

South Texas College of Law

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■ Introduction

South Texas College of Law, situated at the very core of Houston's vibrant downtown legal and financial centers, is a private, nonprofit, independent law school founded in 1923. South Texas is the oldest law school in Houston and one of the largest in the nation, and is accredited by the American Bar Association and a member of the AALS. The college offers full- and part-time programs leading to the Doctor of Jurisprudence degree.

■ Admission

Students are admitted to South Texas both in the fall and spring semesters. Admission application deadlines are February 15 for fall consideration and October 1 for spring. Early application is encouraged. A bachelor's degree is required as well as taking the LSAT and registering with LSDAS.

Students are admitted primarily on the basis of their LSAT score and undergraduate GPA. However, a significant percentage of each incoming class is selected on the basis of additional factors. Every attempt is made to evaluate each applicant as an individual, a prospective student, and a future professional.

■ Curriculum

The curriculum at South Texas combines traditional classroom instruction with a broad range of innovative simulated and clinical courses. The college offers a class scheduling system whereby students may select convenient class times rather than having to choose between day and evening divisions. To accommodate part-time working students, a complete curriculum of classes is scheduled after 5:30 PM, with a few classes also scheduled on Saturdays.

For students interested in the increased globalization of law, South Texas offers a variety of foreign programs throughout the year. Two ABA-approved cooperative exchange programs allow students to study for a semester in the Netherlands or Denmark. Summer programs are offered in Malta, Turkey, Ireland, England, and the Czech Republic.

■ JD/MBA Cooperative Program

Through a special cooperative program, students in the JD program at South Texas College of Law are eligible to apply for admission to the MBA program at Mays Business School, Texas A&M University. Upon acceptance into the MBA program, students are granted a leave of absence after their second year of law studies to attain their MBA and then return to South Texas to complete their JD degree.

■ Special Programs

Development of strong legal and advocacy skills is important at South Texas, as evidenced by its four Centers of Excellence and its skills and clinical programs.

Since 1980, the **Advocacy Program** has outperformed all other law school teams in the nation by winning an array of state, regional, and national championship victories. The **Frank**

Evans Center for Conflict Resolution allows students to learn from and interact with practicing attorneys who specialize in mediation and arbitration. The **Corporate Compliance Center** involves students who are interested in working as in-house counsel, corporate counsel, outside counsel, and business lawyers. The center explores issues such as how companies promote policies and procedures that ensure legal and ethical behavior and how companies detect and deter wrongdoing. The **Transactional Practice Center** is designed to teach students the fundamental elements of completing a business transaction such as a real estate purchase or development, buying or selling a corporation, or creating a partnership.

South Texas offers off-site clinics that place students in the real world of lawyering, including state and federal trial and appellate court chambers, prosecutors' and defenders' offices, public interest legal service providers, and state and federal government agencies. In the **International Criminal Process Clinic**, students work with defenders involved with the United Nations' ad hoc International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. In the **General Civil Clinic**, students work in an on-site clinic while providing direct representation for clients in a variety of administrative and state court settings.

Academic Assistance and Counseling. Students are encouraged to participate in the varied programs and services offered, which are designed to help them reach their full academic potential.

The **Langdell Scholar Program**, conducted by course-proficient upperclassmen, continues to benefit eligible students in mastering the framework of legal analysis, while garnering a proficiency in effective outlining, study skills, and exam-taking techniques. Students are selected into the program based on their LSAT performance, undergraduate GPA, and academic assistance diagnostic test.

■ Student Activities

Students at South Texas have the opportunity to become members of numerous active student organizations representing a wide range of interests.

■ Scholarly Publications

South Texas College of Law students participate in journals on the basis of outstanding scholarship or writing ability. Our students edit and publish a variety of scholarly publications, including the *South Texas Law Review*, *Currents: International Trade Law Journal*, and the *Corporate Counsel Review*, and coedit the *Construction Law Journal* and *Texas Business Journal* in conjunction with each journal's respective state bar section.

■ Library and Physical Facilities

Recent additions to the South Texas campus ensure that students have access to and are trained with state-of-the-art tools now used in the legal profession. The T. Gerald Treece Courtroom houses a nine-seat judges' bench and boasts the very latest courtroom technology available to trial attorneys. The courtroom is heavily used by the school's nationally recognized advocacy program for practice and competition.

It is also available to the members of Houston’s legal community, including the judiciary.

The Fred Parks Law Library encompasses more than 72,000 square feet. Each of the 780 seats in the six-story facility is wired for data and power. The building is crowned with a conference center and rooftop terrace that is perfect for congregating students and campus events.

The college is also the home of the First and Fourteenth Texas Courts of Appeals, distinguishing South Texas as only one of two American law schools housing appellate courts on a permanent basis.

■ Financial Assistance

South Texas offers an extensive financial aid program, in terms of both scholarships and outside funding options. Depending on their qualifications, Texas residents are eligible for state and federal tuition assistance grants, which have amounted to as much as several thousand dollars in prior years. In addition, the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid administers financial assistance through the Federal Work-study Program, federal and private loans, and a variety of scholarship offerings. Incoming students are considered for merit scholarships based on UGPA and LSAT achievement.

Continuing students are eligible for both merit- and need-based scholarships. Contact the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid for eligibility and documentation requirements (713.646.1820).

■ Career Services

In light of today’s competitive job market, the Career Resources Center (CRC) continues to provide South Texas students and graduates with a full range of services to assist in their employment search, while at the same time being responsive to the changes in hiring trends and patterns. The office serves as a counseling and resource center for students seeking employment on either a full- or part-time basis and assists graduates pursuing permanent employment. In addition to on-campus recruiting, the CRC also offers workshops on résumé preparation and courses on developing skills that will help during the interviewing process. The objective of the CRC staff is to aid students in exploring career options, while helping them build valuable job search skills utilizing their strengths and abilities. By taking advantage of the many programs and services offered by the CRC, students are better equipped to maximize their career-planning opportunities.

Applicant Profile

South Texas 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		
	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm		
170–180	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	
165–169	5	5	4	4	4	4	1	1	4	4	4	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	22		
160–164	15	15	22	21	24	22	20	19	9	9	7	7	6	3	2	1	1	0	1	0	107	97		
155–159	33	32	49	49	72	71	59	56	52	42	31	23	10	5	3	1	1	0	1	0	311	279		
150–154	42	40	96	90	124	111	110	97	88	52	57	29	18	6	6	0	1	0	4	2	546	427		
145–149	37	22	86	38	117	50	115	33	88	18	46	3	26	2	3	0	4	0	6	0	528	166		
140–144	10	0	18	2	59	2	68	1	49	1	39	2	25	0	12	0	6	0	8	1	294	9		
Below 140	3	0	18	0	20	0	18	0	35	0	35	0	28	0	13	0	6	0	6	0	182	0		
Total	147	116	294	205	420	260	391	207	325	126	219	68	116	17	39	2	19	0	26	3	1996	1004		

Apps = Number of Applicants

Adm = Number Admitted

Reflects 99% of the total applicant pool.