

Loyola University New Orleans College of Law
Juris Doctor (JD) Admission Policy

Loyola University New Orleans College of Law's mission is to educate future members of the Bar to be skilled advocates and sensitive counselors-at-law, committed to ethical norms in pursuit of dignity for all. The College of Law offers both civil law and common law curricula as well as four joint degree programs. The civil law curriculum and common law curriculum are available in the full- and part-time day program. Loyola Law's part-time evening program is exclusively a civil law curriculum.

Loyola Law's goal is to build a diverse student body that is committed to the ideals of a Jesuit-centered education. Critical and analytical thinking, ethics and professionalism, and a commitment to serve the community of the 21st century are fostered and encouraged. Its faculty is a community of scholars committed to academic excellence in teaching and scholarship, as well as service for others.

JD Admission Requirements

Loyola Law only admits candidates to its JD program who appear, on the face of their Application for Admission, capable of satisfactorily completing its program of legal education and being admitted to the bar. Candidates who are interested in earning a joint JD degree must be accepted for admission for the non-JD degree by the sponsoring College or University.

Before beginning law school course work, those granted admission to the College of Law must present satisfactory evidence that they have earned an undergraduate degree prior to beginning law school course work, unless admitted through Loyola University's 3+3 program. Applicants can submit their applications while in progress of their undergraduate degree provided they have completed three fourths of their undergraduate degree and are expected to have earned their undergraduate degree prior to the start of the first year of law school.

The College of Law Faculty Admissions and Scholarship Committee reviews applications for admission on a rolling basis. The Committee takes a holistic approach in reviewing each application for admission. In addition to the LSAT score and undergraduate academic record, the Committee also considers a candidate's graduate and/or professional school record if applicable; letters of recommendation; personal statement; resume; diversity and inclusiveness factors (including but not limited to ethnicity; race; gender identity and expression; sexual orientation; socio-economic background; geographic location; and religious affiliation); employment, leadership, and life experiences; extracurricular involvement; community service; military service; character and fitness statements, if applicable; the LSAT writing sample; and, other explanatory or supporting addenda. For a profile of the entering credentials of the most

recent 1L class, applicants are advised to read [Loyola's required American Bar Association disclosures](#).

Loyola Law only enrolls first-year JD students in the fall semester. Transfer and transient students may apply for entry in any of Loyola's three semesters.

Application Requirements

All applicants must register with the Law School Admission Council (LSAC) for both the LSAT and the Credential Assembly Service (CAS). Information about both are available online at www.lsac.org. If possible, applicants should arrange to take the test by the December prior to the planned enrollment date. An application will not be considered for admission without all required materials. Applications must be fully submitted to LSAC by August 1, 11:59PM EST. Applications for admission will not be accepted after the deadline has lapsed.

Applications for admission to the first-year class of the College of Law must include:

- A valid LSAT score,
- A complete CAS Report submitted to Loyola Law through lsac.org that includes transcripts from each college and/or university attended, up to and including conferrals of each bachelor, graduate, or professional degree,
- A personal statement,
- A resume that includes education, extracurricular activities, work history, community service, and other awards, and
- Two recent letters of recommendation (dated on or after the March of the year preceding an applicant's anticipated law school enrollment). The Law Admissions Office will accept up to four letters of recommendation.

In addition to the above components, international and internationally educated applicants, must also include the following in their application for admission:

- Loyola College of Law requires the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) scores, including the Test of Written English and the Test of Spoken English, for applicants in which English is a foreign language. These applicants should contact the Educational Testing Service (ETS) for TOEFL registration at www.toefl.org. Applicants must request that ETS send relevant scores to LSAC. LSAC's TOEFL code is 0058. Loyola Law will then receive them in the applicant's CAS report.

- Applicants who completed more than one year of study outside of the United States or Canada must have their academic records evaluated and authenticated by LSAC using CAS.
- Foreign-educated licensed attorneys who wish to be considered for advanced standing and waiver of the LSAT score requirement must directly notify the Office of Law Admissions as soon as practical after completing the Application for Admission.

Based upon candidates' answers to questions regarding moral character and potential fitness to practice law, applicants may be required to supplement their application with additional documentation. All supporting documents must be electronically attached to the application.

All incoming students (including transfer students) must submit an official transcript verifying all academic credits undertaken and degree(s) conferred to the Law Admissions Office by the date indicated in their admission offer. Students not meeting this deadline will receive a letter from the Law Records Office notifying the student that their enrollment will be cancelled if an official transcript is not submitted to the Law Records. Transcripts included with applicants' CAS Reports do not fulfill this requirement. All transcripts become property of Loyola University.

All new students must complete and return Loyola University's Medical History Questionnaire to the Office of Student Health Service prior to registration. New Loyola University students must also present proof of required (MMR, PPD, Tetanus, Bacterial Meningitis, and Covid-19) immunizations. Students may apply to the University to be exempted from these requirements.

1L Scholarships

The College of Law awards competitive scholarships to incoming students who demonstrate academic success as well as success on the LSAT. All applications for admission are reviewed for a scholarship award. No additional application is required. The College of Law aims to notify qualified students of their scholarship offer in tandem with their offer of admission. Scholarships may be classified as renewable or non-renewable and may be up to 100% of tuition. Loyola will give priority scholarship consideration to those who apply by March 1 of each application year. Awards may only be applied to JD tuition expenses in the College of Law.

Exceptional applicants whose application materials demonstrate the Jesuit values of commitment to academic excellence and service to others may be offered the opportunity to participate in the Ignatian Law Scholar (ILS) Program. Law Scholars receive renewable full-tuition scholarships and a faculty mentor. In addition, Scholars gather for special events each semester to get to know each other and other members of the law school community. All applications for admission are reviewed for Program qualifications; there are no additional steps to be considered for the ILS Program.

Transfer and Advanced Standing

Loyola welcomes applicants who wish to enroll at College of Law after attending another law school. An applicant who wishes to apply for transfer or advanced standing admission can do so by utilizing the same application as an applicant for admission as a first-year student.

Applicants with prior law school experience must present evidence of successful academic study in their prior law record and have completed at least 15 credit hours at their current law school. In addition to the application requirements for entry as a first-year student, transfer applicants must also submit at least one letter of recommendation from a law school professor, a letter of good standing from their current law school, include an official copy of their most recent law school transcript with their CAS subscription, and statement asserting the reason(s) for transferring to Loyola Law.

Candidates who earned a law degree outside of the U.S. may have the LSAT requirement waived, and the opportunity to earn a U.S. law degree at Loyola in less than three years. Loyola Law may grant up to 30 credit hours of advanced standing toward a JD from Loyola for a student that obtained a law degree.

Special Admission Programs

The College of Law offers qualifying Loyola University New Orleans students admission through two special programs.

3+3 Program

In the 3+3 Accelerated Degree Program (or “3+3 Program”), Loyola University New Orleans undergraduate students may combine the last year of their undergraduate education with their first year of law school. This means that eligible students have the potential to earn their undergraduate degree and law degree in a combination of six years.

Interested students must complete the required courses in their major within the first three years of being enrolled at Loyola. The College in which the student is enrolled (i.e. College of Business, College of Arts and Sciences, etc.) must grant the student permission to participate in the 3+3 Program. Granting permission means that the student’s College will accept Loyola Law’s first-year coursework in lieu of elective requirements for graduation. In addition to the Application Requirements described above, candidates’ application materials must include written permission from their dean or departmental chairperson to participate in the 3+3 Program. The Committee must receive complete 3+3 Program applications by April 30.

LSAT Waiver Program

For a designated admissions cycle and year (if and as approved by the faculty), Loyola University New Orleans College of Law may waive the LSAT for recent Loyola University New Orleans graduates who earned or will earn an undergraduate degree at Loyola University New Orleans up to 12 months prior to the start of the fall semester, and:

- Scored at or above the 85th percentile on the ACT or SAT in application to Loyola, and
- Ranked in the top 10% of their undergraduate class through six semesters of academic work, or achieved a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above through six semesters of academic work.

The American Bar Association permits Loyola Law to enroll up to 10% of its entering class through the LSAT waiver program. We encourage sincere candidates to contact us regarding the availability of this program for a given admissions cycle and year and, if it is available, to timely apply. Priority consideration will be given by the date the Admissions Office receives an application. Applicants are required to apply through LSAC at lsac.org. Applicants are to complete the application and upload supplemental materials to the application. Once the application and CAS registration are submitted to LSAC, the applicant must contact the Office of Law Admission to complete the LSAT waiver process.

Joint-degree Programs

The College of Law offers four joint degrees: JD/Master of Laws (LL.M), JD/Master of Business Administration (MBA), a JD/Master of Public Administration (MPA), and JD/Master of Urban and Regional Planning (MURP).

Applicants interested in the JD/LL.M degree must apply by April 15th of the year of their intended graduation from their JD program to be considered for the joint JD/LL.M program. Scholarships and financial aid are available and will be evaluated when the applicant applies.

Applicants interested in earning Loyola Law's joint JD/MBA must also apply to earn the MBA through the College of Business. MBA admission processes are distinct and separate from the JD admission process. To earn both the JD and MBA, the applicant must successfully complete all required credits in both programs.

The JD/MPA and the JD/MURP programs are in collaboration with the University of New Orleans (UNO). Applicants interested must be accepted by both the College of Law and UNO and complete all required coursework at both schools in order to graduate with a JD/MURP and JD/MPA.

Deferring JD Admission

The College of Law does not defer admission or scholarship offers. Admission and scholarship offers are only for the academic year in which they are extended. Applicants who need to postpone their enrollment are encouraged to apply for the next application year.

Re-admission to the JD Program

A suspended Loyola Law student may petition the Faculty Committee on Readmission to be considered for readmission to the College of Law. The Request for readmission must be delivered to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. Such a petition for readmission may be granted only if, in the judgment of the faculty, the academic record earned by the student in one or more semesters while enrolled in the College of Law was not indicative of the student's ability to satisfactorily complete the requirements leading to a juris doctor degree. In addressing such a petition to the faculty, the student should specifically explain any hardships or other explanations which account for the deficient performance, and explain why those circumstances will not reoccur.

Students whose petitions for readmission to the College of Law have been denied by the Faculty Committee on Readmission may not petition again for readmission until two years have passed since their last enrollment or petition for readmission. Any petition for readmission made at that time will be for admission as a beginning student with no academic credit for prior work attempted. Exceptions to the two-year requirement may be made by the committee for students who have completed more than the first year of law school study, and such students, at the discretion of the Faculty Committee on Readmission, may be readmitted to continue with advanced standing.

Policy on Sex Discrimination

Loyola University New Orleans, consistent with its Goals Statement and the Character and Commitment Statement, fosters dignity and worth of all members of the Loyola community and its guests, and is committed to maintaining an environment free of discrimination and other misconduct on the basis of sex.

Loyola community members, including applicants, who believe that they have been a victim of discrimination on the basis of sex may report the incident to:

- Marquita Morgan-Jones, Interim Chief Student Conduct Officer and Title IX Coordinator at (504) 864-7151 or mrmorgan@loyno.edu, or

- Rachel Dirmann, Director of Human Resources, at (504) 864-7768 or rdirmann@loyno.edu.

Policy on Nondiscrimination

Loyola University New Orleans College of Law has fully supported and fostered the policy of not discriminating on the basis of age, color, disability status, marital status, national origin, race and/or ethnicity, citizenship, religion, sex, gender, gender identity or expression, or sexual orientation in its educational programs, admissions, employment practices, and in the activities it operates. This policy complies with all applicable federal and accrediting regulations and guidelines.

Loyola community members, including applicants who believe that they have been a victim of bias may report the incident to the Bias Response Team:

- Marcus Kondkar, Associate Professor of Sociology at (504) 865-2572 or kondkar@loyno.edu
- Angel Parham, Associate Professor of Sociology at (504) 865-3581 or aaparham@loyno.edu