

## William & Mary Law School

613 South Henry Street  
Williamsburg, VA 23185  
Phone: 757.221.3785; Fax: 757.221.3261  
E-mail: lawadm@wm.edu; Website: <http://law.wm.edu>

### ■ Introduction

Established in 1779 at the request of Thomas Jefferson, William & Mary Law School is the nation's oldest law school. William & Mary combines rich historic roots, a strong national reputation, and a wealth of programs at a cost rated to be "a very good buy." William & Mary is concerned for students' intellectual development as well as for helping them develop character and values as constructive citizens who will do their part in society. Many assume William & Mary is a private school—it is not. The Law School is small enough for people to know one another by name and large enough to form a critical mass for learning and scholarship.

Members of the 2008–2009 student body earned undergraduate degrees from 242 colleges and universities and represent 47 states, DC, and 11 other countries. The Law School is located a few blocks from Colonial Williamsburg and within short driving distance of the metropolitan areas of Washington, DC; Richmond; and Norfolk. Visits and student tours are encouraged.

### ■ Library and Physical Facilities

The Wolf Law Library's collection of nearly 400,000 volumes and its service-oriented staff provide an excellent setting for study and research. Legal materials are available in all formats, including an extensive treatise collection covering all areas of law. A major library expansion and renovation project was completed in summer 2007 and has resulted in a new modern facility with cutting-edge technology. Features of the library include two reading rooms offering ample views of the outdoors, six lounges, abundant seating with Internet access, 12 group-study rooms, two computer labs, a rare book room, and a game room. The Law School employs wireless technology for e-mail and Web access throughout the building.

The McGlothlin Courtroom at the Law School is the nation's most technologically advanced trial and appellate chamber. The courtroom is designed to permit trials with multiple remote appearances and Web-based evidence, and offers students hands-on training in the use of state-of-the-art courtroom technology. It has a wide variety of features, including all available major court record systems, evidence presentation technologies, assistive and foreign language interpretation technologies, and critical infrastructure technologies.

The Law School is located between the National Center for State Courts and William & Mary's graduate apartment complex, where 20 percent of law students live. A wide variety of off-campus housing options are available in the Williamsburg area.

### ■ Curriculum

The required first-year curriculum includes constitutional law, contracts, torts, civil procedure, property, criminal law, and legal skills. The two-year Legal Skills Program, which begins with a week-long concentrated introduction to the legal system and law study before other classes begin, utilizes simulated law offices, client representation, and mock trials to teach the skills necessary for the practice of law as well as legal research, writing, and professional responsibility. To earn a

Juris Doctor degree, students must successfully complete 86 credit hours through full-time study, all required courses, and a significant paper of publishable quality. Students may choose yearly from more than 100 upper-level courses covering a broad range of contemporary and traditional areas of law. The Law School offers seven clinical programs (legal aid clinic, domestic violence clinic, federal tax practice clinic, innocence project clinic, appellate litigation clinic, special education advocacy clinic, and the veterans' benefits clinic) and a wide variety of externships, including externships at the Virginia Attorney General's Office, the Virginia Court of Appeals, and the Virginia General Assembly. Students also can extern with federal and state judges; federal, state, and local government agencies; private nonprofit organizations; law firms; and in-house corporate law departments.

### ■ Joint-degree Programs

There are three joint-degree programs: JD/MBA, JD/MPP, and JD/MA in American Studies. The JD/MBA and the JD/MPP combine traditional five-year programs into four years of study. Students may complete the JD/MA in either three or four years.

### ■ International Programs

A summer session in Madrid, Spain, offers a five-week program in which students can earn up to six credits. William & Mary professors and prominent Spanish professors and practitioners teach the courses in English. JD students may also study abroad in Beijing, China; Vienna, Austria; Madrid, Spain; Auckland, New Zealand; Tokyo, Japan; Luxembourg; and Hong Kong during their third academic year.

The Law School also offers an LLM in the American Legal System for students from outside the US who take courses with the JD students and bring the richness of their legal traditions to the classroom.

### ■ Special Programs

Through the Institute of Bill of Rights Law, the Law School has become one of the preeminent institutions studying the Constitution's Bill of Rights. The Institute sponsors lectures, symposia, and publications that entice scholars to examine important constitutional issues. The programs and initiatives of the Center for Legal and Court Technology seek to improve the administration of justice through the use of technology. The Center puts the latest technology to the test each year in a laboratory trial conducted by students in the McGlothlin Courtroom.

Exciting new cocurricular programs at the Law School include the Human Rights and National Security Law Program, which offers students the opportunity to learn about the interplay between national defense and the protection of civil rights; the Post-Conflict Justice Program, which serves as a focal point for research and study on comparative legal practices and the mechanisms used to reestablish justice after war and internal strife; the Property Rights Project, which encourages scholarship on the role that property rights play in society and also facilitates the exchange of ideas between

scholars and practitioners; the Election Law Program, which seeks to provide assistance to judges who are called upon to resolve difficult election law disputes; and the George Wythe Society of Citizen Lawyers, a program that focuses on constructive citizenship.

The Loan Repayment Assistance Program provides up to \$5,000 in loan forgiveness annually for a maximum of three years to selected graduates working full time for civil legal service organizations, public defenders or prosecutors, government agencies, or other 501(c)(3) organizations with a public service mission.

■ Student Activities

Scholars and practitioners frequently cite articles from our student-managed academic journals. These publications include *William and Mary Law Review*, *William & Mary Bill of Rights Journal*, *William and Mary Environmental Law and Policy Review*, and *William and Mary Journal of Women and the Law*. The Law School also has a highly competitive Moot Court Program and National Trial Team. In 2008, William & Mary students won first place at the UNC-CH Craven Competition and at the Mardi Gras Appellate Sports Law Tournament, and second place at the 2007 ABA Labor and Employment Law Trial Advocacy Competition. In 2006, 2007, and 2008, a William & Mary student received a Burton Award for Legal

Achievement, awarded to about 15 students nationwide each year for excellence in writing. More than 30 student organizations reflect the diverse interests of the student body. For more information about William & Mary's student organizations, visit the Student Life section of the website.

■ Career Services

The Office of Career Services (OCS) provides students and alumni with comprehensive professional services, including individual counseling, speakers, workshops, and programs. Employers from 35 states, the District of Columbia, and six other countries conducted on-campus interviews during 2008. Students use our video conference technology for employment interviews. Nearly 3,000 nonvisiting employers from 50 states, the District of Columbia, and several countries listed jobs through OCS. In 2008, William & Mary students also had the opportunity to participate in 34 off-campus job fairs with a national employer base, including events in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles, and New York, and specialized programs for intellectual property law, public interest and governmental positions, and small regional firms. The Law School awarded 94 fellowships to assist students working in low-paying or nonpaying public service positions during the summer of 2008.

Applicant Profile

William & Mary Law School

This grid includes only applicants who earned 120-180 LSAT scores under standard administrations, and represents 99% of the total applicant pool.

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	3	3	8	8	6	5	1	0	3	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	16	
170-174	56	55	34	30	41	27	27	10	11	2	6	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	178	127		
165-169	199	193	240	203	169	84	90	36	38	7	20	3	13	2	1	0	0	17	6	787	534			
160-164	449	186	530	114	396	39	199	16	84	5	46	5	20	0	6	0	0	23	1	1753	366			
155-159	162	20	239	19	207	2	138	5	63	3	17	0	20	1	3	0	0	22	0	871	50			
150-154	85	9	122	10	112	7	83	7	53	1	23	0	11	0	3	1	0	15	0	507	35			
145-149	20	2	40	9	57	2	40	2	36	3	14	1	8	0	3	0	0	12	0	230	19			
140-144	9	0	26	1	18	2	28	1	12	0	7	0	5	0	3	0	2	0	10	0	120	4		
135-139	2	0	8	0	9	0	11	0	6	1	7	0	7	0	3	0	3	0	5	0	61	1		
130-134	1	0	1	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	4	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	19	0		
125-129	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0		
120-124	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0		
Total	986	468	1248	394	1019	168	620	77	311	22	146	11	91	3	23	1	6	0	106	8	4556	1152		

Apps = Number of Applicants

Adm = Number Admitted

Reflects 99% of the total applicant pool.