

RANK
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University of Illinois College of Law



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Overview²

The University of Illinois College of Law provides a rigorous course of study, an engaging and exceptional faculty, and an active and diverse student body. The diversity of the student body is evident in nearly 40 student organizations, based on interests and backgrounds including scholarly, service, social, political, ethnic, religious, and societal issues.

The larger Champaign-Urbana community offers arts, music, entertainment, nightlife, Big Ten Conference athletics, and one of the nation's most ethnically and internationally diverse campuses.

The faculty at Illinois is one of the most respected and highly-cited in the nation, boasting national leaders in the fields of bankruptcy law, corporate law, criminal law, elder law, health law, labor law, property law, and a variety of other fields. About half of the College of Law faculty hold advanced graduate degrees beyond their juris doctors in fields such as medicine, economics, engineering, business, and psychology. Four members of the faculty have won the University of Illinois' prestigious Campus Award for Excellence in Graduate and Professional Teaching.

Student-Faculty Ratio³

11.2:1

Admission Criteria⁴

	LSAT	GPA
25th-75th Percentile	157-163	3.26-3.72
Median*	160	3.56

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2013 entering class.

*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 Statistics⁵

Approximate number of applications	2121
Number accepted	964
Percentage accepted	45.5%

The above admission details are based on 2013 data.

Class Ranking and Grades⁶

Subject to certain exceptions, the College of Law neither computes nor discloses individual class rankings. After each semester, the cumulative GPA for each J.D. class at the cutoffs for top 10%, 15%, 20%, 25%, and top one-third are published.

A College of Law CGPA of 2.0 on a 4.0-point scale is required for continuation as a J.D. student at the College of Law and graduation. Only graded College of Law courses count towards a student's CGPA. Students who fall below the required 2.0 CGPA are deemed to be in academic deficiency.

The following grading scale is used by the College of Law:

A+	4.00
A	4.00
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.00
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C	2.00
C-	1.67
D+	1.33
D	1.00
D-	0.67
F	0.00

Grade Normalization (Curve)⁷

The College of Law does not impose a mandatory grading curve on any law class. The faculty, however, has adopted the following recommended curve for J.D. student grades:

- For all first-year courses: a mean course GPA for J.D. students of approximately 3.2, with at least 20% of the J.D. students receiving a grade of A- or higher.
- For all upper-level courses with at least 20 J.D. students enrolled: a mean course GPA for J.D. students between 3.2 and 3.4.

Honors⁸

Honor	Criteria
Order of the Coif	top 10% of graduating class
<i>summa cum laude</i>	CGPA of 3.75 and above
<i>magna cum laude</i>	CGPA of 3.50 to 3.74
<i>cum laude</i>	CGPA of 3.25 to 3.49
Harno Scholars	top 10% of students in each class
Dean's List	next 20% (11% through 30%) of students

Awards⁹

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Rickert Award	Outstanding 3rd year students in 4 categories
CALI Excellence for the Future	Top grade in each course
Dykema Scholarship	Outstanding 1st year minority student
Larry Travis Bushong Writing Award	Top student paper on gay & lesbian issues
Jenner & Block Minority Scholar	Outstanding 1st Year Minority Student
Honorary Round Best Oralist	Best oralist in Moot Court Honorary Round
Harker Prize	Top ranked student after first year
J. Nelson Young Tax Award	Outstanding academic excellence in tax
Ellen Daar Kerschner Memorial Scholarship	Outstanding 3rd year female student
Robert E & Jane C. Ferris Scholarship	Student excelling in preservation of property
Class of 1996 Public Service Award	Public Service Commitment
Cook County Circuit Honors Externs	1Ls with honors in legal writing
Joseph M. Barich Award	Excellence in patent law
Ward F. McDonald Scholarship	Excellence in real estate law
H.H.Harris Foundation/Charles Hough	Excellence in law

Journals¹⁰

The **University of Illinois Law Review** is generally regarded as one of the preeminent law reviews in the country. Students who excel in a summer writing competition are invited to become members. This journal attracts articles from scholars nationwide.

The **Elder Law Journal** is the oldest scholarly publication in the country dedicated to elder law issues. The Journal focuses on subjects such as estate planning, living wills, arrangements for long-term care, qualifying for Medicaid, and topics such as social work, gerontology, ethics, and medicine.

The **Journal of Law, Technology, and Policy** is a highly innovative, interdisciplinary publication devoted to cutting-edge issues of intellectual property. Students are invited to become members after submitting a writing sample and showing a demonstrated interest in intellectual property matters.

The **Illinois Law Update** is a column focusing on recent developments in Illinois law, published monthly in the Illinois Bar Journal and read by thousands of practicing lawyers throughout the state. The students who write the updates are chosen from among the school's top legal writing students.

The **Comparative Labor Law & Policy Journal** is a major international forum for the best scholarship in labor law and employment policy.

The **Illinois Business Law Journal** is a student-run website where readers are strongly encouraged to post comments relating to a specific article or topic.

Moot Court¹¹

Moot Court offers experiential learning opportunities in which students can develop effective oral and written advocacy skills. Second- and third-year students are eligible to participate in the following moot court competitions: the Hon. Conrad B. Duberstein Bankruptcy Moot Court Competition (one of the nation's preeminent moot court competitions); the Environmental Moot Court Competition (environmental and administrative law); the Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competition (appellate advocacy); the Frederick Green Moot Court Competition (constitutional law); the National Hispanic Bar Association Moot Court Competition (civil liberties issues); the IP Moot Court Competition (patent and trademark law); and the Philip C. Jessup Moot Court Competition (world's largest and most prestigious international law moot court competition).

Clinical Programs¹²

The College of Law encourages students to participate in one of the following clinical programs:

In-house Clinics

- Civil Litigation Clinic
- Community Preservation Clinic
- Elder Financial Justice Clinic
- Family Advocacy Clinic
- Federal Civil Rights Clinic

Field Placements

- Appellate Defender

- Appellate Prosecutor
- Domestic Violence Clinic
- Externships
- Innocence Project
- Legislative Projects
- Patent Law Clinic

Placement Facts²⁵

Starting Salaries (2012 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25th-75th percentile)	\$55,000 - \$155,000
Private sector - Median	\$81,000
Public service - Median	\$42,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	36.3%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	68.1%

Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	60.7%
Business and Industry	11.6%
Government	8.1%
Public Interest Organizations	9.2%
Judicial Clerkships	5.2%
Academia	5.2%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships¹⁴

Externships

Externships offer students the opportunity to receive College of Law credit for hours spent working with governmental and not-for-profit attorneys, and with state, federal, and international judges. Externships can be located anywhere in the world. Nearly all students complete one or more externships, often during the summer months. Students work under the direct supervision of an attorney and complete assignments such as interviewing clients and witnesses, researching legal questions, preparing pleadings, discovery motions, and briefs, and in some instances, trying cases.

Student Organizations¹⁵

- American Bar Association (ABA) - Student Division
- American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) - College of Law Chapter
- Asian American Law Students Association (AALSA)
- Bankruptcy Law Society (BLS)

- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- Chicago Bar Association (CBA) - Student Division
- Christian Law Students Association (CLSA)
- Corporate and Business Law Association (CBLA)
- Criminal Law Society (CLS)
- Critical Thinkers Society (CTS)
- Education Law and Policy Society (ELPS)
- Environmental Law Society (ELS)
- Federalist Society (Federalists)
- Government Interest Law Association (GILA)
- Illinois Energy Law Association (ELA)
- Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA) - Student Division
- Intellectual Property Legal Society (IPLS)
- International Commercial Arbitration Team (VICAT)
- International Law Society (ILS)
- Jewish Law Students Association (JLSA)
- Latino/Latina Law Students Association (LLSA)
- Law and Entrepreneurship Association (LEA)
- Law School Basketball (LSB)
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice (LSRJ)
- Middle Eastern Law Students Association (MELSA)
- Myra Bradwell Association for Women Law Students (WLS)
- OUTLAW (Sexual Orientation and Legal Issues Society)
- Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity (PAD)
- Prisoners' Rights Research Project (PRRP)
- Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF)
- Real Estate Law Society (RELS)
- Sports and Entertainment Law Society (SELS)
- Student Bar Association (SBA)
- Student Legal Relief (SLR)

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