

University of Cincinnati College of Law

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■ Introduction

The College of Law has a rich heritage and proud traditions. Throughout its 175-year history, graduates have been leaders of the bench and bar, served in senior governmental positions, been active in the public service community, and succeeded in business, academia, and countless other fields. With a vision to be the premier small, urban, public law school in America, the college is focused on being nationally recognized for its excellence, relevance, and impact. The size of the school allows for small classes and a high degree of personal interaction with faculty and other students. The law school is located on UC's recently renovated main campus in Clifton, approximately 10 minutes north of the city's central business district. This provides easy access to state, county, and federal courts, including the US Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. A charter member of the AALS, UC was one of the first law schools to have a chapter of the Order of the Coif and to be approved by the ABA.

■ Student Body

The 385 students in the College of Law, no more than 135 per class, come from an amazingly wide variety of backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives. The student body is also talented academically, as the 75th/25th LSAT and UGPA percentiles for fall 2007 are 162/157 and 3.87/3.39. The applicant pool and offers of admission were evenly divided between resident and nonresident applicants, although a typical first-year class has a resident population of about 65 percent. The College of Law is committed to enrolling a diverse class, as 17.4 percent of our students are from minority backgrounds, about one-half are female, and 33 percent enroll from states other than Ohio. The average age of the entering class is 24; however, 18 percent of the class are 27 or older.

■ Faculty

The college employs a full-time faculty of 34 who pride themselves on their teaching, scholarship, and accessibility to students. As the core of the academic program, faculty members bring areas of expertise into the classroom that add depth, perspective, and professionalism to the law students' studies. The student-to-faculty ratio of under 9.6:1 provides ample opportunities for individual discussions with faculty or in-depth research in areas of interest.

■ Library and Physical Facilities

The Robert S. Marx Law Library has a seasoned staff that is able to assist students with research and technical questions. Two computer labs and a wireless network throughout the law building enable students to maximize online research capabilities, and our skilled IT staff members are readily available to assist law students. The law library, which can seat the entire law student body at one time, manages collections carefully to support faculty and student research and the college curriculum.

■ Curriculum

First-year students are divided into six individual sections, creating an unusual advantage of very small first-year sections (typically no larger than 23). The small section modules allow for further inquiry beyond the typical first-year curriculum. First-year students take two courses in small sections with opportunities to study with all members of their class over the entire year. The upper level is well balanced between theory and skills-related courses. Institutes and research centers exist in the areas of international human rights, law and justice/Ohio Innocence Project, corporate law, and law and psychiatry. In addition, the college offers joint programs with women's studies, business, community planning, political science, and social work. The law school also has an appellate law clinic with the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals as well as a domestic relations clinic housed downtown at the Cincinnati Legal Aid offices.

■ Special Programs

The College of Law recognizes that a lawyer needs both a firm grasp on subject matter and expertise in professional skills. The college, therefore, has developed an extensive legal research and writing program that not only encompasses the first year, but upper-level courses as well. The Center for Professional Development provides students with extern experiences, which are opportunities to work with practicing attorneys and public clinics. The Rosenthal Institute for Justice has been recently endowed to ensure that popular programs like the Ohio Innocence Project are available to students now and in the future. Each institute and research center offers a fellowship program, research opportunities, and in-depth study in their respective areas. The college was the first to offer a joint degree in law and women's studies and has the oldest endowed international human rights program at an American law school, the Urban Morgan Institute for Human Rights.

■ Admission Standards

Admission to the college is based upon a selective review of each applicant's file by the Admissions Committee. Although the Admissions Committee relies on the grade-point average and LSAT score to determine the applicant's academic potential, other nonquantitative factors believed to be relevant to success in law school are considered, that is, the quality of the applicant's education, participation in community service, employment experience, graduate work, and letters of recommendation. The educational philosophy of the college reflects a belief that a quality legal education is enhanced through having a heterogeneous student body. The committee, therefore, also considers race, cultural background, unusual personal circumstances, and age. Admission decisions are made on a rolling basis. The College of Law has also instituted a binding Early Decision Program. Students interested in applying through the Early Decision Program must have a completed application on file by December 1. The college is committed to enrolling a diverse and engaging class each year.

■ Student Activities

The College of Law offers numerous opportunities for students to sharpen their legal writing, advocacy, and leadership skills. The *University of Cincinnati Law Review* was founded in 1927 and was the first law review published by an Ohio law school. The Urban Morgan Institute for Human Rights edits the *Human Rights Quarterly*, the leading international human rights journal in the world. The *Immigration and Nationality Law Review* is an annual publication of papers on the subjects of immigration and citizenship. The *Freedom Center Journal*, a collaboration between the law school and the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, offers opportunities to publish scholarly works about cutting-edge issues of today, informed by the legacy of historic struggles for freedom. The College of Law also offers a well-respected Moot Court Program with teams participating in many national competitions. The college hosts the Rendigs National Products Liability Moot Court Competition each April. The college supports 33 student organizations and honor societies that assist students in developing leadership skills while building professional and social networks.

■ Expenses and Financial Aid

For the 2007–2008 academic year, resident and nonresident tuition and fees are \$18,982 and \$33,102, respectively. Residents of northern Kentucky pay a special annual rate of \$19,222. Nonresidents can reclassify as state residents by becoming

independent and self-sustaining for their first year in law school. Cincinnati is a cosmopolitan yet affordable Midwestern city with living expenses estimated at \$15,378 for the nine-month academic year. This year, Cincinnati was ranked the fifth least expensive city in the nation in which to live. Scholarships are awarded to approximately 70 percent of the student body in order to attract an academically talented and diverse student body. The FAFSA should be filed by March 1 as a priority deadline in order to qualify for student loan packages by spring. A large percentage of second- and third-year students work with law firms, companies, and agencies in the Greater Cincinnati area to offset living expenses or student loan debt.

■ Placement

The College of Law maintains an active Center for Professional Development with a staff of three attorneys, creating one of the best staff-to-law student ratios in the country. The 2007 Ohio bar passage rate among UC students was 88 percent for first-time takers, with 78 percent being the state average. Each year, we promote hundreds of full-time, summer, and part-time job opportunities for our students' consideration. For our class of 2006, 97.5 percent of those in the job market were either employed or enrolled in a full-time degree program within nine months of graduation. For those entering private practice, the median starting salary was \$92,500. Graduates of the class of 2006 were employed in 37 cities and 16 states.

Applicant Profile

University of Cincinnati College 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	
170–180	4	4	3	3	3	3	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	13
165–169	10	9	17	16	19	16	8	8	5	5	3	3	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	66	61	
160–164	69	69	64	60	54	49	27	22	9	8	8	5	3	1	0	0	0	0	3	3	237	217	
155–159	68	55	94	33	79	15	59	10	25	1	13	2	2	0	4	0	0	0	6	1	350	117	
150–154	57	17	69	8	78	7	58	3	33	1	21	1	8	0	4	0	0	0	4	0	332	37	
145–149	22	5	31	1	31	1	23	0	22	0	16	0	3	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	152	7	
140–144	5	1	15	0	17	0	16	0	14	0	7	0	7	0	2	0	0	0	3	0	86	1	
Below 140	3	0	2	0	9	0	6	0	12	0	9	0	7	0	3	0	2	0	3	0	56	0	
Total	238	160	295	121	290	91	199	45	121	16	77	11	34	5	14	0	4	0	20	4	1292	453	

Apps = Number of Applicants

Adm = Number Admitted

Reflects 99% of the total applicant pool.