

University of Oregon School of Law

Office of Admissions, 1221 University of Oregon

Eugene, OR 97403-1221

Phone: 541.346.3846; Fax: 541.346.3984

E-mail: admissions@law.uoregon.edu; Website: lawadmissions.uoregon.edu

■ Introduction

Founded in 1884, the University of Oregon School of Law is one of the oldest and smallest law schools in the West. It is situated in Eugene, the state's second largest city, on the historic campus of the University of Oregon. A state-supported university, Oregon is one of only 62 research institutions to hold membership in the prestigious Association of American Universities. The School of Law is the state's only law school with membership in the Order of the Coif. Oregon was also one of the first law schools to be accredited by the American Bar Association. About 540 students are engaged in full-time study at the University of Oregon School of Law. The law school community is collegial and informal and demonstrates a spirited commitment to public service.

■ Environs

An active legal community in Eugene mentors and employs law students as clerks and externs. Eugene is the county seat and home to an office of the US Attorney and a new federal courthouse. The law school partners with local entities to provide students clinical and pro bono opportunities. Some students also work in Salem and Portland. Eugene's 146,000 residents enjoy urban amenities, but with the friendliness and affordability of a smaller city. These include the Hult Center for the Performing Arts, Saturday Market, Civic Stadium, galleries, bookstores, coffeehouses, and restaurants. Frequently recognized for its enviable lifestyle, residents of one of America's "greenest" cities enjoy many hiking trails, bike paths, parks, and its setting at the confluence of the Willamette and McKenzie Rivers. In 2012, "Track City USA" will again host the Olympic Track and Field Trials. The Pacific Coast, Cascade Mountains, and Salem, the state capital, are within a one-hour drive. Two hours north is Portland, where many alumni practice. It is home to the UO Portland, which houses several law school initiatives, including the business law externship program.

Built in 1999 on the east edge of the university's 295-acre campus, the William W. Knight Law Center is both inspiring and comfortable, designed to enhance students' day-to-day experience. The John E. Jaqua Law Library, at the south end of the Law Center, is part of the University Libraries and their 2.6 million-volume collection. The law library supports specialized research in international law and ocean and coastal law, as well as several other interdisciplinary areas.

■ Curriculum

The curriculum offers students many options. A broad base of common understanding is established in the first year of study with the core curriculum emphasizing traditional legal subjects. The elective curriculum allows students the option of concentrating their studies in areas for which the School of Law is recognized: environmental and natural resources law; business, financial, and corporate law; public interest and public service law; family law; and appropriate dispute resolution. The law school awards the JD, undertaken on a full-time basis, and offers four concurrent master's/JD programs and 11 specialized statements of completion, including a new focus in sustainable business law, as well as

multiple clinical and externship opportunities in Eugene and Portland. Oregon also awards an LLM in Environmental and Natural Resources Law.

■ Centers and Programs

Academic centers and programs provide students with the opportunity to specialize or enrich their knowledge in particular areas of the law. Among them are the Appropriate Dispute Resolution Center, Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center, Center for Law and Entrepreneurship, Ocean and Coastal Law Center, the UO Portland Program, Public Interest Public Service Program, and the Wayne Morse Center for Law and Politics. The Oregon Child Advocacy Project is also housed at the law school. In addition, the law school has a long-standing commitment to American Indian law and legal scholarship.

Appropriate Dispute Resolution: The Appropriate Dispute Resolution program is recognized as one of the finest in the country. "Competition not Conflict" is a new ADR initiative. Its goals are to reduce destructive conflict in sport and to promote the positive values of competition. The ADR program provides extensive integration of ADR into the traditional curriculum; specialized training in the skills of mediation, counseling, and negotiation; and opportunities to practice those skills. In addition, the Master's Degree in Conflict and Dispute Resolution is the only program of its kind housed in an American law school. For information, visit <http://conflict.uoregon.edu>.

Concurrent Degrees: Students also can concurrently pursue one of several master's degree options through other graduate programs at the University of Oregon. A JD student can achieve an additional master's degree in one year. The concurrent degree programs include business administration (JD/MBA), environmental studies (JD/MA or JD/MS), international studies (JD/MA), and conflict and dispute resolution (JD/MA or JD/MS). Students apply *separately* to the master's program of their choice.

Statements of Completion: Statements of completion enable Oregon students to concentrate their legal study in the second and third year. Statements include business law, law and entrepreneurship, criminal practice, environmental and natural resources law, estate planning, tax law, intellectual property, public interest and public service law, international law, ocean and coastal law, and the innovative sustainable business law certificate. This program enables students to study for a semester in Portland and is designed to respond to the needs of new and emerging businesses and to the related complexities of the regulation of energy and environment.

Clinics and Skills Training: Valuable skills training and real-world experience are provided to students in a clinical setting. Clinics include business law, criminal prosecution, criminal defense, civil practice, environmental law, domestic violence, and mediation. In addition, legal writing and research skills are honed in an intensive, required, year-long research and writing program that is taught in small sections to enable more personalized instruction. The course culminates with students presenting final oral arguments in a courtroom setting.

International Exchange Program: Students may apply to the law school's semester-long international exchange program at the University of Adelaide School of Law, situated in South Australia's capital city. The University of Adelaide is one of Australia's oldest and most respected institutions. The

coursework selected must meet academic standards established by the law school and the American Bar Association.

Oregon LLM Program: The master of laws program offers a concentration in environmental and natural resources law, preparing graduates for national and international leadership careers working with governments, companies, and civil society organizations. Applicants must possess a US or foreign law degree. For information: www.law.uoregon.edu/llm.

■ Admission and Financial Aid

For fall 2008, 2,128 students competed for 180 first-year seats. The admission committee uses a holistic approach in its application review, evaluating the full range of an applicant's accomplishments and her or his potential to contribute to the law school and legal profession. The 75th/25th percentile cumulative undergraduate GPAs are 3.61/3.11. The 75th/25th percentile LSAT scores are 160/157. The importance of diversity in the classroom is part of the mission statement of the law school. Women comprise 46 percent of the 1L class and students of color, 21 percent. Forty percent speak an additional language and 45 percent have lived abroad. Twenty-four percent are first generation college graduates and 75 percent majored in an area other than political science. Fourteen percent describe themselves as college athletes. Almost 100 universities and colleges are represented. Oregon residents comprise 33 percent of the class.

Forty-seven percent of the class were scholarship recipients. No additional application is needed for scholarship consideration. The FAFSA is required for federal and private loan evaluation. A loan repayment assistance program is available to alumni practicing public interest/public service law.

■ Student Activities

The School of Law enjoys the reputation of a committed and energetic community, attracting students with strong public

interest, public service, and international experience. Since 2001, Oregon School of Law students have contributed the most pro bono hours of any law school in Oregon. There are 40 active and diverse student organizations, including OutLaws (LGBT), Law and Entrepreneurship Student Association, Pacific Wine Law Society, Sports and Entertainment Law Forum, Oregon International Law Project, Christian Legal Society, Women's Law Forum, and six multicultural groups. Each March, Land, Air, and Water (LAW) hosts PIELC, the largest public interest environmental law conference in the world. There are four student-run publications: *Oregon Law Review*, *Journal of Environmental Law and Litigation*, *Oregon Review of International Law*, and online, *The Legality*. The Moot Court Board sponsors five in-house school competitions. Law students also participate in the intellectual, social, and athletic activities of the larger University community.

■ Career Services

The Career Services Office provides comprehensive and personalized career counseling, including assistance with job-search strategies, interviewing, and résumé development. It utilizes a network of more than 5,500 alumni and oversees a busy on-campus interview program, which brings law firms, government entities, and public service/public interest organizations to Eugene. The popular Portland Interview Program is offered, as is the Portland Mentorship Program. More than half of the most recent graduating class chose to remain in Oregon, but alumni work on Wall Street; in Washington, DC; and throughout the West. Graduates have risen to prominent positions, particularly in Portland and Seattle, and in federal and state courts. For more information about the employment success of Oregon's graduates, visit the Career Services website: www.law.uoregon.edu/career/.

Applicant Profile

University of Oregon School of Law

LSAT Score	GPA								
	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
175-180	Good Possibility								
170-174	Good Possibility								
165-169	Good Possibility								
160-164	Good Possibility								
155-159	Good Possibility			Possible					
150-154									
145-149									
140-144									
135-139									
130-134									
125-129									
120-124									



Good Possibility



Possible



Unlikely