

## Widener University School of Law

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### ■ Introduction

Widener University School of Law is unique among American law schools. Widener has two campuses—one in Wilmington, Delaware, the corporate and banking center of the United States; and the other in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, the state capital and a major center of government and commerce. Each campus offers a comprehensive curriculum of basic and advanced courses complemented by one of the most extensive clinical and skills programs in the country. The Harrisburg campus features a unique admission and academic cooperative program with the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education.

The rich curriculum is taught by a faculty committed to personal attention and individual counseling so that all students will be encouraged to fulfill their potential. The full-time faculty is supplemented by a distinguished group of adjuncts, including two justices of the Delaware Supreme Court, US Senator Joseph Biden, and numerous lower court judges from Pennsylvania, Delaware, and New Jersey. The school is a member of the AALS and is accredited by the ABA.

### ■ Library and Physical Facilities

The Legal Information Center houses one of the most significant legal collections in the region. The combined collections of the Delaware and Harrisburg campuses exceed 600,000 volumes. The library is a selective depository for United States government documents.

The attractive 34-acre Delaware campus is located in the heart of the beautiful Brandywine River Valley. The law building houses the Legal Information Center, state-of-the-art computer facilities, faculty offices, clinics, traditional and technologically enhanced classrooms, and two moot courtrooms. The scenic 19-acre Harrisburg campus is located in a contemporary complex within minutes of the state capital.

### ■ Special Programs and Institutes

Widener is a leader in developing a coordinated lawyering skills program. The program includes clinical practice, externship placements, and comprehensive simulations.

Clinics are designed to permit students to represent actual clients under the supervision of the clinic director before courts and administrative boards. Widener operates Environmental Law, Criminal Defense, Delaware Civil, Pennsylvania Civil, Harrisburg Civil, and Veterans Affairs Clinics. A large number of supervised externships permit students to work as lawyers-in-training with state and county government agencies and nonprofit corporations. An extensive judicial externship program places students with state and federal courts at both the trial and appellate levels in DC, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. Additional public interest service opportunities are also available.

The Public Interest Resource Center on the Delaware campus and the Public Interest Initiative on the Harrisburg campus cultivates pro bono volunteer opportunities for students in public interest agencies and government offices throughout Delaware, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey; offers counseling and guidance to students who seek careers in public interest

law; and recognizes students and faculty for exceptional contributions to public service.

Widener offers certificate programs for specialized study in health law, law and government, business organizations law, and trial advocacy.

The Health Law Institute on the Delaware campus provides research, policy analysis, and specialty education for those seeking expertise in the area of health law. The Law and Government Institute on the Harrisburg campus provides hands-on experience with the operation and structure of government and practice before government agencies. The Institute of Delaware Corporate Law on the Delaware campus provides a fundamental knowledge of business law through participation in the Business Organizations Law concentration that serves as a predicate to advanced practice in business and corporate law. The Trial Advocacy Institute on the Delaware campus provides extensive litigation skills essential to being a competent, professionally responsible trial advocate. Additionally, both campuses offer a seven-day Intensive Trial Advocacy Program supervised by outstanding local trial lawyers and judges.

Widener offers four joint-degree programs. The JD/MBA is offered in conjunction with the university's School of Business Administration. The JD/PsyD is offered in conjunction with the university's Institute for Graduate Clinical Psychology. The JD/MSLS is offered in conjunction with Clarion University of Pennsylvania. The JD/MMP is offered in conjunction with The University of Delaware.

### ■ International Law Programs

Widener students have the opportunity to study international and comparative law while living abroad. Widener offers summer-abroad programs in Nairobi, Kenya; Geneva, Switzerland; Sydney, Australia; and Venice, Italy.

### ■ Student Activities

Selected Delaware students publish the *Delaware Journal of Corporate Law* and the *Widener Law Review*. Selected Harrisburg students publish the *Widener Law Journal*. Students at both campuses compete in regional and national interschool moot court and trial competitions.

Student organizations provide opportunities for intrascholastic and interscholastic competitions, public service, and association with others who share the same interests.

### ■ Admission

While there are no fixed admission criteria, great weight is given to the applicant's LSAT score and undergraduate grade-point average. The Admissions Committee carefully considers an applicant's personal statement. Graduate degrees, writing samples, extracurricular activities, and community and professional service may enhance the application. The law school encourages those with diverse backgrounds to apply.

Applications for admission must be received by May 15. Admission decisions are made on a rolling basis, and applicants are encouraged to apply early.

Each summer, Widener conducts the Trial Admissions Program (TAP) for a small number of carefully selected applicants who show potential for success in law school despite a relatively low score on the LSAT or a lower undergraduate grade-point average. TAP is a conditional admittance program. Participants who successfully complete the six-week program are offered admission to the fall entering class.

## ■ Financial Aid

The Office of Financial Aid works with any student wishing assistance in finding appropriate sources of funding. Additionally, all applicants are considered for Widener's merit- and need-based scholarships.

## ■ Career Development

The Career Development Office is strongly committed to helping students obtain the positions that best suit their individual needs and ambitions.

Widener's placement statistics evidence its success in helping graduates find a niche in the contemporary job market. Widener alumni have become judges in Delaware, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania; members of the legislature; partners in major regional law firms; hospital administrators; legal educators; and broadcast journalists.

## Applicant Profile

### Widener University School of Law

This grid includes only applicants who earned 120–180 LSAT scores under standard administrations.

LSAT Score	GPA																				Total		
	3.75 +		3.50–3.74		3.25–3.49		3.00–3.24		2.75–2.99		2.50–2.74		2.25–2.49		2.00–2.24		Below 2.00		No GPA		Apps	Adm	
	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	
175–180	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
170–174	0	0	2	2	2	2	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	6
165–169	3	3	3	3	5	5	4	3	1	1	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	17	
160–164	10	10	10	9	25	24	16	15	11	11	14	12	3	3	4	4	1	1	2	1	96	90	
155–159	41	40	83	81	91	87	79	77	62	59	28	28	14	13	11	10	0	0	7	1	416	396	
150–154	74	58	148	118	172	137	200	157	184	145	101	79	50	34	23	16	8	5	19	7	979	756	
145–149	69	21	153	30	207	55	247	72	200	53	112	31	74	17	26	3	5	0	20	3	1113	285	
140–144	20	0	77	0	112	0	135	1	114	0	91	0	49	0	20	0	7	0	25	0	650	1	
135–139	6	0	18	0	34	0	54	0	41	0	42	1	35	0	22	0	3	0	20	0	275	1	
130–134	2	0	3	0	7	0	17	0	24	0	15	0	12	0	12	0	4	0	10	0	106	0	
125–129	0	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	3	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	4	0	18	0	
120–124	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	4	0	
Total	225	132	499	243	657	310	757	326	640	269	407	153	239	68	120	33	30	6	108	12	3682	1552	

Apps = Number of Applicants

Adm = Number Admitted

Reflects 98% of the total applicant pool.

The grid includes applicants admitted based upon successful completion of our Trial Admissions Program, rather than upon their LSAT score and undergraduate grade-point average. Additionally, nonnumerical factors are strongly considered for all applicants.