PLACE IN THE WORLD TO BE A LAW STUDENT

TEXAS Law
Admissions Bulletin
Being a law student at The University of Texas School of Law is about much more than three years of classes and finding a job. At Texas Law you become part of a community that is bigger than any one student’s experience. You will take all that you learn, the relationships you develop, and the contacts you make to form a future with limitless possibilities.
The University of Texas School of Law is the best place in the world to be a law student.

We provide a top-tier academic program, great career options, and a commitment to a high quality of life. Here are some specifics:

- **Powerful Degree** A Texas Law degree is a powerful credential in job markets all over the country. And we are the #1 supplier of talent to the best employers in a large and growing region of the United States. We also have an outstanding clerkship program to help you start your career in the chambers of a distinguished federal or state judge. In short, our graduates have great options.

- **Alumni** The Texas Law alumni—more than 23,000 of them—are at the top of the legal profession the world over, doing groundbreaking things in law, business, and public service, and more than anything they want to help their own: you!

- **Unbeatable Clinics** 15 to be exact—that allow our students to learn by working with real clients on real problems under the supervision of great clinical professors.

- **Prestigious Faculty** Our faculty members are nationally recognized thought leaders in every important legal field, including such expanding areas as energy law, intellectual property, and international law. Above all, our faculty members love to teach.

- **Quality of Life** We offer a famously collegial atmosphere in which students support each other and form relationships that last throughout their careers. And we’re in Austin, the fastest-growing city in the country, the Live Music Capital of the World, and one of the most popular destinations in America for creative people of every kind.

The combination of these elements is distinctive, and it makes Texas Law the place to be. It was no surprise to our alumni when U.S. News & World Report said we provide a better return on investment than any other law school in America. We are passionate about legal education and we want students who are passionate about making a difference. But don’t take my word for it: explore Texas Law and our amazing people and see it for yourself!

Dean Ward Farnsworth

YOUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Meet the Texas Law leadership team. They work tirelessly to support student success and make this the best place in the world to be a law student. Law school is hard—if you’re doing it right! But our deans and directors ensure that every student has the resources needed to thrive in the classroom and through the life-changing years of the Texas Law experience.

- **Mathew Le** leads our admissions team, carefully building a cohort of smart, accomplished, and collegial future lawyers who can enjoy these three years together in Austin. Dean Le and his staff make the connection between you, our current students, our faculty, and our alumni across the globe, so you can know if Texas Law is right for you.

- **Elizabeth Bangs**, the Dean for Student Affairs, manages everything about the student experience: organizations and journals, the Society Program, and academic advising and registration. She’s the first person to welcome you on your first day of law school, and she’s the one to pin your Sunflower on you at the commencement ceremony. Whatever you need, Dean Bangs and her team are there for you.

- **Shavonne Henderson**, a Texas Law alumna herself, is a faculty member and the Director of Student Inclusion and Equity. She’s ready to help students find opportunities to join in and make an impact in the community and can be a resource when a student faces a difficult situation. Everyone gets to know Prof. Henderson and her door is always open.

- **Bobby Chesney** is our Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Director of the Strauss Center. In addition to teaching Con Law and being a superstar professor, he helps plan the 2L and 3L curricular offerings, building on the foundation of the 1L year to give students hundreds of pathways to legal specialties, from centuries-old legal traditions to cutting-edge legal innovations.

- **David Montoya**, the Assistant Dean for Career Services, leads a team of eight career counselors, all J.D.s themselves, dedicated to helping you find your career path and master the skills needed to compete for top jobs in any area of the legal profession. In law, the opportunities are plentiful, and sometimes even overwhelming. Dean Montoya can show you how to understand the workplace and match your skills and unique talents to the right fit.
A degree from Texas Law kick-starts career opportunities in every legal sector and beyond, throughout the country.

Over the course of your three years at Texas Law, you’ll not only receive a world-class legal education, you’ll also be able to explore the many varied career paths that lay before you.

You will be presented with opportunities to gain hands-on experience through our experiential learning program, one of the largest of its kind in the nation. Our faculty members, renowned as masters of their craft and scholars of the highest order, will provide you with critical support and inspiration. You will be able to attend career exploration panels and workshops throughout the year and network with as many legal professionals as possible to discover the best career path for you. And you will graduate into a network of Longhorn lawyers 23,000 strong, ready to guide and assist you in accomplishing your great aspirations. Where will your path lead? Here are just a few of the directions your legal education can take you:

**Public Interest**
Working as a public interest advocate or public defender can be an incredibly rewarding career. You can serve the public good through legal service providers, public defender offices, advocacy organizations, and more.

**Law Firms**
A majority of Texas Law graduates began their careers in private practice, going to work for large, midsize, and small law firms. Whether you choose litigation or transactional work, you can undoubtedly find the right practice for you.

**Judicial Clerk**
A judicial clerkship allows you to be a part of our judiciary, and ideally develop a mentor in a judge. It is a prestigious postgraduate position and often serves as a springboard to permanent positions with law firms or the public sector.

**Government**
Working in the government at the local, state or federal level affords you great responsibility and the opportunity to gain practical experience, all while contributing to the public good.

**Corporate/In-House**
Practicing law as in-house counsel allows you to serve only one client—the corporation. Because of the substance of the work, the work setting, and the potential for acting as both lawyer and businessperson, this could be a great career path to pursue.
What does it really mean to get a legal education?

At The University of Texas School of Law, it means a mastery of many arts: rigorous analytical thinking; rich and resourceful research skills; precision and style in written and oral communication; an integrated understanding of the economic, social, historical, and political forces that interact with law; and much more. Our students learn to “think like lawyers,” but not just any lawyers. They learn to think like future leaders of the bench and bar, in keeping with a tradition that dates back to our founding in 1883.

First-Year Courses

The first year of law school is the essential building block of your legal career. The 1L curriculum is a gateway to deeper study of every major domain of law and legal skill and is proven conclusively to help build the habits of mind and the capabilities you need to achieve your highest aspirations in the law. The 1L year teaches you to grasp information at scale, with complexity, and at speed; to find the heart of the matter in an argument; to know deeply the weaknesses and strengths of every position, especially your own; and to understand the value of reasoned debate and discussion when the stakes are highest.

What are these courses? At Texas Law, there are seven in all: Contracts, about how individuals and organizations agree to work with one another; Property, about what you own and the rights and obligations of ownership; Torts, the law of injuries; Criminal Law, how we deal with certain kinds of law breaking; Constitutional Law, about how we create rules for government itself; Civil Procedure, for the theory and practice of procedural frameworks; and finally, Legal Analysis and Communication, a foundational course to help you sharpen the fundamental skills of being a lawyer—legal research and writing.

This year of study will create a universal bond with your fellow lawyers, will position you to succeed at any legal role, and will bring out your unique gifts and tailored pathway to a fulfilling life and career.

Second- and Third-Year Courses

At the upper levels, the richness of Texas Law’s curriculum provides an astonishing array of options. Students can specialize in particular areas if they wish or diversify broadly across subjects and methods. Opportunities include 15 clinics, a robust trial advocacy program and a range of internships.

Expand Your Legal Education

Texas Law has numerous centers that give students opportunities to explore their special interests through coursework, research, advocacy, events and casework.

Engage With Human Rights

The Bernard and Audre Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice offers students unique opportunities to collaborate in an interdisciplinary human rights community, engage with some of the world’s leading human rights thinkers and pursue life-changing human rights internships.

Mastering the Art of Legal Writing

At Texas Law, the critical skills of legal writing, research, oral argument and advocacy are not farmed out to professors-in-training — they are taught by a dedicated faculty team organized under the David J. Beck Center for Legal Research, Writing and Appellate Advocacy. The center offers a variety of advanced classes and experiential training at the upper levels and sponsors the law school’s interscholastic moot court teams, which travel to national and international competitions.

Specialize in Energy

The Kay Bailey Hutchison Center for Energy, Law & Business is an interdisciplinary academic center of the School of Law and the McCombs School of Business at The University of Texas at Austin. The mission of the center is to provide the finest educational opportunities in the U.S. to students who wish to pursue careers in energy and to serve as a nexus for incisive, unbiased and relevant research and conferences for policymakers around the world, with an emphasis on Latin America.

“ ‘My work in Cambodia—made possible by the Rapoport Center—is the best thing I’ve ever done.’ ”

CATHERINE WAGNER

Rapoport Center Summer Fellow in the Office of the Co-Prosecutors for the United Nations Assistance to the Khmer Rouge Trials

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Students who want to spend a semester of their 3L year abroad can receive credit toward their J.D. at one of multiple pre-approved schools located in Europe, Australia and Central and South America. Upon successful completion, students submit their foreign credit for conversion toward their Texas Law degree.

Study Abroad Programs

Argentina
Universidad de Buenos Aires
Universidad San Andres, University of Torcuato di Tella

Australia
Bond University, University of Melbourne, University of Sydney, University of New South Wales

Brazil
Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Universidade Federal do Para

Chile
Pontificia Universidad Catolica

Denmark
University of Copenhagen

England
Oxford Brookes University, Queen Mary University of London, University of Nottingham

France
Universite Jean Moulin Lyon 3
Sciences Po

Germany
Bucerius Law School

Ireland
University College of Dublin, University of Limerick

Israel
Tel Aviv University

Italy
European University Institute

Mexico
Instituto Tecnologico Autonoma de Mexico in Mexico City
Universidad Panamericana in Guadalajara
Universidad Panamericana in Mexico City

Netherlands
Universiteit Leiden, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Norway
University of Oslo

Scotland
University of Edinburgh

Spain
Carlos III de Madrid

Sweden
University of Stockholm

Switzerland
Universitaet St. Gallen, Universitaet Lucerne

Wales
Swansea University

Learn about foreign legal systems from 33 study abroad programs in 19 countries.

J.D./LL.M. Joint Degree Programs

Texas Law students can earn their J.D. in conjunction with a foreign law degree from three approved law schools in just four years. Our partner schools include:

- Instituto Tecnologico Autonoma de Mexico, Mexico City
- The University of Nottingham, England
- University of Edinburgh, Scotland

Students have studied abroad all over the globe

INTERSECTING DISCIPLINES

To be a Texas Law student is to be part of one of the world’s premier research universities, and to have access to its rich academic resources.

Want to study law and business? Earn credit towards your Texas Law degree with classes at the McCombs School, one of the top business schools in America. Law and policy? Study at the renowned LBJ School or the award-winning School of Social Work. Law and medicine? Take our signature cross-listed seminar, Health Justice and the Medical-Legal Partnership, offered with the new Dell Medical School at UT.

In a typical year, more than a dozen courses from other units at UT (such as the McCombs School of Business or the LBJ School of Public Affairs) are cross-listed with Texas Law, meaning that they count as full-fledged law school courses. And we typically have about the same number of law school-based courses that we share with other units, bringing large numbers of graduate students from other degree programs into our building.

Texas Law students can also integrate their legal studies with other areas of interest through colloquia and dual degrees.

Colloquia courses provide students the opportunity to study with scholars from around the world on topics and problems at the intersection of two or more disciplines. In this way, students participate in the evolution of scholarship in emerging areas of law.

The law school encourages the pursuit of dual degrees and interdisciplinary study, with all students eligible to take up to 12 credits in other departments across the university.

Dual Degrees
- J.D./Master of Public Affairs
- J.D./Master of Business Administration
- J.D./Master of Science in Social Work
- J.D./Master of Global Policy Studies
- J.D./Master of Arts in Latin American Studies
- J.D./Master of Arts in Middle Eastern Studies
- J.D./Master of Arts in Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies
- J.D./Master of Science in Community and Regional Planning
- J.D./Master of Science in Information Studies
- J.D./Ph.D. in Philosophy
Experiential education is the bridge between the classroom and the practice of law. With one of the largest programs of its kind in the nation, Texas Law offers every student multiple opportunities to gain hands-on experience for academic credit.

20,000
Approximate Pro Bono Hours Volunteered by Each Class

Our students dive deeply into an extensive array of clinics, internships, simulation courses, advocacy competitions, and pro bono projects that integrate law, theory, strategy and skills. Find opportunities to lead and learn by working alongside attorneys and faculty members on cases and projects that can affect the community, country and world. Virtually all of our students take multiple experiential courses that help prepare them for legal employment.

Clinics
Texas Law offers extensive clinical education opportunities, with fifteen clinics covering a range of legal issues. These exciting and challenging courses allow students to gain meaningful real world experience while still in school. The low student-to-faculty ratios and small size of the clinics ensure that students work closely with experienced faculty and their classmates. Students often describe working on clinic cases and projects as highlights of their time at Texas Law.

Advocacy
The advocacy program combines theory and techniques with client and case management skills and practical interdisciplinary training to help students become effective advocates. Students learn through numerous hands-on courses and competitions focused on trial skills, appellate advocacy and transactional work. Since 2000, Texas Law mock trial, moot court and Alternative Dispute Resolution teams have won a combination of 23 national championships and 33 regional championships. The school’s facilities for teaching trial and appellate advocacy include a state-of-the-art courtroom complete with judicial chambers and jury rooms.

Public Service
Beginning on their first day at Texas Law, our students work to improve access to justice by making a commitment to provide pro bono legal services to those in need. The Richard and Ginni Milholl Pro Bono Program organizes projects that provide legal services for underserved individuals and communities, creating opportunities for students to build their lawyering skills and leadership abilities. The Milholl Program involves faculty and alumni in introducing students to the legal profession’s tradition and ethical obligation of pro bono service. Texas Law has three academic centers that bring faculty and students together to study issues related to equal access to justice: the Bernard and Audre Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice, the Capital Punishment Center, and the William Wayne Justice Center for Public Interest Law.

The school provides widespread financial support to students interested in public service by awarding numerous public interest scholarships, summer stipends, postgraduate fellowships and loan repayment assistance to graduates embarking on public interest careers.
The tradition of excellence at Texas Law continues with our world-class faculty. With more than 100 full-time faculty members and 182 adjuncts, the depth and breadth of our highly decorated team of teachers includes a rich mix of renowned scholars and masters of the practice, who provide coverage across an unusually broad set of topics.

Our faculty members are known for their accessibility and helpfulness to students, and this has practical significance. Knowing the professor’s door is always open for office-hour consultations can make all the difference for a student trying to grasp a difficult concept. Simply put, our students not only have great classroom experiences, they also build relationships with faculty members that play a critical role in career development.

Our faculty members are deeply engaged in scholarship and public service, and are among leading national figures in an array of academic fields. They advocate for justice, testify before Congress and provide advice to a broad array of public and private entities. They speak out in national and regional media, they blog and they tweet. They embody the dynamism of law, and both reflect and take part in the central role law plays in our society.

MEET SOME OF THE 1L FACULTY

ELIZABETH W. SEPPER
Health Law, Religious Freedom, Torts, Gender and the Law
- Nationally recognized scholar of religious liberty, health law, and equality.
- Has written extensively on conscientious refusals to provide reproductive and end-of-life healthcare and on conflicts over religion and insurance coverage.

ROBERT G. BONE
Civil Procedure, Class Actions, Intellectual Property, Trademarks
- G. Rollie White Teaching Excellence Chair in Law
- Leading scholar in the fields of civil procedure, complex litigation and intellectual property, known especially for his theoretical and interdisciplinary work.
- Clerked for United States District Court Judge W. Arthur Garrity, Jr.

NELIA J. ROBBI
Lecturer at The David J. Beck Center for Legal Research, Writing, and Appellate Advocacy
- Teaches first-year Legal Analysis and Communication and Persuasive Writing and Advocacy.
- Has successfully tried cases in state and federal court and has presented oral argument on appeal.
- Currently serves on the Board of Directors for SAFE, Austin’s resource for survivors of child abuse, sexual assault and exploitation, and domestic violence.

PATRICK WOOLLEY
Civil Procedure, Aggregate Litigation, Conflict of Law, Federal Courts
- Beck Redden LLP Professor in Law.
- Co-author of “The Law of Class Actions and Other Aggregate Litigation,” a casebook published by Foundation Press.

STEVEN GOODE
Criminal Law, Evidence, Professional Responsibility
- W. James Kronzer Chair in Trial and Appellate Advocacy.
- University Distinguished Teaching Professor, winner of the law school’s Massey Teaching Excellence Award, and 2016 recipient of the Civitas Award from The University of Texas at Austin.
- Served as Reporter to the committees that drafted the Texas rules of evidence and currently serves on both the Court of Criminal Appeals’ Rules Advisory Committee and the State Bar Advisory Committee on the Rules of Evidence.

JENNIFER E. LAURIN
Civil Rights, Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Public Service Lawyering
- Wright C. Morrow Professor.
- Has published numerous law review articles and is a co-author of the police misconduct litigation treatise, “Police Misconduct: Law and Litigation.”
National Security Law

Few areas of the law have more ripped-from-the-headlines moments than National Security Law. And few schools have a stronger record of creating a trailblazing role in developing courses that rise to this occasion, as befits a school situated in one of America’s energy centers. It isn’t all about oil or fossil fuels, though. At Texas Law, we have experts in every aspect of the energy sector, including renewables and innovative future technologies, with a faculty that pulls from academia and industry practitioners.

Cybersecurity Law

Over the past decade, the study of cybersecurity law has transformed from a niche topic to a central issue for attorneys and their clients alike. Texas Law has played a trailblazing role in developing courses that rise to this occasion, as befits a school situated in the midst of a city renowned for its tech orientation. From our unique introductory survey on cybersecurity law and policy, to specialized courses providing relevant technological knowledge for law students who don’t have a computer science background, to a host of specialty electives, students at Texas Law can distinguish themselves in this area to a remarkable degree. Our Robert Strauss Center for International Security and Law even offers a student fellowship program that certifies students who complete a sequence of cybersecurity courses, while also supporting and training teams to compete in national cybersecurity policy competitions.

Constitutional Law

As the apex of the American legal system, it is no surprise that the Constitution of the United States has long been the focal point of intense scrutiny and debate. At Texas Law, we take great pride in our rich tradition of teaching and scholarly expertise in this area. Combining a focus on theory, doctrine, history and more, the study of the Constitution at Texas Law is a very rich and rewarding experience. All first-year students take Constitutional Law I, and everyone must take an additional Constitutional Law-related course at least once before graduation.

Energy & Environmental Law

Energy in all its forms—oil, gas, solar, wind, and more—is central to virtually every human activity, and no law school in the world has greater expertise in Energy Law than Texas Law. Our faculty wrote the textbooks that students at other schools learn from, and their mastery of the complex, ever-changing landscape of rules and regulations, set against the backdrop of foundational legal principles dating to the discovery of oil in Texas in 1866, means students learn about this universal field in the heart of one of America’s energy centers. It isn’t all about oil or fossil fuels, though. At Texas Law, we have experts in every aspect of the energy sector, including renewables and innovative future technologies, with a faculty that pulls from academia and industry practitioners.

Intellectual Property

Much as every human endeavor depends on energy, so too does it require innovation and information, creativity and novelty, and a robust system of rules and policies to support Intellectual Property. These systems include patents and copyrights, and questions of antitrust regulations, competition policy and information privacy. Texas Law’s faculty and course offerings explore these issues in a wide range of classes, such as introductory and advanced courses in Patent Law, Administrative Law, Copyright, and Trademarks, and also more complex offerings, such as Innovation Law and Policy in the Biopharmaceutical Industry, Technology Transactions, and Competition & Innovation. We even offer courses in software and game development, and multi-media entertainment. What’s more, Austin is one the country’s largest and fastest-growing venues for technology start-ups, medical innovators, and gaming and entertainment, making for a fertile marketplace for intellectual property law.

RICHARD ALBERT

Richard Albert is the William Stamps Farish Professor in Law and Professor of Government at The University of Texas at Austin. He teaches courses in constitutional law, publishes books and articles on constitutional amendment and constitutional change, and creates opportunities for scholars to collaborate in the study of public law.

STEPHEN I. VLADECK

Stephen I. Vladeck (@Steve_vladeck) is the A. Dalton Cross Professor in Law at The University of Texas School of Law and co-host, with Professor Chesney, of the National Security Law Podcast. His teaching and research focus on federal jurisdiction, constitutional law, national security law, and military justice.

OREN BRACHA

Oren Bracha is the William C. Connors Chair in Law. He is an expert in intellectual property law and a legal historian. His fields of interest include intellectual property law (past and present), legal history, legal theory and private law.

WENDY E. WAGNER

Wendy Wagner is the Richard Dale Endowed Chair in Law. She is a leading authority on the use of science by environmental policy-makers. Wagner worked as a trial attorney with the Department of Justice and then as a Pollution Control Coordinator at the USDA. She then moved into academia, where she has been most of her professional life. Wagner’s research focuses on issues related to the design of bureaucratic processes, environmental and health regulation, and law and science.

MELISSA FEENEY WASSERMAN

Melissa Wasserman joined the University of Texas law faculty in 2016. Her research focuses on the institutional design of innovation policy, with a particular emphasis on patent law and administrative law.

Environmental Law Clinic

The Environmental Law Clinic gives students hands-on opportunities to develop creative legal solutions to protect and improve environmental quality and public health. Our faculty wrote the textbooks that students at other schools learn from, and their mastery of the complex, ever-changing landscape of rules and regulations, set against the backdrop of foundational legal principles dating to the discovery of oil in Texas in 1866, means students learn about this universal field in the heart of one of America’s energy centers. It isn’t all about oil or fossil fuels, though. At Texas Law, we have experts in every aspect of the energy sector, including renewables and innovative future technologies, with a faculty that pulls from academia and industry practitioners.

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Career Services Office

Your road to professional success starts at our Career Services Office (CSO). Experienced counselors and a dedicated professional development coach (each a licensed attorney) provide students — beginning with guided support in your 1L year — and alumni with individualized career planning assistance to prepare for today’s competitive job market. Each year, more than 600 legal employer offices worldwide interview students through on- and off-campus interview programs. Students can participate in more than 20 job fairs held nationwide in cities such as Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, New York, San Francisco and Washington, D.C. A proven slate of professional development programs, skills-building workshops, networking opportunities, and tailored career counseling ensure our students gain an edge while job-hunting. CSO offers a range of services, including:

- Texas Law Professional Development Institute
- Fall and Spring On-Campus Interviews
- Public Service Career Fair
- One-on-one career counseling
- Résumé and cover letter workshops
- Career exploration panels with industry experts
- Mock interview programs
- Networking opportunities
- An online job bank exclusive to Texas Law students
- More online at law.utexas.edu/career.

Jobs for J.D.s

Consistently, Texas Law is one of the top law schools that send first-year associates to the largest 250 law firms in the nation. We’re at the top of U.S. News & World Report’s list of law schools where salaries for grads outweigh student debt. And public service-minded graduates have received prestigious fellowships from the Skadden Foundation and Equal Justice Works to make a living while serving in public interest positions. Our graduates land jobs in every region of the country.

Judicial Clerkships

Texas Law has one of the most ambitious Judicial Clerkship Programs in the nation. We begin coaching students within the first year of law school to become competitive candidates for coveted positions. On average, 50 graduates obtain judicial clerkships each year in federal and state courts across the country. The Judicial Clerkship Program, led by faculty members and a staff with decades of experience, includes opportunities to learn writing and analytical skills and perfect application materials through advising and courses. Texas Law is one of the top 12 law schools to place clerks on the U.S. Supreme Court.

Alumni Mentors

Texas Law has a unique mentoring program, with a dedicated Director of Mentoring Programs personally matching first-year students with Austin area alumni. These matches are made based on personal background and interests, as well as professional goals. In the 2L and 3L years, students are matched with alumni beyond Austin and across the globe, based on career plans. With a network of graduates 23,000-strong, wherever you want to do it, there will be a Texas Law alum ready and able to help.

In the past five years, grads have started their full-time or long-term careers in...

6 Countries
41 States & District of Columbia
137 Cities

On average, nearly 25 percent of Texas Law graduates have secured full-time, long-term postgraduate employment outside of Texas. Our graduates have chosen employment in 41 states, as well as the District of Columbia, with the most prevalent out-of-state opportunities in California, New York, and Washington, D.C. In the past five years, Texas Law graduates have also landed jobs overseas in China, Japan, Korea, Mexico, the United Kingdom, and Vietnam.

“Texas Law has the most impressive clerkship program that I’ve seen.”

CHIEF JUDGE ED CARNES
The United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit

Every spring, the CSO organizes the Public Service Career Fair, the largest public service interviewing program for law students in Texas, which features the Public Service Table Talk.
When you think about the individuals who have walked the halls of Texas Law, it really is an extraordinary group of people. Indeed, one of the law school’s most valuable resources, for current and past students alike, is our network of 23,000 alumni who are doing amazing and varied things around the world. We can talk about offering a world-class legal education and unmatched career outcomes, but nothing gives our claims more merit than hard evidence: our alumni and their stories. Here are just a few of the many exceptional people who graduated from Texas Law.

**ARLEAS UPTON KEA ’82**

Arleas Upton Kea is the Chief Operating Officer and Deputy to the Chairman of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), the first African-American woman to serve in that role. A native Texan, Kea began her legal career in Washington, D.C., serving first in the legal division of the U.S. Department of Labor and then in the FDIC. Her achievements include selection as Chairman of the Coalition of Federal Ombudsmen and receipt of the prestigious Vice President’s Hammer Award for management excellence in government.

**JASON VILLALBA ’96**

Jason Villalba is an attorney with Foley and Lardner, specializing in M&A and private equity finance. An accomplished public servant, Jason has helped his North Texas community for over two decades, helping disadvantaged homebuyers purchase affordable housing, fundraising for the Dallas Children’s Hospital, and ensuring integrity at the ballot box with the Citizen’s Elections Advisory Committee. In 2012, he was elected to the Texas House of Representatives, serving House District 114, and winning numerous awards for Best Legislator from major civic organizations.

“It was the privilege of a lifetime to serve my fellow Texans in the Legislature. Texas Law gave me with the necessary skills and instilled in me the drive and desire to serve. I am thankful to so many of my professors and classmates.”

**SHAWN RAYMOND ’99**

Shawn Raymond is a partner at Susman Godfrey LLP known for achieving heavyweight results in the courtroom with an eye toward community impact. He currently serves on the leadership team in the Flint, Michigan, water crisis class action case. While at Texas Law—where he was the Texas Law Review’s Managing Editor—he co-founded the Sunflower County Freedom Project, which uses the history and spirit of the civil rights movement to provide educational and leadership opportunities to at-risk teenagers living in the Mississippi Delta.

“Law school’s really meant everything to me. It’s provided a platform for me to work in the community and do the things that I’m passionate about.”

**LISA BLATT ’89**

Lisa Blatt is a modern-day Supreme Court legend, having argued 40 cases before the court (winning 37), more than any other woman. That’s why she’s Chair of Williams & Connolly’s Supreme Court practice and one of the most highly sought Appellate attorneys in D.C. She has a long history in the U.S. Capitol, as Assistant to the Solicitor General, Assistant General Counsel for the Dept. of Energy, and a clerk for the Hon. Ruth Bader Ginsburg on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit.

**AMANDA TYLER ’04**

Amanda Tyler is executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty. She leads the organization as it upholds the historic Baptist principle of religious liberty, defending the free exercise of religion and protecting against its establishment by government. Called a “powerful advocate” and “rising star in the sector” by The Nonprofit Times, she was named one of the nation’s top 50 nonprofit leaders in 2018. A member of the Texas and U.S. Supreme Court Bar, Tyler has experience working in Congress, in a private legal practice and in chambers as a law clerk for a federal judge.

**DARREN WALKER ’86**

Darren Walker is president of the Ford Foundation, the international social justice philanthropy with a $13 billion endowment and a mission of advancing human welfare. Before joining Ford, Walker was vice president at the Rockefeller Foundation, served as COO of Harlem’s largest community development organization, and had a decade-long career in international law and finance. Widely recognized as a consummate thought leader in modern philanthropy, he has been included on numerous annual media lists, including TIME’s 100 Most Influential People in the World, Rolling Stone’s 25 People Shaping the World, Fast Company’s 50 Most Innovative People, and OUT Magazine’s Power 100.

“My University of Texas law degree has provided me with a framework for understanding the world, for understanding the systems that govern my every move as a citizen and as an American.”

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LIFE IN AUSTIN

Austin is all about great choices when it comes to quality of life. National rankings for both its legendary barbecue and vegan cuisine are testament to what makes Austin distinct. For business, Austin ranks high on the opportunity scale. In fact, it is the state capitol in the second largest economy in the United States. Forbes cites Austin as the top city for job growth, and Slate ranks Austin No. 1 for driving the future.

Imagine a city bursting with an entrepreneurial spirit, a commitment to personal freedom and a passion for unearthing new discoveries. Add a vibrant, internationally renowned music, film and art scene, along with a thriving economy that leads the way in the technology, engineering and health care industries. Throw in a glittering lake running through the center of the city, big blue skies, gleaming Texas sunshine and the natural beauty of the surrounding Hill Country. Underline all of that with an open-minded sense of community, a serious commitment to breakfast tacos and a deep appreciation for all kinds of people and all kinds of dreams, and you’ve got Austin, Texas — one of the most amazing places in the world, and the city we’re proud to call home.

Quality of Life

With our year-round sunshine, beautiful Hill Country setting, world-famous live music scene, robust economy, booming job market and strong sense of community, Austin offers a wonderful quality of life, making it an excellent place to live, work and play.

Music, Film and Art

With more than 400 venues and dozens of shows every day and night, Austin lives up to its reputation as the Live Music Capital of the World. And that’s not to mention Austin’s many museums, galleries and theaters sprinkled all across the city. From historic country dance halls to state-of-the-art amphitheaters to cozy, independent movie theaters, creative opportunities abound.

Technology and Innovation

Given the immense talent pool UT Austin produces, it’s no surprise that technology companies such as Dell, IBM, Intel, Apple, Samsung and National Instruments have established major operations here in Austin. The city is also becoming a top destination for entrepreneurs and was recently named one of the best startup cities in the country.

Outdoor Recreation

From the cool, clear, spring-fed waters of Barton Springs Pool to lush, shady Greenbelt trails, Austin is the perfect city for the active lifestyle — with tons of opportunities for swimming, rock climbing, hiking, mountain biking, kayaking, fishing and more. Go for a jog on the Hike and Bike trail, climb up Mount Bonnell at sunset or spend a day exploring the beauty of the Texas Hill Country.
The Texas Law Society Program — the only program of its kind in the country — provides students with a small community during law school. Each first-year student is assigned to one of eight societies and remains a member of that society throughout law school. The groups meet with faculty advisers and alumni mentors and participate in service and social activities.

Dean’s Fellows
Each first-year student is also assigned to a group led by upper-class law students who serve as advisors and counselors throughout the year, known as Dean’s Fellows. They welcome incoming first-year law students and host events prior to orientation. During the academic year, they organize social activities and skills sessions.

Facilities
Texas Law is situated on the northeast quadrant of main campus, a short walk to museums, two recreation centers with pools and the football stadium. Law school facilities include two courtrooms; study lounges; state-of-the-art classrooms; a café; and the Tarlton Law Library, one of the largest academic law libraries in the world.

Housing
About 95 percent of law students live off campus with access to a myriad of housing options including single-family bungalows in Hyde Park within walking distance of campus, condos downtown close to public transportation, duplexes in trendy neighborhoods such as Crestview and Travis Heights and more. For on-campus graduate student housing, contact the university’s Division of Housing and Food Services.

Student Journals
The Law School is home to the Texas Law Review and 13 specialty journals that vary greatly in legal, political and social perspectives. As an example of impact, the Texas Journal of Oil, Gas and Energy Law has an impressive readership that reaches far beyond academia, circulating among attorneys and energy industry professionals.

Student Organizations
Student organizations at Texas Law run the gamut of interests, from the Chicano/Hispanic Law Students Association and the Entertainment and Sports Law Society to Assault and Flattery (a theater group) and the Women’s Law Caucus. There are more than 40 organizations to choose from.

Student Affairs Office
The Student Affairs Office helps Texas Law students achieve their academic and extracurricular goals. Throughout the year, the office organizes study breaks (sometimes with therapy animals), works closely with student organizations to plan events and holds academic support and advising sessions. The experienced staff is always available for counseling on academic or personal matters.
At Texas Law, we understand the financial considerations of pursuing a legal education. We have dedicated financial aid experts that have a commitment to providing every student with important information on their financial aid options and helping them navigate the processes to obtain financial support that fits their educational and professional goals. Students fund their legal education through a combination of financial aid options including student loans, scholarships, and grants. In addition, many community and private organizations offer scholarship opportunities that may not be obvious to students. These may include local and national bar associations, religious organizations, corporations, among a whole host of other possibilities that we urge students to explore and research.

**Types of Financial Aid**

Financial support is available to students attending Texas Law in the following three forms:

1. **Federal Educational Loans**
   Federal Educational Loans, up to the Cost of Attendance, are available from the U.S. Department of Education.

2. **Grants**
   Grant funds are awarded based on need on a first-come, first-served basis. Some grants are only available to Texas Residents.

3. **Scholarships**
   Criteria for scholarship selection include standardized test scores, cumulative undergraduate GPA, leadership experience, extracurricular activities, community service, and other performance criteria. For recent entering classes, approximately 74% of all first-year students received scholarship awards, ranging from $1,000 per year to full tuition and fee awards for all three years of enrollment. Some awards include a competitive Nonresident Tuition Exemption (NRTE) that entitles a nonresident applicant to pay tuition at Texas resident rates.

**How to Apply for Financial Aid**

To apply for federal educational loans and grants, applicants must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at fafsa.ed.gov. Applicants may submit the FAFSA starting October 1, even if they have not yet applied or been admitted to the law school. We strongly encourage applicants to submit the FAFSA as soon as possible to receive the best financial aid package. A separate scholarship application is required for merit-based scholarships and admitted students will be invited to submit a scholarship application after their admission. Scholarships awarded to incoming students are automatically renewed for the second and third years of law school enrollment as long as a student remains in good academic standing.

**Scholarships**

**William Wayne Justice Center**
Advisors a variety of tuition scholarships to support students who pursue access to justice. These scholarships attract the best and brightest to Texas Law and engage students in promoting public service and pro bono at the law school.

**The Equal Justice Scholarship**
Covers full tuition and fees for all three years and includes a generous summer stipend award. The Equal Justice recipient must commit to working full-time for three years after law school providing direct legal services to low-income individuals or groups.

**The Wayne Reaud Public Interest Scholarship**
Covers full tuition and fees for three years and includes a generous summer stipend for public interest legal work. Criteria include strong academic credentials, demonstrated commitment to public service, leadership abilities, financial need and an intent to provide legal assistance to under-served individuals or groups following graduation.

**Loan Repayment Assistance Program**
The Texas Law Loan Repayment Assistance Program provides financial support to graduates with incomes below $80,000 who work for public service employers and have educational debt.

**Grant Funds**
Grant funds are awarded based on need on a first-come, first-served basis. Some grants are only available to Texas Residents.

**Financial Aid Office**

lawfinance@law.utexas.edu
512-232-1130

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**Helpful Contacts**

law.utexas.edu

facebook.com/utexaslaw

twitter.com/utexaslaw

instagram.com/utexaslaw

The University of Texas School of Law
727 E. Dean Keeton St.
Austin, Texas 78705

Admissions Office
admissions@law.utexas.edu
512-232-1200

Financial Aid Office

lawfinance@law.utexas.edu
512-232-1130

Career Services Office
cs@law.utexas.edu
512-232-1150
twitter.com/UTLawCSo

Student Affairs Office
studentaffairs@law.utexas.edu
512-232-1140

Master of Laws Program
llm@law.utexas.edu
512-232-1262

Tarlton Law Library
512-471-7726
twitter.com/TarltonLawLib

facebook.com/TarltonLawLibrary

Services for Students with Disabilities
sso@law.utexas.edu
512-471-6259

Video Phone: 512-410-6644

Student Veteran Services
utveterans@austin.utexas.edu
512-232-2835

Schedule a Visit
law.utexas.edu/admissions/tours

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Where to Start

- Check out our website
- Visit us at a recruiting event
- Create an LSAC.org account
- Register for CAS
- Take the LSAT/GRE
- Send required documents to LSAC
- Complete the FAFSA

Applicant Eligibility

Applicants for admission to the J.D. program at Texas Law must have earned a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university with a minimum undergraduate GPA of 2.2 as calculated by the Law School Admission Council (LSAC) (unless the applicant enrolled as an undergraduate under the Academic Fresh Start Law pursuant to Section 51.931 of the Texas Education Code). Applicants within six semester hours of completing a baccalaureate degree may be eligible for admission on the condition that they earn the degree before beginning the last year of law study.

How to Apply

All Texas Law applicants must create an account with LSAC; register and take the LSAT or GRE; register and pay for LSAC’s Credential Assembly Service (CAS); and submit all required documents at www.lsac.org. For detailed information on how to apply for admission to the first-year class, please visit our website at law.utexas.edu/admissions/apply/how-to-apply/.

When to Apply

Regular Decision Admission
The J.D. application is available beginning September 1. Applications for Regular Decision admission must be submitted no later than midnight Central Time on March 1. Final decisions on Regular Decision applications will be made by the end of April.

Binding Early Decision Admission
Applications for binding early decision admission must be submitted no later than midnight Central Time on November 1. The Admissions Committee will provide a response on all completed Early Decision applications by the end of January. Some applications will be held for further consideration and applicants will be notified in writing if their applications are held. If an applicant is denied admission for the Early Decision process, they cannot reapply for Regular Decision. Nonresidents admitted by Early Decision receive a Nonresident Tuition Exemption (NRTE) that entitles them to pay tuition at Texas resident rates plus a competitive scholarship for each of their three years of law school. Texas residents admitted by Early Decision will also receive a competitive scholarship for each of their three years. By applying for Early Decision, an applicant firmly commits to attend Texas Law, and to withdraw all applications elsewhere if admitted.

Application Requirements

1. Take the LSAT or GRE
2. Register with the LSAC/CAS
3. Submit the following:
   - Completed application
   - Résumé
   - Personal statement
   - Statements explaining any affirmative answers to Character and Fitness questions (if applicable)
   - Two letters of recommendation (submitted through LSAC’s Letter of Recommendation Service)
   - Official transcripts (submitted through LSAC’s CAS)
   - Nonrefundable application fee. For details on application fee waivers, visit law.utexas.edu/admissions/apply/application-fee-waiver/
4. Complete online interview (if requested)

START APPLYING

If you can imagine yourself on a campus at the heart of a vibrant city with opportunities to expand your mind and catapult your career, then apply to The University of Texas School of Law. Are you ready to get started? Learn the steps you need to take to apply.

Cost of Attendance

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Important Dates

- Application Opens: September 1
- Binding Early Decision Admission: November 1
- Regular Decision Admission: March 1

* Tuition, fees and charges are subject to change by administrative, legislative or regent action.