

# Welcome to the University of Chicago Law School!



## Ours is a unique and engaged community, and we are excited to introduce ourselves to you.

When you choose a law school, you are choosing not only an educational institution, but the first step on your career path as a lawyer. It is important to think about who will be teaching and guiding you, who will be sharing your classrooms, what opportunities will be available to you in the summer and after you graduate, what kind of student experience you will have, and, perhaps most of all, what training and relationships you will be taking with you that will stay with you for the rest of your life.

As you will see here and on our website, we are very proud of UChicago Law's answers to those questions and we cannot wait to tell you more. Read up on us, and then meet us virtually—we want you to experience for yourself the best legal education in America. All of us at the Law School look forward to meeting you.

*Thomas J. Miles*  
*Dean and Clifton R. Musser Professor of Law*

## Q&A

### What is the UChicago Law classroom experience like?

Our professors are committed to teaching and our students are devoted to learning for learning's sake. Faculty members expertly use the Socratic Method to engage students in an active dialogue, and use their training from other academic disciplines to deepen discussions that often continue well after class time. Read more about our extraordinary legal education at [www.law.uchicago.edu/academics-student-life](http://www.law.uchicago.edu/academics-student-life).

### Will I be able to get to know faculty members?

Yes—better here than anywhere else. UChicago Law's small size makes faculty-student interactions a certainty. The warmth and intellectual engagement of our community make forming lasting relationships easy. Faculty frequently host students in their homes (even teaching classes there!), meet for meals in Hyde Park, learn together in small Greenberg seminars, and co-author papers together. These relationships continue for decades as students and teachers become professional colleagues. Meet our faculty at [www.law.uchicago.edu/faculty](http://www.law.uchicago.edu/faculty).

## **What kinds of courses can I take?**

In the 2020-2021 school year, students will experience a revolutionary new 1L curriculum. Along with the foundational legal classes, in the Spring Quarter, students choose one constitutional law class and take a legislation class. They will also take our new 1L course organized around transactions and continue their legal writing classes. As a 2L and 3L, you chart your own path through nearly 200 law courses and thousands of courses all over the University of Chicago. Explore our varied and deep curricular options at [www.law.uchicago.edu/prospective/curriculum](http://www.law.uchicago.edu/prospective/curriculum).

## **What opportunities do I have to get practical experience while I'm a student?**

UChicago Law has more than 15 clinics. Second and third year students can practice real litigation, advocacy, and corporate work. First year students gain practical experience through pro bono opportunities. We also offer a wide variety of experiential and simulation courses to prepare you for the practical work of being a lawyer. Learn more at [www.law.uchicago.edu/experiential](http://www.law.uchicago.edu/experiential).

## **What kind of training will I get to prepare me for a lifelong career path?**

The Law School prepares you to be a lawyer, of course, but we also prepare you to lead in whatever career you choose. All students participate in systematic leadership development and training at the start of 1L year in the Kapnick Leadership Development Initiative. Dozens of programs during law school will focus on skills and knowledge you will need over the long term, and the Law School will continue to be a resource for you throughout the rest of your career. Learn more about Kapnick and other development programs at [www.law.uchicago.edu/engagement](http://www.law.uchicago.edu/engagement).

## **What can I expect from student life outside the classroom?**

UChicago Law students participate in more than 60 student organizations ranging from affinity groups to community service organizations, chapters of politically active national organizations to groups that organize annual traditions like the Law School Musical and the weekly cocktail party, Wine Mess. Student diversity of every kind shows in the activities you can choose. Our students have a balanced approach to the world that makes the Law School both a vibrant place and an amazing jumping-off point for the future. More about student life is at [www.law.uchicago.edu/life](http://www.law.uchicago.edu/life).

## **What are Hyde Park and the city of Chicago like?**

Hyde Park is a beautiful, vibrant neighborhood, and Chicago is a cosmopolitan, diverse, yet affordable city. It's the best of both worlds: a world-renowned university in an international city. Information is available at [visit.uchicago.edu/neighborhood-attractions/](http://visit.uchicago.edu/neighborhood-attractions/) and [www.law.uchicago.edu/life](http://www.law.uchicago.edu/life).

## **Where can I work once I have a UChicago Law degree?**

Our graduates find work in every part of the legal profession. UChicago Law graduates work all over the country, such as our top five legal markets: New York, Washington DC, California, Texas, and Illinois. Our alumni work in more than 70 countries worldwide, leading the way in private practice, government, public service, business, academia, and the judiciary. Comprehensive employment data showing clerkships, types of employers, geographic information, and salaries are available at [www.law.uchicago.edu/employment-data](http://www.law.uchicago.edu/employment-data).

## **Will I be able to work in the public interest sector?**

Of course! UChicago Law graduates work in nearly 500 different public interest organizations and government entities. Some graduates work in public interest immediately after graduation, some later, and some as part of a pro bono practice. The Law School is proud to provide significant support to students and graduates entering public service through scholarships, substantial summer and postgraduate funding, and a generous loan forgiveness program. Learn more at [www.law.uchicago.edu/publicinterest](http://www.law.uchicago.edu/publicinterest).

## **How can I put my best foot forward in my application?**

Pay close attention to all requirements and deadlines, and show us who you really are. Our goal is to put together a class of smart, diverse, engaged people, and we do that by taking a careful look at your entire application. Take a look at our FAQs at [www.law.uchicago.edu/jdfaq](http://www.law.uchicago.edu/jdfaq) and don't forget to look at some sample Admissions Essays That Worked at [www.law.uchicago.edu/essaysthatworked](http://www.law.uchicago.edu/essaysthatworked).

## **UChicago Law by the Numbers**

- 99% 1L and 2L Summer Employment (Summer of 2020)
- 76 Full-Tuition or More Scholarships (Total JD Student Body 2019-2020)
- 37 States Represented (Class of 2023)
- 12,324 Student Pro Bono Hours Completed by the Class of 2020
- 111 Clerkships in the 2020 Term
- \$5,000 Guaranteed Summer Public Interest Funding
- 98.5% of the Class of 2019 Employed (10 Months After Graduation)
- 92 Undergraduate Institutions Represented (Class of 2023)
- 250+ Student Group Talks and Events (2019-2020 School Year)
- \$190,000 Median Salary (Class of 2019)

## Important Dates

- September 1: Applicants may begin submitting applications online through LSAC
- December 1: Early Decision Deadline
- March 1: Regular Decision Deadline

## Links

- Application Details: [www.law.uchicago.edu/jdapply](http://www.law.uchicago.edu/jdapply)
- Visit the UChicago Law Welcome Center: [www.law.uchicago.edu/visit](http://www.law.uchicago.edu/visit)
- Status Checker: [www.law.uchicago.edu/checkappstatus](http://www.law.uchicago.edu/checkappstatus)
- Financial Aid: [www.law.uchicago.edu/financialaid](http://www.law.uchicago.edu/financialaid)
- Graduate Financial Aid: [financialaid.uchicago.edu/graduate](http://financialaid.uchicago.edu/graduate)

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Standard 504 of the American Bar Association requires that law schools advise each applicant as follows: "In addition to a bar examination, there are character, fitness, and other qualifications for admission to the bar in every U.S. jurisdiction. Applicants are encouraged to determine the requirements for any jurisdiction in which they intend to seek admission by contacting the jurisdiction. Addresses for all relevant agencies are available through the National Conference of Bar Examiners."

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