

## University of Nevada, Las Vegas, William S. Boyd School of Law

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### ■ Introduction

The William S. Boyd School of Law is a state-supported law school, the first in Nevada's history. Located at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, in a desert mountain setting, and in one of the fastest-growing cities in the country, the law school commenced classes in August 1998. The Boyd School of Law is fully accredited by the American Bar Association and is a member of the Association of American Law Schools.

### ■ Faculty

The Boyd School of Law faculty consists of more than 40 experienced, accomplished, and well-respected legal educators. All faculty have excellent credentials, experience, and reputations; all are people for whom teaching and mentoring of students is very important; and all are people who are eager to serve their community through scholarship or other community outreach programs.

### ■ Curriculum

The Boyd School of Law offers and encourages its students to undertake a generalist curriculum. Specific course offerings are constantly reviewed and revised as societal needs change. The curriculum generally emphasizes the responsibilities, skills, and values required of members of the legal profession. This emphasis comes to the fore in Lawyering Process, a three-semester required course that offers students the opportunity to examine the relationship between legal analysis and other legal skills such as research, writing, oral advocacy, and client interviewing and counseling, with significant emphasis on professionalism and ethics.

### ■ Programs of Study

The Boyd School of Law offers a traditional three-year, full-time JD program, as well as a four-year, part-time JD program during evening hours and a four-year, part-time JD program during day hours. Each part-time program requires the completion of summer coursework. The Boyd School of Law offers the following dual-degree programs: Juris Doctor/Master of Business Administration, Juris Doctor/Master of Social Work, and Juris Doctor/PhD in Education.

### ■ Community Service

The law school requires first-year students to participate in a community service program. Working with Clark County Legal Services and Nevada Legal Services, teams of students prepare and conduct weekly workshops for unrepresented people on basic procedures in family or small claims court and on paternity, custody, guardianship, and bankruptcy matters. This program, by offering students the chance to educate groups of people in a general way without giving specific legal advice, reinforces our students' commitment to community service and acquaints them with the large unmet need for legal services.

### ■ Hands-on Experience

The Thomas and Mack Legal Clinic houses the school's "law firm" and offers an integrated academic and practice-based educational experience that teaches students to be reflective practitioners and community-oriented professionals. The clinic currently focuses on five specific areas: child welfare, juvenile justice, capital defense, education, and immigration. Additionally, the law school has made a significant commitment to provide an extensive externship program. Working closely with the legal community, the externship director has established a year-round program to provide opportunities for approximately 100 students with the federal and state judiciary, government and public service agencies, and Nevada and US legislatures.

### ■ Saltman Center for Conflict Resolution

The Saltman Center for Conflict Resolution was established in 2003 to provide a venue for advanced study of the nature of conflict and the methods through which conflicts may be resolved. The work of the center encompasses conflicts arising out of regional, national, and international concerns, in both the public and private sectors. Recognizing that a sophisticated understanding of conflict necessarily requires insights derived from disciplines other than law, the center places particular emphasis on interdisciplinary approaches to understanding and resolving disputes.

### ■ Student Activities

The *Nevada Law Journal* is a publication devoted to scholarly research on the subject of national legal interest as well as on issues of particular interest to the Nevada legal community.

The Society of Advocates is the school's appellate and trial forensic program. The society consists of an executive board and team members who participate in interscholastic competitions. Teams compete in mock trial, client counseling, negotiation, mediation, and alternative dispute resolution competitions, as well as traditional appellate advocacy.

Among the student organizations established at the Boyd School of Law are the American Constitution Society, Asian Pacific American Law Student Association, Black Law Students Association, Criminal Law Society, Environmental Law Society, Federalist Society, Gaming Law Society, La Voz (Latino student organization), Minority Law Students Association, Phi Alpha Delta, Public Interest Law Association, Sexual and Gender Equality, Sports and Entertainment Law Association, and Student Bar Association.

### ■ Career Services

The Department of Career Services offers personalized career counseling, employment workshops, a job opportunity board, on-campus interviewing programs, and a state-of-the-art online job search program to assist students.

## ■ Academic Success Program

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The objective of the Boyd School of Law Academic Success Program is to provide a comprehensive network of presentations, activities, tutorials, and workshops designed to stimulate learning and to amplify the classroom experience. The program supplements the curriculum with opportunities to enhance learning skills and develop more efficient and effective methods of studying, comprehending, and writing. The Academic Success Program also supervises the Center for Academic Success and Enrichment (CASE), a student-operated mentoring, advising, and tutoring program.

## ■ Facility

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The William S. Boyd Hall and the James E. Rogers Center for Administration and Justice were dedicated in September 2002. The Thomas S. Mack Moot Court facility was dedicated in December 2007. Classrooms include the technology necessary for presentations using PowerPoint, video, and document cameras. The largest classroom and trial courtroom are equipped to facilitate videoconferencing and distance learning. Lounge and study space offer students indoor and outdoor seating areas where they can make productive use of their time between classes.

## Applicant Profile

The Boyd School of Law has elected not to publish an applicant profile based on LSAT score and undergraduate GPA. Those two factors, while certainly important, are not the only factors

## ■ Library

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The Wiener-Rogers Law Library holds the most substantial collection of legal materials in the state of Nevada. The library is staffed by excellent, service-oriented librarians who have come from major libraries across the country. Patrons and students have access to a core collection of important material in printed and micro formats. The library houses two computer labs and provides numerous carrels for individual study, as well as group study rooms. The growing library collection now exceeds 300,000 volumes and microform volume equivalents.

## ■ Admission

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The Boyd School of Law seeks to enroll an accomplished and diverse group of women and men who will enrich the educational program, the community, and the legal profession. The school seeks students who have demonstrated significant accomplishments in their lives by achieving distinguished academic records, by succeeding in important and challenging careers, by providing community service, or by meeting challenges associated with their race, ethnicity, gender, economic status, or disability. Students with diverse backgrounds, attitudes, and interests contribute to the breadth and quality of the classroom and out-of-classroom dialogue that is a critical element of legal education.

taken into consideration. The Boyd School of Law uses no form of indexing system in reaching its admission decisions. Each completed application file is reviewed in its entirety.