

Wayne State University Law School

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■ Introduction

Wayne State University Law School in Detroit is the only public law school in the nation's ninth largest metropolitan area. Located on a beautiful 185-acre campus in the heart of Michigan's legal, economic, and cultural capital, the Law School blends cutting-edge legal theory with real-world practice skills, all at an affordable cost.

Wayne State law graduates serve at the highest levels of law and government. Fully one quarter of Michigan's judges earned their law degrees from Wayne State, as did the managing partners of many of the state's leading law firms and the directors of many of its nonprofit and community organizations. The Wayne State law faculty is made up of dedicated teachers and distinguished scholars known nationally and internationally for their contributions to legal study; they have published articles in the nation's top law journals, authored leading casebooks and treatises, litigated cases in the US Supreme Court, and served with distinction in state and federal government. Established in 1927, Wayne State University Law School is accredited by the ABA, is a member of the AALS, and has a chapter of the Order of the Coif, the national honor society of the legal profession.

■ The Law School's Setting and Facilities

The Law School is a flagship unit of Wayne State University, a major metropolitan research university located in the Cultural Center district about four miles from downtown Detroit. Within blocks of the Law School are the Detroit Public Library, the Detroit Institute of Arts, the Charles H. Wright Museum of African-American History, the Detroit Science Center, and other cultural attractions. State and federal courts are concentrated nearby in the downtown area. The Law School complex sits at the north end of the university's main campus, a leafy urban oasis featuring several famous Yamasaki-designed buildings.

■ The Arthur Neef Law Library

The Arthur Neef Law Library is the second largest academic law library in Michigan and the twenty-fifth largest in the United States. With over 615,000 volumes, it serves as a major center of legal research in the Detroit and Michigan legal communities and is a designated federal government depository.

The majority of the study space in the recently renovated law library makes use of natural light. Comfortable reading tables and wired carrels are available throughout the building. The Law School, including the library, is served by a wireless network; in addition, many library study spaces are equipped with communication ports and electrical outlets for the convenient use of notebook computers.

A significant feature of the law library is the new 25-station computer laboratory, featuring personal computers available for the exclusive use of Wayne State law students. Mobile laptop carts are available for use by law students.

■ Clinical and Internship Programs

Wayne State University Law School offers its students a broad range of opportunities for practical legal training through its live-client clinics and its internship programs. The Law School operates four clinics: a Criminal Appellate Practice Clinic, a Disability Law Clinic, a Free Legal Aid Clinic, and a Small Business Enterprises and Nonprofit Corporations Clinic. These clinical offerings give students a chance to take first-chair responsibility in a choice of settings while serving the needs of Detroit's urban community. Students also have the chance to serve as interns for state and federal judges, public prosecutors, the State Appellate Defender's Office, and many nonprofit organizations.

■ Joint-degree Programs

Students may pursue joint-degree programs in one of five different areas: business administration, dispute resolution, history, political science, and economics. Joint-degree students must be admitted separately to the Law School and to the appropriate master's degree program at the university. Each joint-degree program requires a student to spend his or her first year taking exclusively law courses, followed by two and one-half to three years of concurrent studies.

■ Intellectual Property Law Institute

Intellectual property (IP) law and related fields, such as the emerging area of electronic commerce, are among the strengths of the Wayne State law faculty. The Law School offers a tremendous variety of courses and seminars on IP-related subjects. Wayne State law students may take courses at the University of Detroit Mercy and the University of Windsor, just across the river in Canada, through the Intellectual Property Law Institute (IPLI). IPLI, which was created in 1987 as a cooperative effort of these three law schools, offers a rich curriculum for IP-focused students, including courses and seminars in patent, copyright, trademark, computer and related technology, communications and media, and entertainment law.

■ International Law and Foreign Study Programs

International and comparative law is another area of curricular strength at Wayne State. The Law School offers a wide variety of courses in these fields, taught by faculty with global reputations. In addition, Wayne State law students have the opportunity to enroll in international and comparative law courses at the University of Windsor in Canada, to participate in one of the Law School's two international student-exchange programs at the University of Utrecht and the University of Maastricht in the Netherlands, and to apply for a summer-study fellowship at The Hague.

■ Student Activities

Student-edited Law Journals—Wayne State University Law School publishes two student-edited law journals. The *Wayne Law Review*, a scholarly legal journal with a nationwide

circulation, has been published since 1954 by upper-class law students selected on the basis of superior academic achievement and writing ability. The *Journal of Law in Society* publishes articles drawn from an annual spring symposium on topics such as affirmative action, environmental justice, reparations for slavery, school vouchers, and gentrification. Both journals offer an opportunity for students to enhance their research and writing skills and further their knowledge of the law while earning law school course credit.

Moot Court—Founded in 1949, Wayne State University’s Moot Court program, which helps students hone their written and oral advocacy skills, has evolved into one of the most competitive appellate advocacy programs in the country. Wayne State Moot Court teams compete in many national moot court competitions and have won many competitions, including the National Moot Court Championship in 2003.

Student Trial Advocacy Program—The Student Trial Advocacy Program (STAP) complements Wayne State’s extensive offering of skills courses by providing students with instruction and experience in the techniques of trial litigation. Wayne State STAP members have successfully competed in trial advocacy competitions across the country.

■ Scholarships

Wayne State University Law School is committed to attracting and retaining highly credentialed students while maintaining economic accessibility to legal education and the legal profession. To further these goals, the Law School gave approximately \$2.75 million in WSU and privately endowed scholarships and grants to students in the 2006–2007 academic year. Some scholarships are based on the applicant’s academic record, while others are awarded on the basis of financial need.

■ Housing

The Towers Residential Suites offer students on-campus living in a high-rise tower. The top floors are reserved for graduate students. The majority of the rooms are suite style. There are also studio rooms available. Within the building are a café-style dining hall, a mini bookstore, and multiple fitness rooms. The Towers feature free Internet access, cable connections, multiple social and study lounges, laundry rooms, and a 24-hour staffed reception area.

Applicant Profile

Wayne State University Law School

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		2.25–2.49		2.00–2.24		Below 2.00		No GPA		Total	
	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm
175–180	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
170–174	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	3
165–169	4	3	7	5	4	4	6	6	3	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	21
160–164	22	21	30	29	22	22	13	12	6	5	7	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	104	93
155–159	33	31	58	57	70	63	41	37	27	14	9	1	7	1	3	0	0	0	1	1	249	205
150–154	23	23	56	51	66	43	47	18	42	8	18	1	12	0	1	0	1	0	3	2	269	146
145–149	17	13	28	17	57	10	52	5	30	2	27	0	10	0	3	0	2	0	4	2	230	49
140–144	5	1	17	2	23	1	32	3	21	0	12	0	11	0	4	0	1	0	8	0	134	7
135–139	1	0	2	0	2	0	14	1	12	0	11	0	7	0	5	0	0	0	1	0	55	1
130–134	0	0	2	0	0	0	3	0	6	0	3	0	8	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	26	0
125–129	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	6	0
120–124	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	107	94	203	164	244	143	208	82	150	32	88	5	59	2	20	0	5	0	20	5	1104	527

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