New York Law School

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Introduction

New York Law School has developed a unique approach to legal education that it calls The Right Program for Each Student. At its core is an acknowledgment that different practice settings require different levels of training. For example, students working in larger organizations with extensive in-house training programs have less need for hands-on training than those who will open a solo practice. Those in larger organizations may need training in a specialized area, while those in general practice may need more breadth and less specialized expertise. The following components of The Right Program for Each Student are described on our website: Harlan Scholars Program, Individual Program, Comprehensive Curriculum, and the Professional Development Project.

Founded in 1891, New York Law School is one of the oldest independent law schools in the country. The school is fully accredited by the American Bar Association and is a member of the Association of American Law Schools.

Location/Physical Facilities/Library

New York Law School is located in Manhattan’s historic district, TriBeCa, in Lower Manhattan. It is an extraordinary setting for the study of law and one of the city’s most colorful and dynamic neighborhoods. Lower Manhattan is the site of New York’s largest concentration of government agencies, courts, law firms, banks, corporate headquarters, and securities exchanges. Federal Courts, New York State Civil and Criminal Courts, Family Court, and the Court of International Trade are within a four-block radius of the Law School. The Law School’s four connected buildings are located on a single block in the heart of TriBeCa, with easy access to major public transportation systems.

The Mendik Law Library, with its staff of 15 professional law librarians, includes nearly 500,000 volumes and a variety of computer-assisted research services. Its collection features concentrations in constitutional law, communications, labor law, and international and comparative law. The library also is a partial depository for state and federal documents.

Student Life

We are committed to giving students a first-rate law school experience—in and out of the classroom. In return, we demand of them the seriousness of purpose necessary to become ethical professionals—the kind of lawyers sought by clients, law firms, government agencies, advocacy groups, and corporations.

New York Law School has a long-standing and continuing interest in enrolling students from varied backgrounds, including older students, minority students, women, career-changers, and public servants. Students range in age from 21 to 65, with the average age being 26.

Faculty

The Law School’s distinguished full-time faculty is composed of productive scholars who are dedicated educators and who share a strong commitment to the school’s vision and philosophy embodied in its core values: embracing innovation, fostering integrity and professionalism, and advancing justice for a diverse society. A national survey of law faculty scholarship includes them among the 50 most prolific law faculties in the country and notes the significant number of their books that are published by university presses. Leading jurists and attorneys who work in nearby offices are members of the adjunct faculty.

Curriculum and Special Programs

The required curriculum, comprising the entire first year and part of the second year, provides a foundation in legal reasoning and in areas of law that are considered indispensable building blocks of a legal education. In the second year and thereafter, students may design their programs with elective courses chosen from an extraordinarily rich array.

Elements such as legal analysis and legal writing, counseling, interviewing, negotiating, advocacy, planning, and strategizing form the core subject areas of the school’s Lawyering Skills Program. The Civil and Human Rights Clinic offers students the opportunity to represent real clients.

Externship and judicial internship programs permit students to do actual lawyering work in law offices.

Admission

In the admission process, a number of factors are taken into account, including the applicant’s academic record and LSAT scores. The admission committee also looks for those applicants who have demonstrated leadership ability, motivation, and a sense of service and responsibility to society. Excellence in a particular field of study, progression of grades, strength of undergraduate curriculum, work and community service experience, graduate study in other disciplines, and extracurricular activities all are considered as well. Writing ability receives particular attention, and the admission committee strongly urges applicants to submit the optional writing sample.

The school seeks to enroll students who, through their diversity of backgrounds, experiences, perspectives, and ambitions, promise to enrich the law school community and, ultimately, the larger society.

Under a special admission option, the Wallace Stevens Scholars Program, a small group of professionals with postgraduate degrees and significant work experience will be admitted without having taken the LSAT but will be required to take the LSAT after admission to the Law School.

Academic Centers

The Institute for Information Law and Policy is the home for the study of technology, intellectual property, and information law. It includes our Media Law Center.

The Center for New York City Law focuses on governmental and legal processes in the urban setting.

The Center for International Law focuses on legal issues relating to international trade and finance.

The Justice Action Center seeks to develop students’ expertise in civil rights and civil liberties law and international human rights.
The Center on Business Law and Policy focuses on business and corporate law. The Center for Professional Values serves as a vehicle through which to examine the role of the legal profession and alternative approaches to the practice of law.

**Moot Court/Law Journals/Student Organizations**

New York Law School students exhibit well-honed courtroom skills, in recent years winning outright three national moot court competitions and earning awards in many others. The school’s annual Robert F. Wagner Sr. Labor and Employment Law Competition is one of the nation’s largest student-run moot court competitions.

The Law School currently has three scholarly publications, edited and staffed by students, that are an integral part of the Law School’s program: *Law Review*, *Journal of International and Comparative Law*, and *Journal of Human Rights*.

Students have established some 32 interest organizations as well.

**Expenses and Financial Aid**

New York Law School has established a program of financial aid to assist students in meeting the costs of a legal education through grants, scholarships, work-study awards, and loans. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic merit and financial need.

**Office of Professional Development**

The Office of Professional Development brings together three key student services: Student Life, Career Services, and Public Interest and Community Service. This innovative structure allows us to offer students personal attention from their first day of study to help them pursue their professional goals. The Career Services Office offers a wide array of services, including individual career counseling, on-campus interview programs, career panels and workshops, alumni network and mentoring programs, online employer databases, and information on summer, full-time, and part-time positions and alternative career opportunities.

### Applicant Profile

**New York Law School**

This grid includes only applicants who earned 120–180 LSAT scores under standard administrations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LSAT Score</th>
<th>GPA 3.50+</th>
<th>3.25–3.49</th>
<th>3.00–3.24</th>
<th>2.75–2.99</th>
<th>2.50–2.74</th>
<th>2.00–2.49</th>
<th>Below 2.00</th>
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<td>854</td>
<td>322</td>
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Apps = Number of Applicants
Adm = Number Admitted
Reflects 98% of the total applicant pool.