

George Mason University School of Law

3301 Fairfax Drive

Arlington, VA 22201

Phone: 703.993.8010; Fax: 703.993.8088

E-mail: lawadmit@gmu.edu; Website: www.law.gmu.edu

■ Introduction

George Mason University School of Law sits on the doorstep of the nation's capital. One of three public law schools in Virginia, it was established by authority of the Virginia General Assembly in 1979.

■ Enrollment/Student Body

George Mason University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

■ Library and Physical Facilities

In January 1999, the law school relocated to a new, state-of-the-art facility equipped with electrical and data connections at every classroom and library seat, and two ultramodern moot courtrooms.

The school is a member of the library network of the Consortium for Continuing Higher Education in Northern Virginia, affording access to general university and public library collections.

■ Curriculum

George Mason University offers both full- and part-time divisions. The full-time division operates during the day and takes three years to complete. Students who elect the part-time division study at night and take four years to complete the requirements for the Juris Doctor degree.

A grounding in economics and basic mathematical and financial skills is important to a sophisticated legal education and to the development of a competent attorney. To ensure that George Mason graduates have this grounding, all students take a first-year course in Economic Foundations.

George Mason law students complete a three-year legal writing program, which emphasizes the use of technology and continual practice of skills in the development of actual transactions and cases. A separate writing grade-point average further underscores the importance of quality writing at George Mason.

The curriculum begins with exposure to the courses fundamental to a well-rounded legal education. Students at George Mason may also elect to enroll in one of our specialty programs, thus demonstrating depth as well as breadth in their training. All specialties are offered in both the full-time and part-time divisions.

George Mason has a number of clinical program offerings: the Immigration Law Clinic, the Legal Clinic, the Public Interest Law Clinic, the Domestic Relations Legal Clinic, the Law and Mental Illness Clinic, the Regulatory Law Clinic, the Patent Clinic, and the Clinic for Legal Assistance to Service Members. George Mason is a leader in technology and law and is the headquarters for the National Center for Technology and Law, which brings together academics, high-tech industry leaders, and policymakers to debate and formulate national policy to keep pace with technological advances. George Mason is also home to the Critical Infrastructure Protection Project (CIPP), a program that fully integrates the disciplines of law, policy, and technology for enhancing the security of cyber

networks and economic processes supporting the nation's critical infrastructure.

■ Special Programs

- **Corporate and Securities Law**—prepares students to work in a variety of fields related to corporate law and financial markets. By developing a thorough understanding of both law and underlying theory, students are prepared to deal with rapidly changing business and legal environments.
- **Regulatory Law**—prepares students for practice in, and before, the numerous agencies that regulate business and other activities. Students are taught economics, the economic analysis of law, administrative law, legislation, lobbying, and negotiation, as well as several substantive areas of regulatory law.
- **International Business**—prepares students for practice in the rapidly changing global business community and provides them with a well-rounded legal education emphasizing analytical and writing skills.
- **Litigation Law**—provides an academic program for students interested in litigation and other dispute resolution processes. This is not a clinical training program. The track courses focus on the processes of dispute resolution and lawyers' roles from an analytical perspective.
- **Intellectual Property Law**—is designed for students having a degree in engineering or one of the physical or biological sciences who intend to practice within the field of intellectual property.
- **Technology Law Program**—combines coursework in the fields of technology law, intellectual property law, and business law. The program prepares students for work in law firms that serve high-technology clients, as in-house counsel for Internet start-up companies, and as attorneys for state and federal regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over technology industries.
- **LLM Programs**—for students wishing to pursue specialized study beyond the JD, George Mason offers two LLM programs: (1) the **LLM in Law and Economics**, and (2) the **LLM in Intellectual Property Law**. Detailed information about these programs is available at www.law.gmu.edu/academics/llm.html.
- Additionally, George Mason offers programs in Criminal Law, Legal and Economic Theory, Personal Law, and Tax Law.

■ Admission

Two of the primary factors considered in the admission process are performance on the LSAT and undergraduate grade-point average. Other factors that are considered include difficulty of undergraduate major, undergraduate institution attended, possession of advanced degrees, writing ability, recommendations, extracurricular activities, employment experience, demonstrated commitment to public and community service, leadership skills and experience, history of overcoming personal or professional challenges, and other academic, personal, and professional achievements.

■ Student Activities

George Mason University provides many services to enhance the law school experience and enable students to take full advantage of the university's educational and personal enrichment opportunities.

Student activities include the *George Mason Law Review*, *Civil Rights Law Journal*, *Federal Circuit Bar Journal*, and the *Journal of Law, Economics and Policy*, a newspaper, and numerous law-related organizations. Students have an unparalleled opportunity to gain experience in such varied settings as the Office of the US Attorney for both the District of Columbia and the Eastern District of Virginia, as well as federal courts and agencies, local governments, and private firms.

Diversity Student Services, Academic Support Services, Disability Support Services, and the Office of Veterans Services provide specialized assistance, as does the Counseling Center, where a staff of professionals helps students to reach personal, social, and academic goals.

■ Expenses and Financial Aid

George Mason University participates in the Direct Lending Program. There is no deadline for applying for financial aid, but applicants should complete the FAFSA as soon as possible in order to assure the timely award of aid.

In addition to loans available through the Direct Lending Program, George Mason students are eligible for a number of merit-based fellowships.

■ Career Services

The Office of Career, Academic, and Alumni Services aids students and alumni in finding permanent, part-time, and summer jobs by serving as a clearinghouse for information on available positions. It also advises on résumé and interview preparation and coordinates on-campus interviews. More than 150 firms, businesses, and government agencies recruit on campus each year. Graduates find employment in the legal profession throughout the country.

Applicant Profile

George Mason 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		
175–180	5	5	4	3	0	0	2	2	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	13	
170–174	14	13	24	24	13	11	11	9	13	12	7	6	2	1	2	0	0	0	2	2	88	78		
165–169	72	67	94	88	121	110	86	70	52	39	35	26	10	6	3	1	0	0	8	7	481	414		
160–164	240	184	313	86	284	72	210	52	93	19	59	8	15	2	9	1	1	0	22	5	1246	429		
155–159	257	135	358	39	358	20	267	16	128	10	72	6	30	2	14	0	2	0	31	1	1517	229		
150–154	105	14	193	7	212	2	178	2	114	1	51	1	29	0	4	0	3	0	28	0	917	27		
145–149	26	0	78	2	103	0	125	0	72	0	63	1	23	0	13	0	3	0	16	0	522	3		
140–144	8	0	24	0	53	0	61	0	51	0	44	0	22	0	14	0	1	0	9	0	287	0		
135–139	6	0	11	0	18	0	21	0	25	0	24	0	11	0	11	0	0	0	8	0	135	0		
130–134	0	0	3	0	9	0	5	0	10	0	9	0	8	0	6	0	2	0	5	0	57	0		
125–129	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	10	0		
120–124	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	0		
Total	734	418	1102	249	1171	215	968	151	564	84	365	48	151	11	78	2	13	0	131	15	5277	1193		

Apps = Number of Applicants

Adm = Number Admitted

Reflects 99% of the total applicant pool.

This chart is to be used as a general guide only. Every application is reviewed and evaluated in its entirety.