

## Boston College Law School

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### ■ Introduction

Since its founding in 1929, Boston College Law School has earned a national reputation for educational excellence and the highest standards of professionalism while fostering a unique spirit of community among its students, faculty, and staff. The diverse curriculum is designed to help students develop the skills and knowledge needed to adapt successfully to changes in society and the legal profession. Boston College Law School is located on an attractive 40-acre campus in Newton, Massachusetts, just minutes from downtown Boston. It is fully accredited and has a chapter of the Order of the Coif, the prestigious national law school honorary society.

### ■ Library and Physical Facilities

Stretched over 40 acres of rolling hills and gently sloping lawns, the BC Law campus is an intriguing mix of old-style elegance and new-world innovation—a testament to the power of technology, engineering, and design. Students can connect to the network anywhere. Data ports are available from every library carrel and study table, as well as every classroom seat in the East Wing; wireless technology is also available anywhere in the library and in every classroom. The library encourages individual or group study, with its desk and lounge areas, computer centers, audiovisual resource rooms, and private study rooms. Each computer center is fully equipped for searching LexisNexis and Westlaw databases; legal periodical literature; official publications of Massachusetts, the United States, and the United Nations; and other legal indices. With its soaring atrium entry and light-filled spaces, the East Wing includes six classrooms, twenty-seven faculty offices, administrative offices for a Career Services Center and a Career Resources Library, two conference rooms, and the John J. and Mary Daly Curtin Public Interest Center (a suite of offices for student groups working on public service projects). The East Wing's brick exterior complements the law library and the Stuart House administration building, as well as the Barat House alumni and development building. The three buildings form an attractive interior courtyard for outdoor use by the law school community.

All academic, administrative, library, and service facilities are accessible to physically challenged persons.

### ■ Curriculum

The faculty of Boston College Law School strongly believes in the importance of a general legal education designed to enable graduates to adapt to the changing demands of law practice. Areas of particular focus include international law, constitutional law, business law, dispute resolution, immigration law, environmental law, criminal law, family law, tax law, intellectual property law, and clinical programs.

In the first year, all students take traditional courses, including Civil Procedure, Constitutional Law, Contracts, Property Law, Criminal Law, and Torts. In addition, an intensive, two-semester Legal Reasoning, Research, and Writing course is required. In the spring semester, students are allowed to take one three-credit elective. More than 100 courses offered in the second and third years are elective.

### ■ Externships

The Semester in Practice program offers individually designed placement with judges, government agencies, public interest organizations, and law firms in the greater Boston area. The Attorney General Program provides an intensive full-year clinical experience in the Government Bureau of the Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General. The Judicial Process course includes placement with a specific Superior Court justice. The International Criminal Tribunals (ICT) offer a unique opportunity to work on-site at the criminal tribunal established by the UN Security Council in The Hague, the Netherlands, and in Sarajevo. The London Program has both academic and experiential components. The program provides students with a critical insight into comparative legal institutions with special emphasis on international regulatory process, whether in environmental or securities regulation, antitrust, intellectual property, or human rights.

### ■ Clinical Programs

The Law School is committed to making clinical experiences available to all students who desire them. At the Boston College Legal Assistance Bureau (LAB), students assume responsibility for representation of indigent clients through the Civil Litigation, Housing, Women and the Law, and Community Enterprise clinics.

Students in the Criminal Justice Clinic prosecute or defend criminal cases in state court. The Judge and Community Courts class examines the interaction between the local court and the community it serves. In Juvenile Rights Advocacy, students advocate for troubled youth and work toward juvenile justice policy reform. In the Immigration Law Clinic, students advise clients and work on administrative and appellate litigation under the supervision of practicing attorneys.

### ■ Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities

Selected students may participate in the following writing programs: *Boston College Law Review*, *Boston College Environmental Affairs Law Review*, *Boston College International and Comparative Law Review*, *Boston College Third World Law Journal*, and the *Uniform Commercial Code Reporter-Digest*.

Boston College Law School supports several competitions, including negotiation, client counseling, moot court, and mock trial. In addition, selected students may compete in several national moot court competitions. These competitions allow students to enhance negotiation, counseling, and oral advocacy skills. Over the years, Boston College has performed extremely well in regional and national competitions, which are judged by faculty, state and federal judges, and practicing attorneys.

### ■ Admission

The Law School has no minimum cutoff either for GPA or LSAT. Academic achievement and LSAT scores are extremely significant, but work and professional experience, college extracurricular activities, the quality of recommendations, and the personal statement also play an important role in decision making.

In evaluating the undergraduate record, class rank as well as courses taken are considered. If the LSAT has been taken more than once, all scores are considered in the review process. Boston College Law School strongly encourages applications from qualified minority, disabled, or other students who have been socially, economically, or culturally disadvantaged. Each applicant is evaluated in an effort to ensure that all relevant credentials are favorably considered. The Law School has been very successful both in admitting minority and special students and in retaining them to graduation.

■ Expenses and Financial Aid

The Financial Aid Office administers the Law School’s scholarship and grant programs, federal and private loan programs, and the Federal Work-study Program. Scholarship funds are awarded on the basis of both need and merit. Approximately 85 percent of the students currently enrolled are awarded financial aid and 46 percent of these students receive scholarship and grant assistance as part of their financial aid awards.

Each year, four entering students are awarded Public Service Scholarships because of their demonstrated commitment to public service law. The Law School also offers a Loan Repayment Assistance Program for graduates who pursue careers in legal services, government, and not-for-profit corporations.

■ Housing

The Boston College Graduate Housing Office is a valuable resource in securing housing. The office offers a number of apartments to first-year law students. These apartments are one mile from the Chestnut Hill campus and within a block of public transportation. In addition, the Boston College Off-Campus Housing Office provides information about neighborhoods, lists of local rental agencies, maps of local areas, and public transportation information. The office also maintains housing listings that include renting rooms in private homes, apartments, and house rentals. For more information, please visit the Office of Residential Life website at [www.bc.edu/reslife](http://www.bc.edu/reslife).

■ Career Services

The Office of Career Services is dedicated to helping students make the transition from law student to employed professional. The range of opportunities for graduates spans virtually the entire spectrum of legal practice. Each year more than 1,000 prospective employers solicit applications from Boston College law students. During the 2008–2009 recruitment season, approximately 400 law firms, government agencies, corporations, and public interest organizations from 31 states interviewed Boston College students as part of on- and off-campus recruiting programs. More than 12,000 alumni are presently practicing in 50 states and 19 foreign countries.

Applicant Profile

Boston College 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		Below 2.75		No GPA		Total	
	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm
175–180	8	6	6	6	9	6	6	2	2	0	2	0	0	0	33	20
170–174	40	32	55	36	48	19	33	8	12	2	5	0	1	0	194	97
165–169	236	177	381	245	242	95	129	24	46	4	20	0	22	7	1076	552
160–164	564	226	780	209	503	64	253	21	92	2	49	0	47	6	2288	528
150–159	427	44	680	47	599	30	387	8	150	2	104	1	85	2	2432	134
140–149	44	1	97	2	127	0	97	1	73	1	72	0	22	0	532	5
Below 140	4	0	6	0	18	0	22	0	24	0	36	0	10	0	120	0
Total	1323	486	2005	545	1546	214	927	64	399	11	288	1	187	15	6675	1336

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