



Joint Degree Program: J.D./LL.M. in Advocacy

Pursuant to this policy concerning a joint degree program, the College of Law offers qualified students the opportunity to receive both the J.D. degree and the LL.M. in Advocacy degree in less time than would be possible to receive each degree without the joint program. As set forth herein, a student must apply for and be accepted into the program in order to take part in this joint degree opportunity.

A. Application Process

Admission to the joint degree program is limited to students currently enrolled in the J.D. program at the College of Law at the time of application.

The first step in the application process is the completion of a “Statement of Interest.” The Statement of Interest does not commit a student to participate in the joint degree program, but merely expresses a current desire to pursue the opportunity. Full-time students must submit a Statement of Interest no later than the end of the spring semester of their first-year. Part-time students must submit a Statement of Interest no later than the end of the fall semester of their second-year in the part-time program. Transfer students must submit a Statement of Interest no later than the end of their first semester as a student at the College of Law.

The second step in the application process is the completion of an “Application for Admission.” Full-time students must complete the Application for Admission no later than the end of the spring semester of their second-year. Part-time students must submit the Application for Admission no later than the end of the spring semester of their third-year in the part-time program. Part-time students who convert to the full-time program must submit an Application for Admission no later than the end of the first semester after which they convert from the part-time program to the full-time program.

In extraordinary circumstances, the Director of the Center for Excellence in Advocacy, with the concurrence of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, may allow a student to submit an Application for Admission when a student (1) has failed to have previously submitted a Statement of Interest in a timely manner; and/or (2) does not submit the Application for Admission in a timely manner.

B. Academic Qualifications for Admission

Students must graduate with a minimum overall GPA of 2.4 or above, and not be subject to the further required curriculum. Students with a final GPA below 2.4 or, who are subject to the

further required curriculum, may apply to the joint JD/LL.M. program, but may only be admitted by exception. Limited exceptions will be granted.

C. J.D. Curriculum required for the Joint Degree

In order to enter the LL.M. course of study, a student is required to have taken the following courses:

Tethered Evidence

Tethered Trial Advocacy

Pre-Trial Practice.

In exceptional circumstances, the Director for the Center for Excellence in Advocacy, with the concurrence of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, may authorize a substitution for a required course or courses.

In addition to the required courses, in order to enter the LL.M. course of study, a student must have taken one of the elective courses set forth on a list maintained by the College of Law Registrar of such “Elective Joint Degree Courses.”

In order to enter the LL.M. course of study, a student must have a combined average of 2.75 or higher in the three required and one elective courses.

D. Transfer of Credits, Enrollment in the LL.M. Program and Awarding of Degrees

The J.D. and LL.M. in Advocacy are separate degrees. A student is awarded a J.D. degree upon completion of the College of Law’s requirements for obtaining that degree. A student who has been admitted to the joint degree program, completed the curricular requirements set forth above, and been awarded a J.D. degree by the College of Law, may enroll in the LL.M. in Advocacy program under the terms of this policy.

A student has two years from the date on which the student is awarded a J.D. degree by the College of Law to enroll in the LL.M. in Advocacy program. A student may enroll in the LL.M. in Advocacy program in either the fall or the spring semester. A student may pursue the LL.M. in Advocacy degree either on a full-time or a part-time basis. A student must complete the LL.M. in Advocacy program no later than two years after the student is enrolled in the LL.M. program.

To be awarded an LL.M. in Advocacy degree, a student must successfully complete 24 credit hours of course work as prescribed by the policy governing the LL.M. in Advocacy program. A student admitted to the joint degree program under this policy will be awarded 12 credit hours of course work toward the completion of the 24 hours required for completion of the LL.M. in Advocacy program based on courses taken in the J.D. curriculum as described above. Under no

circumstances may a student receive more than 12 credits based on work in the J.D. program toward completion of the 24 credit hours required to under the LL.M. in Advocacy.

Cross-References: Further Required Curriculum; Requirements for Degree and Maximum Time to Complete J.D. Degree