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## Harvard Law School



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### REGISTRAR'S PHONE

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### Overview<sup>4-7</sup>

Established in 1817, Harvard Law School is the oldest continuously operating law school in the nation, but its greatest tradition is its commitment to critical analysis—of law, legal institutions, and legal education itself.

Approximately 1,990 students attend HLS each year: 1,750 J.D. students, 180 LL.M. students, and 60 S.J.D. candidates. The faculty includes more than 100 full-time professors and more than 150 visiting professors, lecturers on law, and instructors. The curriculum features more than 260 courses and seminars that cover a broad range of traditional and emerging legal fields.

A Harvard Law education prepares students for success in law practice, business, public service, teaching, and more. Most HLS students are pursuing a J.D. (Juris Doctor) degree, while many others are earning an LL.M. (Master of Laws) or the S.J.D. (Doctor of Juridical Science). Harvard Law School also offers many joint degree programs, coordinated programs, and concurrent degree opportunities with other schools within Harvard University. The Law School community is also home to numerous research programs and engaging publications, including books, scholarly periodicals, newsletters, and a weekly student newspaper.

### Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>8</sup>

11.9:1

### Admission Criteria<sup>9</sup>

	LSAT	GPA
25th-75th Percentile	170-175	3.77-3.95
Median*	173	3.88

Law School Admissions details based on 2013 data.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

### Admission Statistics<sup>10</sup>

Approximate number of applications	5,485
Number accepted	858
Acceptance rate	15.6%

The above admission details are based on 2013 data.

### Class Ranking and Grades<sup>11</sup>

The grading system for J.D. Students is described briefly below. It is important to highlight that there is no published curve with respect to the distribution of grades and that there are no class rankings.

#### Honors, Pass, Low Pass or Fail Grades

All Harvard Law School courses, seminars, clinicals and written work assignments are graded Honors, Pass, Low Pass, or Fail.

#### Credit/Fail Grades

All reading groups and independent clinicals are graded on a Credit/Fail basis. All work done at foreign institutions as part of a Law School's study abroad program is graded on a Credit/Fail basis.

#### Dean's Scholar Prizes

Dean's Scholar Prizes are awarded to J.D. students in recognition of outstanding work.

#### Harvard Law Review

Students are invited to join the Harvard Law Review based on their grades and performance on the Law Review's writing competition. No students are invited on to Law Review without first completing the writing competition.

### Honors<sup>12</sup>

A student who completes the requirements for the J.D. degree with distinction will receive the degree cum laude, magna cum laude, or summa cum laude. Latin honors at graduation will be based on the average of the three annual grade point averages (GPA).

Honor	Criteria
summa cum laude	4.75 GPA
magna cum laude	Next 10% of the graduating class
cum laude	Next 30% of the graduating class

## Awards<sup>13</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Addison Brown Prize	Gift of Addison Brown, LL.B. 1855, for the best essay on a subject related to private international law or maritime law.
Victor Brudney Prize	Established by the Program on Corporate Governance in honor of Professor Victor Brudney, Robert B. and Candice J. Haas Professor in Corporate Finance Law, Emeritus, for the best student paper on a topic related to corporate governance.
Davis Polk Legal Profession Paper Prize	Established to encourage reflection and consideration by HLS students about their chosen profession and awarded for a paper on a topic that relates to the legal profession or to the delivery of professional services.
Roger Fisher and Frank E.A. Sander Prize	Established by the Program on Negotiation in honor of Professors Roger Fisher, the Williston Professor of Law, Emeritus, and Frank E.A. Sander, the Bussey Professor of Law, Emeritus, for the best student paper on a topic related to negotiation, dispute systems design, mediation, dispute resolution, or ADR.
Yong K. Kim '95 Memorial Prize	Established by the East Asian Legal Studies program in memory of Yong K. Kim A.B. '92, J.D. '95, for the student who makes the most significant contribution to the life of the Law School's East Asian Legal Studies program.
Islamic Legal Studies Program Prize on Islamic Law	Awarded for the best paper in the field of Islamic law or on the intersection between other religious legal traditions and Islamic law.
Laylin Prize	Established in memory of John Gallup Laylin, J.D. 1928, by his firm, Covington & Burling LLP, for the best paper in the field of public international law.
LGBTQ Writing Prize	Awarded for the best student paper concerning Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender or Queer legal issues.
Mancini Prize	Established in honor of Federico Mancini, a judge of the European Court of Justice, for the best paper in the field of European law and European legal thought.
Irving Oberman Memorial Awards	Gift of Isabel B. Oberman in memory of her husband, Irving Oberman, A.B. 1917, for the best paper on a topic that may include bankruptcy, constitutional law, separation of powers, federalism and the Fourteenth Amendment, environmental law, family law, intellectual property, law and social change, and legal history.
John M. Olin Prize in Law and Economics	Awarded for an outstanding paper applying economic analysis of law to a legal topic.
Project on the Foundations of Private Law Prize	Established by the Project on Private Law at Harvard Law School for the best student paper on a topic related to private law.

Sidney I. Roberts Prize Fund	Established by Roberts & Holland LLP in honor of its founding partner and his significant work in the area of tax law, for the best student paper in the field of taxation.
Stephen L. Werner Prize	Bequest made by Edith L. Fisch, in memory of her late husband from the HLS class of 1932, for the best paper in the field of criminal justice, including criminal law theory, substantive criminal law, criminal procedure, legal ethics in the criminal context, and comparative and international criminal law and institutions.
Joseph H. Beale Prize	Established by John Grier Buchanan, LL.B. 1912, for the highest grade in the course on Conflict of Laws.
Morgan Chu Prize	Established by a gift from Mr. Morgan Chu '76 and his wife, Helen W. Chu, for the student with the highest first year grades who is a member of Asian Pacific American Law Students Association, Black Law Students Association, La Alianza, Native American Law Students Association, Chinese American Law Students Association, Korean Association of HLS, Middle East Law Students Association, Multiracial Law Students Association, or the South Asian Law Students Association.
The Dean's Awards for Community Leadership	Awarded to graduating students who contribute time and energy to making the HLS community a better place through involvement in student organizations, community service groups, and individual efforts.
Fay Diploma	Established by an anonymous gift in 1907, the Fay Diploma is prepared and issued in memory of Jonathan Fay, A.B. 1778, and Samuel Phillips Prescott Fay, A.B. 1798, for the graduating J.D. candidate who, by scholarship, conduct, and character, has given evidence of the greatest promise and traditionally awarded to the person who graduates with the highest combined average for three years of study in residence at the Harvard Law School.
Andrew L. Kaufman Pro Bono Service Award	Awarded in honor of Professor Andrew Kaufman to the student in the graduating class who performs the highest number of pro bono service hours and has exemplified the pro bono public spirit and commitment by improving or delivering volunteer legal services to the poor and disadvantaged.
Exemplary Clinical Student Award	Awarded to graduating students who exemplify putting theory into practice through clinical work.
George Leisure Award	Gift of George S. Leisure, LL.B. 1917, by his law partner David Teitelbaum, LL.B. 1929, for the best oralist in the Ames Moot Court Competition final round.
Frank S. Righeimer, Jr. Student Prize for Citizenship	Established in memory of Frank S. Righeimer, Jr. '32, for exceptional citizenship within the Law School community.

Sears Prize	Gift of Sarah C. Sears in memory of her son, Joshua Montgomery Sears, Jr., LL.B. 1904, for the two students receiving the highest averages in the work of the first year and for the two students receiving the highest averages in the work of the second year.
William J. Stuntz Award	Established in memory of William J. Stuntz for the graduating student who has demonstrated an exemplary commitment to justice, respect for human dignity, and compassion.
David Westfall Memorial Award	Named in honor of Prof. David Westfall who taught at Harvard Law School for more than fifty years, for a graduating student who contributed to the creation of community within the first-year section and class.
Boykin C. Wright Memorial Fund	Established in memory of Boykin C. Wright, LL.B. 1914, by his law partners in the firm then known as Shearman & Sterling & Wright, for the winning and losing teams in the Ames Moot Court Competition final round.

## Journals<sup>14</sup>

The **Harvard Business Law Review** stands at the intersection of law and business. Publishing thematic issues that feature short, policy-oriented essays from academics, practitioners, and regulators, HBLR promises to bridge the worlds of theory and practice. For students, the journal provides an unmatched opportunity to engage with business law beyond the classroom.

The **Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review** has become the nation's leading progressive law journal. The Journal's mission is to promote social change and intellectual debate through the publication and advancement of innovative legal scholarship. CR-CL fosters progressive dialogue within the legal community by publishing two issues annually, featuring innovative articles. CR-CL is also committed to fostering progressive dialogue on the Harvard Law School campus and serves as an intellectual and social meeting place for a diverse group of progressive students.

The **Harvard Environmental Law Review** is one of the nation's leading environmental law journals, and has been dedicated to publishing high-quality, cutting-edge scholarship for over 30 years. ELR publishes two issues each year on a wide variety of topics, including climate change, air and water pollution regulation, energy, land use, international environmental law, administrative law, and law and economics.

The **Harvard Human Rights Journal** publishes two issues annually in conjunction with the Law School's Human Rights Program. The Journal provides a forum for scholarship on a broad range of topics related to human rights, international human rights law, and international humanitarian law. The Journal publishes cutting-edge pieces by academics, human rights practitioners, government and international organization officials, and law students alike. The Journal also hosts an annual Human Rights Conference at the Law School.

The **Harvard International Law Journal** is the oldest and most-cited student-edited journal of international law. ILJ covers a wide variety of topics in public and private international law and publishes articles and comments in international, comparative, and foreign law, as well as the role of international law in U.S. Courts and the international ramifications of U.S. domestic law. The ILJ also publishes student-written work.

The **Harvard Journal of Law and Gender**, formerly the Harvard Women's Law Journal, is among the nation's foremost student-edited feminist law journals. Since its first publication in 1978, the Journal has been devoted to developing and advancing feminist jurisprudence and to combining legal analysis with political, economic, historical, and sociological perspectives.

The **Harvard Journal of Law & Public Policy** is one of the five most widely circulated student-edited law journals in the country, making it the leading forum for conservative and libertarian legal scholarship. The Journal publishes three issues each year on a broad range of legal and public policy topics such as military commissions, gun control, the First Amendment, judicial confirmations, same-sex marriage, racial desegregation, the Patriot Act, and originalism.

The **Harvard Journal of Law & Technology** has published writings by academics, practitioners, and policymakers on a variety of topics, including intellectual property, biotechnology, e-commerce, space law, computer law, cybercrime, the Internet, and telecommunications. JOLT is the most cited legal technology journal in the world, and in the top three of all specialty journals, nationwide.

The **Harvard Journal on Racial and Ethnic Justice** was founded by the Black Law Students Association to advance progressive legal scholarship by focusing on the intersection of race, class, gender, and the law.

The **Harvard Journal of Sports and Entertainment Law** provides the academic community, the sports and entertainment industries, and the legal profession with scholarly analysis and research related to the legal aspects of the sports and entertainment world.

The **Harvard Journal on Legislation** is the foremost student-edited journal on legislation and legislative reform. Published twice a year, the Journal presents pieces from academics, members of Congress, practitioners, and current students. In addition, one issue each year features articles developed around the annual symposium on an important topic of public policy.

The **Harvard Latino Law Review** provides a forum for the scholarly discussion of legal issues affecting Latinos and Latinas in the United States. Recent articles have addressed issues including education, the impact of NAFTA, corporate responsibility, and acoustic segregation.

The **Harvard Law & Policy Review** provides a prominent forum for debate and discussion of innovative progressive and moderate legal policy ideas, analysis and proposals. HLPR is the official national journal of the American Constitution Society for Law and Policy.

The **National Security Journal** is a student-edited, faculty- and practitioner-advised, online academic journal. It serves both as a contribution to the universe of ideas surrounding national security law and policy and as a source for updates on relevant fields.

The **Harvard Negotiation Law Review** is a semi-annual journal dedicated to publishing academic articles on alternative dispute resolution that would be of interest to legal scholars, professionals, and practitioners. HNLR publishes on topics such as the role of religious fundamentalism in international negotiations, the success rate of student mediations in elementary schools, and game theoretic approaches to negotiation.

**Unbound** is an online journal of the legal left at Harvard Law School and also the community of left-affiliated students, professors, and practitioners who publish it. Unbound's central project is to stake out a space for left legal work that incorporates both new politics and new critical theory, while maintaining both systemic critique and productive self-interrogation.

## Moot Court<sup>15</sup>

Established in 1911 at a bequest of the late Dean James Barr Ames, the competition is run each year by the HLS Board of Student Advisers. Prominent jurists preside over the final round of the Ames Moot Court Competition and recent judges include the Hon. Antonin Scalia '60, associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States; the Hon. Adalberto Jordan, U.S. Court of Appeals Eleventh Circuit; and the Hon. Patricia Millett '88, U.S. Court of Appeals District of Columbia Circuit.

## Clinical Programs<sup>16-18</sup>

The Harvard Law School Clinics provide students with hands-on legal experience under the supervision of attorneys who are not only great practitioners, but also trained in individually educating and mentoring students. Clinicals can be done at HLS in-house clinics or as externships with outside organizations located in the Boston-area and other U.S. cities. Students can also create their own clinical through the [Independent Clinical Program](#).

### In-house HLS clinics include:

- Criminal Justice Institute
- Cyberlaw Clinic
- Education Law Clinic of the Trauma and Learning Policy Initiative
- Emmett Environmental Law and Policy Clinic
- Family and Domestic Violence Law Clinic (LSC)
- Food Law and Policy Clinic of the Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation
- Harvard Immigration and Refugee Clinical Program
- Harvard Legal Aid Bureau
- Harvard Negotiation and Mediation Clinic
- Health Law and Policy Clinic of the Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation
- International Human Rights Clinic
- Making Rights Real: The Ghana Project (Not Offered in the 2014-2015 Academic Year)
- Post-Foreclosure Eviction Defense/Housing Law Clinic (LSC)
- Predatory Lending/Consumer Protection Clinic (LSC)
- Transactional Law Clinics
- Veterans Law and Disability Benefits Clinic (LSC)

### Externship clinical opportunities include:

- Capital Punishment Clinic
- Child Advocacy Clinic
- Criminal Prosecution Clinic (Prosecution Perspectives)
- Employment Law Clinic
- Government Lawyer: State Attorney General Clinic
- Government Lawyer: Semester in Washington Clinic
- Government Lawyer: United States Attorney Clinic
- Judicial Process in Community Courts Clinic
- Sports Law Clinic
- Supreme Court Litigation Clinic
- U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Boston Office Externship

## Placement Facts<sup>19</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2012 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25th-75th percentile)	\$160,000
Private sector - Median	\$160,000
Public service - Median	\$58,000

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	91%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	94.1%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Practice Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	57.7%
Business and Industry	4.9%
Government	4.4%
Public Interest Organizations	7.7%
Judicial Clerkships	23.1%
Academia	1.9%
Unknown	0.2%

## Externships/Internships

### Externships<sup>20</sup>

Externship clinics are located outside of HLS. Students are placed at organizations in the greater Boston area, as well as in other cities throughout the United States.

### Internships<sup>19, 20</sup>

Harvard Law School offers fellowships in a wide range of intellectual fields.

#### Cyberlaw

1. Fellowships at the Berkman Center for Internet and Society

#### Environmental Law

- Beagle/HLS Fellowship at NRDC (for graduating HLS students and recent graduates)
- Reginald F. Lewis Winter Term Internships (for HLS students)

#### Health Law Policy, Biotechnology, and Bioethics

- Petrie-Flom Academic Fellowships (for post-docs in health law, policy or ethics)
- Petrie-Flom Center Student Fellowships (for Harvard University Graduate Students)



## **Human Rights**

- Robert and Phyllis Henigson Fellowships (for graduating HLS students and recent graduates)
- Reginald F. Lewis Winter Term Internships (for HLS students)

## **International Law**

- Chayes International Public Service Fellowships (summer; for HLS students)
- Reginald F. Lewis Winter Term Internships (for HLS students)

## **Law and Economics**

- Victor H. Kramer Foundation Fellowship
- John M. Olin Fellowships in Law and Economics (for HLS students)

## **Law and Development**

- Reginald F. Lewis Winter Term Internships (for HLS students)

## **Law Teaching**

- Berkman Center for Internet and Society Fellowships
- Byse Fellowships (for HLS S.J.D. students)
- Climenko Fellowships in the First-Year Legal Research and Writing Program
- Raoul Berger-Mark DeWolfe Howe Legal History Fellowship
- Reginald F. Lewis Fellowship for Law Teaching
- Summer Academic Fellowship Program (for current HLS students only)

## **Negotiation, Mediation and Alternative Dispute Resolution**

- Program on Negotiation Graduate Research Fellowships
- Law and Negotiation Research Fellowships

## **Legal History**

- Raoul Berger-Mark DeWolfe Howe Legal History Fellowship

## **Public Interest**

- Beagle/HLS Fellowship at NRDC (for graduating HLS students and recent graduates)
- Chayes International Public Service Fellowships (summer; for HLS students)
- Edith W. Fine Fellowship (for one female third-year HLS student)
- Robert and Phyllis Henigson Fellowships (for graduating HLS students and recent graduates)
- Heyman Fellowships (summer; for HLS students)
- Irving R. Kaufman Fellowships (for graduating HLS students and recent graduates)
- Maria, Gabriella & Robert A. Skirnick Fellowships (for graduating HLS students and recent graduates)
- Summer Public Interest Funding (for HLS students)
- L. Anthony Sutin Public Service Fellowship (summer; for HLS students)
- James Vorenberg Equal Justice Summer Fellowship (for HLS students)

## Student Organizations<sup>22</sup>

- Abigail Adams Society
- Advocates for Education
- Advocates for Human Rights
- African Law Association
- Alliance for Israel
- American Civil Liberties Union
- American Constitution Society
- Armed Forces Association
- Asia Law Society
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association
- Association for Law and Business
- Black Law Students Association
- Brazilian Studies Association
- Beeritas
- Board of Student Advisers
- Catholic Law Students Association
- Chamber Music Society
- Child and Youth Advocates
- Christian Fellowship
- Committee on Sports and Entertainment Law
- Environmental Law Society
- European Law Association
- Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy
- Food Law Society
- Gary Bellow Public Service Award
- Golf Club
- Harvard African Law Association
- Harvard Defenders
- HLS Democrats
- Harvard Immigration Project
- Harvard Law Couples and Families Association
- Harvard Law Documentary Studio
- Harvard Law Entrepreneurs
- Harvard Negotiators
- HLS for Reproductive Justice
- HLS Investing Club
- HLS Latter-day Saints Student Association
- HLS Republicans
- HLS Student Mental Health Association
- HLS Student Representative Board
- HLS TaxHelp
- HLS Forum
- HLS/KSG Association for Law and Policy
- IM Sports
- In Vino Veritas
- International JD Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Justice for Palestine

- Korean Association of Harvard Law School
- La Alianza
- Labor and Employment Action Project
- Lambda
- Law and Health Care Society
- Law and International Development Society
- Law and Mind Sciences
- Legal Aid Bureau
- Middle Eastern Law Students Association
- Mississippi Delta Project
- Moot Court Board
- Muslim Law Students Association
- National Lawyers Guild - HLS Chapter
- National Security and Law Association
- Native American Law Students Association
- Parents at the Law School (PALS)
- Prison Legal Assistance Project
- HLS Real Estate Association
- Running Club
- Scales of Justice
- South Asian Law Students Association
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Students for Sustainable Investment
- Target Shooting Club
- Tenant Advocacy Project
- The Texas Club
- Women's Law Association

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