

University of Washington School of Law

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■ Introduction

Established in 1899, the School of Law is part of the main campus of the University of Washington, approximately four miles from downtown Seattle. The university, the largest single campus institution in the western United States, with an enrollment of 33,500 students, offers nearly every discipline for study. The School of Law has 66 full-time faculty members and about 500 JD students. Because of the favorable student-to-faculty ratio, classes are generally small, with frequent opportunities for student-teacher contacts. Each first-year student is usually in at least one class of 30 or fewer students, in addition to the Basic Legal Skills course. The school is a member of the AALS, is approved by the ABA, and has a chapter of the Order of the Coif.

■ Curriculum

The first-year curriculum is prescribed. After that, except for an advanced writing requirement and a class in professional responsibility, all courses in the second and third years are elective. In addition to traditional courses and seminars, advanced students may participate in one of nine clinics: Innocence Project Northwest, Berman Environmental Law, Mediation, Child Advocacy, Unemployment Compensation, Tribal Court Criminal Defense, Refugee and Immigrant Advocacy, Technology Law and Public Policy, Entrepreneurial Law, or Low-income Taxpayer; or in courses in trial advocacy. Judicial, legislative, agency, and public interest externships are available. Students must also perform 60 hours of public service legal work.

Students are encouraged to rely on their initiative and to develop their own powers of perception. Classroom discussion, in which students participate fully, is one means used to assist this development. Independent research projects, either in the context of a seminar or through individualized study under faculty supervision, are also emphasized. Although it is a state law school, Washington State law is not emphasized unduly. Graduates of the school are prepared to practice law anywhere in the United States or in other common law countries.

■ Special Programs

Concentration tracks are available in Asian law, dispute resolution, environmental law, health law, intellectual property, and international and comparative law.

There are centers for Advanced Study and Research on Intellectual Property (CASRIP), Indian Law, and Law, Commerce, and Technology.

Students studying for the JD program may take courses in any of the LLM programs during the second and third years. The UW also offers a master's degree in Law Librarianship.

■ Admission Standards

In selecting the entering class, the law school does not make all of its admission decisions solely on the basis of predicted academic performance. Important academic objectives are furthered by classes composed of students having talents and

skills derived from diverse backgrounds believed to be relevant to a rich and effective study of law.

About 25 percent of the incoming class are students of color, for whom the school provides student, faculty, and professional mentoring programs.

■ Gates Public Service Law Scholarship

The University of Washington School of Law is delighted to announce the inauguration of the Gates Public Service Law Scholarship Program. Five scholarships will be awarded on an annual basis to first-year students entering the UW School of Law JD program for the next 80 years. Each Gates PSL scholarship award will cover tuition, books, other normal fees imposed for university and UW School of Law enrollment, costs of room and board, and incidental expenses. Acceptance of a Gates PSL scholarship represents a commitment on the part of each recipient to work in public service for five years following graduation. You can find more information about the program at www.law.washington.edu/GatesScholar/.

■ Student Activities

The *Washington Law Review*, *Pacific Rim Law and Policy Journal*, and *Shidler Journal of Law, Commerce and Technology* are edited and published by students. The University of Washington is consistently among the top scoring moot court teams in the nation.

Through the Student Bar Association and student/faculty committees, students participate in the decision processes of the law school. Student organizations include the American Bar Association/Law Student Division, American Constitution Society, American Civil Liberties Union, Asian/Pacific American Law Student Association, Black Law Students Association, Center for Human Rights and Justice, Center for Labor and Employment Justice, Christian Legal Society, Federalist Society, GreenLaw, Student Health Law Organization, Immigrant Families Advocacy Project, Innocence Project Northwest, International Law Society, J. Reuben Clark Legal Society, Jewish Legal Society, Korean American Law Student Association, Latino/Latina Law Students Association, Law and Alternative Dispute Resolution, Law Students for Choice, Law Women's Caucus, Military Law Students' Association, Minority Law Students' Association, Moot Court Honor Board, National Lawyers Guild, Native American Law Student Association, Outlaws, PALS: Parents Attending Law School, Phi Delta Phi, Public Interest Law Association, Society for Small Business Development, Sports and Entertainment Law Club, Street Youth Legal Advocates of Washington, Student Animal Legal Defense Fund, Student Bar Association, Technology Law Society, and Title 29.

■ Career Services

The Career Services Office serves as a liaison between students and prospective employers. Firms, agencies, and other potential employers are invited to interview at the school and to list job openings in the regularly published placement bulletin. About 72 percent of the graduates choose to remain in Washington State.

■ William H. Gates Hall

The law school moved into its \$80 million new facility in September 2003. The building is named for one of its most distinguished graduates, and it features the latest technology, including wireless access, to educate lawyers for the twenty-first century.

■ Visitation

The law school invites prospective students to visit a large section, first-year class. The schedule can be found at www.law.washington.edu/Admissions/Visit.html.

Applicant Profile

University of Washington School of Law

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

GPA	LSAT Score															
	120–153		154–156		157–159		160–162		163–165		166–168		169–180		Total	
	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm
3.75 +	67	10	65	15	102	20	123	43	86	40	70	70	52	51	565	249
3.50–3.74	99	4	93	12	157	27	171	38	108	38	77	40	53	48	758	207
3.25–3.49	116	2	84	3	108	12	101	15	84	18	65	17	48	29	606	96
3.00–3.24	92	0	46	0	45	1	57	4	41	3	32	2	16	7	329	17
2.75–2.99	52	0	19	0	27	0	16	1	12	2	8	0	9	1	143	4
2.50–2.74	31	0	6	0	8	0	8	0	5	0	4	0	4	1	66	1
0.10–2.49	17	0	1	0	5	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	27	1
LSAT only	20	0	11	0	12	2	10	4	8	3	3	2	1	1	65	12
Total	494	16	325	30	464	62	487	105	344	104	260	131	185	139	2559	587

Apps = Number of Applicants
Adm = Number Admitted