

## Pepperdine University School of Law

24255 Pacific Coast Highway

Malibu, CA 90263

Phone: 310.506.4611; Fax: 310.506.7668

E-mail: soladmis@pepperdine.edu; Website: law.pepperdine.edu

### ■ Introduction

Pepperdine School of Law is located in Malibu, California, just 30 miles from downtown Los Angeles, making it a conducive environment for the intense study of law. Malibu offers an almost rural setting, yet it is an integral part of greater Los Angeles, providing access to one of the largest legal communities in the world. Pepperdine is a Christian university committed to the highest standards of academic excellence and Christian values, where students are strengthened for lives of purpose, service, and leadership.

### ■ Student Body

Pepperdine students bring a broad spectrum of backgrounds. They share a strong desire to attain high levels of achievement, in academics, in their personal lives, and in their careers. Students come to Pepperdine from diverse socioeconomic, cultural, and religious backgrounds for the emphasis on integrity, service, and justice with a desire to become trusted leaders.

### ■ Faculty

Although the faculty have distinguished themselves through scholarly research and writing as well as leadership positions in prestigious legal organizations, the faculty's primary mission is to teach—to help students see the structure of legal thought and to be available as professional examples of a multifaceted profession. They demonstrate to their students that lawyers should be people-oriented individuals with strong moral character, capable of guiding their clients toward what is just and honorable as well as what is legally permissible.

### ■ Library and Physical Facilities

The School of Law occupies the Odell McDonnell Law Center, located on the university's 830-acre campus overlooking the Pacific Ocean. The Jerene Appleby Harnish Library is the focal point of the school, housing a collection of over 365,000 volumes and volume equivalents. Students enjoy access to online legal research services and the Internet via the law school's network in three computer resource centers and at 70 wired study carrels. Wireless network access is available throughout the Law Center. The facility contains a high-tech courtroom, as well as lecture halls, seminar rooms, a bookstore, student dining area, and lounges.

### ■ Curriculum

Pepperdine offers a three-year, full-time JD program; four-year, full-time JD/MBA and JD/MPP joint-degree programs; a five-year, full-time JD/MDiv joint-degree program; a concurrent JD/MDR degree program; and an LLM in Dispute Resolution. A student enrolled full-time in a summer session can accelerate graduation by one semester. The required core courses are complemented by an extensive selection of elective courses.

### ■ The Palmer Center for Entrepreneurship and the Law

Unique in the nation, the Palmer Center prepares students for the modern hybrid role of lawyer, business consultant, financial strategist, and venture capitalist, and equips them with credentials and options in the field of entrepreneurship. Through carefully tailored coursework, the Palmer Center integrates multifaceted law and business disciplines into a distinctive and dynamic certificate program that supplements and complements the traditional JD degree.

### ■ Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution

The Straus Institute is the most comprehensive program of its type in the nation. The institute's faculty involvement as mediators, continuing legal education educators, and consultants enriches the practical application of course materials. Students studying in the field of dispute resolution can complete a special certificate program as part of their Juris Doctor degree program or a Master of Dispute Resolution. The LLM in Dispute Resolution began January 2003.

### ■ London Program

Students have the opportunity to study law in London at Pepperdine's university-owned facility in the museum district of South Kensington. While in London, students may serve as externs in clinical placements.

### ■ Exchange Programs

Students have the opportunity to participate in exchange programs with the University of Copenhagen and the University of Augsburg.

### ■ Clinical Education

Clinical law programs provide students the opportunity to refine their skills under the supervision of faculty, lawyers, and judges. The majority of clinical law opportunities are with the district attorneys, public defenders, and state and federal court judges. There are a number of programs offering experience in corporate and securities law, tax law, juvenile law, family law, labor law, consumer protection, environmental law, and trade regulation. Placements are also available within the film, television, and music industries.

### ■ Public Interest Opportunities

Pepperdine has partnered with the Los Angeles Union Rescue Mission to develop the Pepperdine/Union Rescue Mission Legal Aid Clinic. Located in downtown Los Angeles, the mission provides emergency food and shelter, health services, recovery programs, education, job training, and counseling within a Christian context. Students volunteer at the mission, where they meet with residents regarding legal concerns. The Pepperdine/Union Rescue Mission Family Law Clinic helps clients resolve issues such as child custody and support. The Special Education Advocacy Clinic, housed at the School of Law, gives students an opportunity to gain valuable experience

advocating for children with disabilities. Students work to help ensure that children with special needs receive proper accommodations in public schools.

## ■ Student Activities

Pepperdine has earned a national reputation for excellence in appellate advocacy and trial advocacy competitions. Editorial and staff positions are awarded with the *Pepperdine Law Review*, *Pepperdine Dispute Resolution Law Journal*, and the *National Association of Administrative Law Judges Journal*.

## ■ Admission

Admission is based on the applicant's academic record, LSAT score, a written personal statement as well as a response to the university's mission statement, and other information that reflects outstanding academic and professional promise. Applications are also evaluated on the basis of employment experience, extracurricular activities, community involvement, commitment to high standards of morality and ethics, maturity, initiative, and motivation. The admission process is guided by the view that a student body that reflects diversity provides a superior educational environment. Admission decisions may be based on consideration of factors that include racial and ethnic origin, unique work or service experience, a history of overcoming disadvantage, or unusual life experiences. First-year students are admitted only in the fall.

## ■ Housing

The George Page Residential Complex is located directly across the street from the Law Center. The 72-unit complex houses graduate students in two- and four-bedroom apartments. The Admission Office also provides an extensive housing referral service.

## ■ Expenses and Financial Aid

An active financial aid program provides over 85 percent of the student body with some type of assistance. Scholarship grants are available to students with outstanding academic credentials and to those with demonstrated financial need. The deadline for completed applications for financial aid is April 1 of the entering year.

## ■ Career Development Office

The Career Development Office is committed to helping every law student explore, define, and achieve their career goals through career-related workshops, guest speaker programs, and one-on-one counseling sessions. The office also sponsors a robust Alumni Mentoring Program. Annually, over 100 employers participate in Pepperdine recruiting programs.

## Applicant Profile

### Pepperdine University School of Law

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		Below 2.50		No GPA		Total			
	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm		
175–180	0	0	2	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
170–174	16	15	11	11	6	4	1	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	38	31
165–169	30	27	49	43	22	21	24	20	13	6	7	1	5	1	0	0	0	0	150	119
160–164	100	89	127	117	106	93	93	65	47	12	25	13	11	4	2	0	0	0	511	393
155–159	167	100	271	119	285	70	174	14	93	11	54	5	14	1	6	0	0	0	1064	320
150–154	73	9	172	14	202	11	164	7	94	1	42	0	27	0	7	0	0	0	781	42
Below 150	41	0	104	1	150	1	160	0	120	0	62	0	42	0	12	0	0	0	691	2
Total	427	240	736	307	771	200	617	108	370	30	190	19	100	6	27	0	0	0	3238	910

Apps = Number of Applicants  
 Adm = Number Admitted  
 Reflects 99% of the total applicant pool.