



# College of Law

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

# Welcome

**I** made the University of Illinois College of Law my professional home more than fifteen years ago. *It was one of the very best decisions I ever made.*

I've lived in several parts of the country during my career, working both inside and outside of the legal profession. While each place was wonderful in its own way, none quite compare to Illinois Law. Its excellence isn't captured solely by the publicly available data marking it as one of the most highly regarded law schools in the country. We also have a first-rate faculty of teacher-scholars who dedicate themselves to their students. We have a large, enthusiastic, and incredibly accomplished alumni corps who welcome opportunities to give back. We are a proud part of one of the nation's most impactful research universities, which offers innumerable opportunities for our students to deepen their understanding of both the law and the world. Most importantly, the academic rigor, intellectual excitement, and easy camaraderie that defines our law school community is truly unique.

Despite all of these assets, Illinois Law never rests on its laurels. The legal profession is constantly evolving to keep up with an increasingly complex society. We continually strive to be at the forefront of understanding this change, seeking new opportunities to deliver value to our students, the bench and bar, and society as a whole.

I invite you to learn more about what Illinois Law can offer you. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly ([jcsharp@illinois.edu](mailto:jcsharp@illinois.edu)) or contact our Admissions Office to schedule an in-person visit.

Thanks for considering Illinois Law, and I look forward to hearing from you.



**Jamelle C. Sharpe**

Dean, Professor and Guy Raymond Jones Faculty Scholar





# THE 1L EXPERIENCE

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# **THE 1L EXPERIENCE**





## *First Year Courses*

- › Civil Procedure
- › Constitutional Law
- › Contracts
- › Criminal Law
- › Fundamentals of Legal Practice
- › Introduction to Advocacy
- › Legal Research
- › Legal Writing and Analysis
- › Property
- › Torts

**Finding your path at Illinois begins in the first year.** As a 1L, you'll learn the broad legal strokes that will help direct the rest of your education. Whether business law, intellectual property, public interest or another field sparks your imagination, Illinois has the esteemed faculty and real-life learning opportunities to help you design your own unique experience.

# Professional Development

*The Class of 2024 had a 98% employment rate nine months after graduation. Their success in finding the jobs they desired started on day one, with our team of attorney-counselors work to help them succeed in a competitive legal marketplace.*





## Programs for 1Ls

### Alumni-Student Mentoring Program

Before even setting foot on campus, incoming students may opt to be paired with an alumni mentor, in order to benefit from the knowledge and experience of our alumni.

### First Look Networking Reception

Each January, the College of Law invites firms and other employers that will be recruiting on campus to meet our first-year class.

### Careers in Public Service Reception

Similar to First Look, this annual event allows students interested in public service to meet alumni working in the public sector and form early connections.

A circular portrait of a young woman with long, wavy brown hair and blue eyes, smiling warmly. She is wearing a gold necklace and a grey blazer. The background is a red brick wall.

*Bona Fide*

**ILLINI**

#### **Dakota Richmond** '24

*"Jolynn Caroline in the Careers office literally held my hand I feel like since I got here. When I got my job, she was the first person I emailed. They take the time to really get to know you and what you're passionate about and what you care about."*



*I love watching the metamorphosis of each 1L student over the course of the year. I have the pleasure of seeing a student in their very first week of class and then that same student during their final oral argument at the end of the year. I get a glimpse of the lawyer they will become.*

*I teach the skills students will need as they go into practice—legal writing and analysis and advocacy. These are skills that are not only fundamental but also each student will use them far beyond the first year. My hope is that somewhere in that journey, each of my students discover how much they improve and learn in that process.*

---

*Professor Rummana Alam*





# Student Support

*Illinois Law welcomes individuals from all walks of life, and actively invests in the success of all its students. We have dedicated substantial resources to foster a community where everyone can thrive, and our team is fully committed to being a constant source of encouragement and guidance throughout the law school experience.*

## Prioritizing Student Success

Beyond their first-year courses, we offer law students continued support during their first semester in a series of workshops called **Law School 101**. Because the transition to law school requires new academic and

professional skills, Law School 101 workshops cover topics such as law school logistics, academic study and exam strategies, wellness and belonging, and career planning and professional opportunities to gain legal experience while in law school. The things that students learn in Law School 101 contribute to their success in the first year and beyond.

Our **Academic Success and Bar Support Program**, lead by Professor Michael Loch, begins in pre-orientation. Our philosophy is the more you understand about how you learn and how to apply that to law classes, the better off you will be in law school. Accordingly, the more you understand about how you learn and apply that to bar prep, the better your chances of success on the bar exam. This learning philosophy is implemented in pre-orientation sessions, continues in orientation programming, extends through workshops during 1L and 2L years, and culminates with the Countdown to the Bar series, covering everything students will need to know to effectively prepare for and successfully pass the bar.



# Meet Our Team



**Kelly Salefski**

*Assistant Dean of Academic Administration and Dean of Students*



**Matt Petruszak**

*Assistant Director of Academic Administration*



**Maggie Verklan**

*Embedded Counselor*



**Jolynn Caroline**

*Senior Director for Inclusive Excellence, Career Planning and Professional Development*



**Michael Loch**

*Professor and Director of Academic Success and Bar Support*

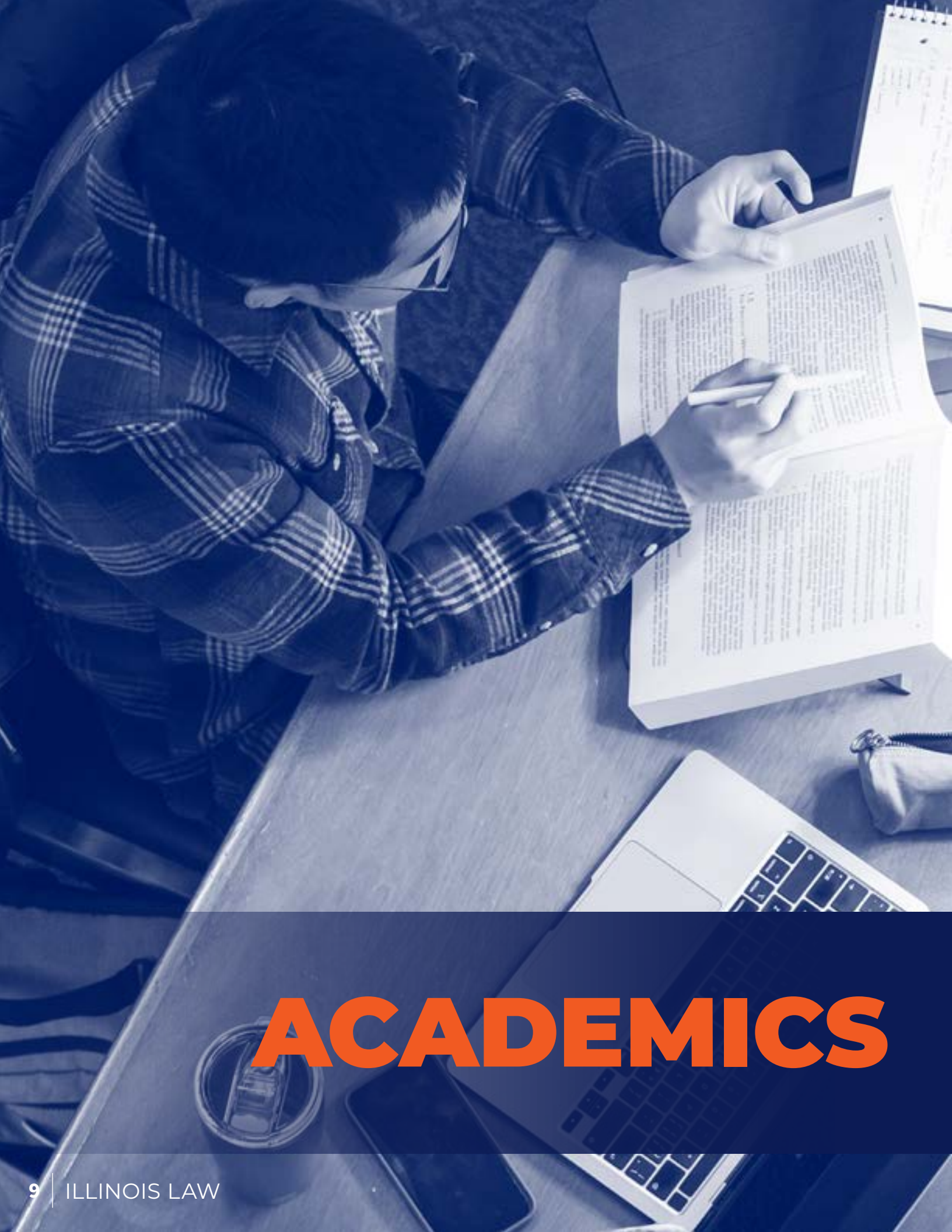
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## Dean Salefski

*"At the College of Law, we are committed to supporting every student's academic, professional, and personal growth. Our student services include academic success advising, accessibility support, bar exam preparation, mental health counseling, and comprehensive wellness programming. In addition, our vibrant student community is enriched by a wide range of student organizations that foster belonging, leadership, and connection across diverse backgrounds and interests. You won't just study law here—you'll find your people and your path."*

”





# ACADEMICS





# 8

Joint Degree Programs

# 135+

Courses

# 30+

Study Abroad Partner Schools

# 3

Student-edited Journals

**Illinois provides a flexible academic experience, allowing you to gain valuable experience in areas where we have a strong and established legacy.** Illinois Law students are encouraged to explore a wide variety of legal subject areas, leading to well-rounded attorneys and counselors. You may also augment your education outside of the traditional classroom environment, in Champaign or around the globe.

# Faculty & Research

*Integral to the academic experience at Illinois are the great legal minds that will be shaping yours. Our faculty are acclaimed teachers, community-minded innovators, and interdisciplinary experts. They are national leaders in many areas of law, and their highly cited research is shaping the modern legal landscape.*



*Professor Andrew Leipold*

*"The first-year students are very smart, but, unlike any other graduate program, they don't need to know any criminal law or law period when they come here. So, the learning curve is very steep, and it's fun to work with people who are just starting to learn a brand new topic."*



# 42% #38 6.6:1

Tenured Faculty with Additional  
Advanced Non-Law Degrees

Scholarly Impact Ranking

(Leiter Poll, 2024)

Student to Teacher Ratio



Our faculty are regularly quoted by and pen op-eds for major media outlets, including CNN, NPR, the New York Times, the Washington Post, the Wall Street Journal, and many more.



Visit [law.illinois.edu/news](https://law.illinois.edu/news) to see the latest.





## Public Interest

*As part of the state's land-grant university, an important aspect of our mission is to advance justice and the public good. We offer significant resources to our students that aspire to careers in the public sector, from experiential opportunities such as clinics and field placements to fellowships, scholarships, and a career counselor devoted entirely to public interest.*



**Eliana Finkelstein '25**

*"My fellowship with the Justice John Paul Stevens Foundation has enabled me to spend my 2L summer clerking at the Law Office of the Cook County Public Defender. My experience working in a misdemeanor courtroom*

*on Chicago's West Side has been phenomenal. Throughout the summer, I've been forming meaningful relationships with the attorneys and our clients, researching fascinating areas of criminal law, and developing my litigation skills. Using my 711 student practice license and under an attorney's supervision, I represented a client at trial on my own and won a not guilty verdict. Without the support of the Justice John Paul Stevens Foundation, I may not have had the ability to take on an unpaid position and would have missed this incredible opportunity."*

### Clinics

- › Family Advocacy Clinic
- › Immigration Law Clinic
- › Medical Legal Partnership Clinic
- › Veterans Legal Clinic

### Field Placements

- › Legal Externships
- › State Appellate Prosecutor

### Coursework \*sample listing

- › Comparative Equality Law
- › Ethics, Law, and the Environment
- › Climate Law & Policy
- › Poverty and the Law
- › Race & Policing
- › Social Justice & the Supreme Court

### Fellowships

To financially assist students in building careers in the public sector, the College of Law offers support to current students as well as graduates in the form of fellowships.



Learn more about these opportunities at [law.illinois.edu/fellowships](http://law.illinois.edu/fellowships).

## Immigration Law Clinic

The main mission of the Immigration Law Clinic is to provide direct legal services to members of the community who cannot otherwise afford them. Led by Professor Lauren Aronson, a seasoned immigration law professional, students receive instruction on substantive law, procedures, and concepts required to represent clients in a multitude of immigration matters. Students hone their advocacy skills by directly serving clients in interviews and counseling, in trial preparation, and in court.

### Clinic Victory

After hours of interviews, research, writing, and compiling a case to present in court, there are several emotions a young lawyer might feel. Nothing compares, however, to the flood of emotion that comes with hearing the judge announce a decision in favor of your client, which is exactly what Marco Becerra '24 and Akshay Krishnamani '24 felt on March 4 when the Immigration Court in Chicago granted asylum to the

third-year students' clients.

The big, emotional moment began in August of 2023, when Becerra and Krishnamani were assigned to work on a case fighting the removal of three citizens of Nicaragua.

"Initially, our job was just building rapport, explaining to them what the purpose of the clinic is, how we're going to help them," Becerra said. From there, the clinicians had the task of building the case and establishing credibility of the clients.

The duo did a remarkable job, successfully winning asylum for their clients to keep their family together in the United States.

"I can't believe that you can graduate from law school without working on a case. To me, that's kind of crazy," Becerra said, stressing how useful he found the clinic opportunity to be in his education.





*I hope that they learn what it means to be a zealous advocate. They may not all practice in this area, but hopefully they will maintain an understanding of the importance of this work. I hope that they understand the complexity of immigration law and feel confident dispelling misconceptions about it.*

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*Professor Lauren Aronson*

Immigration Law Clinic Director





# The Chicago Program

*The Chicago Program offers semester-long Chicago-based courses and events for interested third-year students. The innovative curriculum is taught by leading practitioners and College faculty, who offer real-world experience and advice to students. Being in the heart of Chicago gives students opportunities to network and attend the College's Chicago-based alumni programs. A flexible schedule also allows students to work part-time, start post-graduation jobs early, intern with firms or judges, or interview with prospective employers.*

Events and lectures are open to all third-year students, offering fantastic opportunities to network with the College's more than 4,000 Chicago-based alumni. Launched in 2012, the Chicago Program is designed to enrich the College's curriculum, expand professional opportunities for students, and involve alumni and other practitioners more closely in the College's educational mission.



Hear more about what to expect in the Chicago Program at [law.illinois.edu/chicagoprogram](http://law.illinois.edu/chicagoprogram)



## Miranda

*"Just being in the city provides a different outlook to school in the first place because you're surrounded by people who aren't in law school, so your frame of thinking is beyond a classroom setting, which I think is really valuable. I can walk down the street and see things that are going on in Chicago and be able to bring that back to class."*

**Miranda Greene** '23 | *Ice Miller*



# Corporate Counsel Practicum

*At the start of each summer, interested students have the opportunity to earn academic credit while learning in an in-house legal department via our Corporate Counsel Practicum. The course begins with an intensive one-week classroom component and culminates in a field placement at a general counsel's office. As part of their placement, students may be asked to conduct legal research, write memoranda, sit in on meetings or negotiations, and more.*

Recently, the classroom component of the program has begun incorporating daylong visits to companies hosted by our alumni in general counsel positions. The 2025 cohort visited Caterpillar Inc., where they toured the factory and worked with in-house attorneys on a series of case studies focused on intellectual property, commercial litigation, and compliance issues.



## Professor Nicola Sharpe

*"The best learning takes place when the classroom meets the real world. The day with Caterpillar attorneys offered College of Law students exactly this type of invaluable educational opportunity. Beyond learning, we got to take a virtual ride in the Cat 797F Mining Truck, which was fantastic! The visit was the highlight of the week, and we are grateful for the experience."*







# DISCOVERY



# 10

Clinics, Field Placements, and  
Live Client Courses

# 20+

Professional Skills Courses

# 20

Competition Teams

(Trial, Moot Court, Negotiations,  
and Client Counseling)

**Students and alumni frequently report that hands-on, active learning programs are among the most meaningful experiences that they have at Illinois Law.** During the second and third years of law school, you'll "learn by doing" in live-client and professional skills courses, clinics, and externships. Through these formative experiences, you'll discover the type of lawyer you want to be and, ultimately, the career path you plan to pursue.

# Trial Advocacy

*In 2021, the trial advocacy program at Illinois benefited from the establishment of the Anderson Center for Advocacy and Professionalism and the hiring of seasoned advocacy professor Tony Ghiotto. The Center provides best-in-class training to Illinois students in a wide variety of advocacy skills as well as professional responsibility, an important aspect that sets our program apart.*

# 65

student participants



# A GRADE

## Trial Advocacy Program

(PreLaw Magazine, two consecutive years: 2024 and 2025)





### Regional Champions

National Moot Court Competition  
(three consecutive years)



### National Champions

Hofstra Medical Trial Competition



### Ashley Bussell '26

*"As a first-generation law student, I truly appreciate the opportunity to not only advance my advocacy skills but also to consider what types of law interest me the most.... I want to use my JD to advocate for my clients, acting as a voice for those who need it most. Being part of trial team will help me gain the experience needed to achieve this goal, as well as greatly enrich my law school experience."*

# 9<sup>th</sup>

Fordham Law School's rankings

# 11<sup>th</sup>

Gavel Trial Rankings

# First Amendment Clinic

## *First Amendment Clinic students present argument before the Sixth Circuit*

Tuesday, June 11, was about as perfect a day as you could ask for in Cincinnati, Ohio. There was barely a cloud in the sky and the mercury never surpassed 77 degrees. As First Amendment Clinic Director Lena Shapiro and clinicians Lilian Alexandrova '24 and Jonathan Resnick '24 approached the steps of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, however, Resnick's brow might have been a bit dewy.

"The night before and the morning of, I was incredibly stressed and nervous, like nothing I've ever felt in my life," Resnick said with a laugh.

His nerves were understandable, of course, as he stood before the last appellate court before the Supreme Court, ready to take part in the first arguments presented by any First Amendment Clinic students.

He, Alexandrova, and Shapiro were appearing on behalf of a group of Libertarians whose members fell out of favor with the national party and were banned from using the national organization's name and logo. The group had been restricted via an injunction from U.S. District Judge Judith E. Levy in August. It was at this point the Clinic got involved, helping appeal the decision to the Sixth Circuit in the case of *Libertarian National Committee v. Saliba*.

Alexandrova and Resnick were paired together for this case in fall 2023 and dove headlong into the work, finding inspiration in other classes and drawing upon their whole experience at the College of Law to create a strong argument for their clients. Close to the deadline for the brief,

the clinicians, along with Shapiro and co-counsel, C. Nicholas Curcio of the Curcio Law Firm, went through an estimated eight or nine revisions over the course of several weeks, sacrificing free time and working late. The experience was nearly overwhelming, but the pair agreed it was among the most consequential aspects of their legal education.

"I honestly think it's the most valuable thing I did in law school," Alexandrova said.

"I think this type of experience is almost necessary," Resnick agreed.

Brief writing was just a part of the experience, however, and the immensity of it did not scare the students away from signing up for another semester. To prepare for oral arguments in spring, College of Law professors put Alexandrova and Resnick through a litany of moot court sessions. With help from fellow students Christian Hallerud '24 and Diana Sweeney '24, the duo created arguments to present before the likes of Rummana Alam, Vikram Amar, Sean Anderson, Jim Fessler, Eric Johnson, Andrew Leipold, and Jason Mazzone. Despite the challenge—particularly from Amar and Mazzone, Resnick noted—the young attorneys felt much better prepared as a result.

"They were pretty intense. They didn't hold back. They would interrupt you nonstop," Alexandrova recounted. "I think that helped make me a better advocate for sure. I learned how to think on my feet a lot more than I ever have before. I personally, I have six years of mock trial experience, so I'm used to responding to evidentiary objections on the spot, but when it's about the law and your entire argument, I think that's a little bit harder."

Although the anxiety was real as they entered the courtroom in June, their preparation and the presence of Shapiro at their side helped to settle

their nerves. As the last case on the day's schedule, the experience of watching other arguments—including arguments from University of Michigan law students—calmed them further.

When *Libertarian National Committee v. Saliba* was brought before the judges, Alexandrova delivered the argument while Resnick and Shapiro took notes and helped organize their rebuttal, which Resnick delivered. Their line of reasoning, that the case is fundamentally about the right to dissent and how not overturning or vacating the preliminary injunction would have a chilling effect on free speech, drew kind words from the judges hearing the case.

Shapiro had nothing but praise for her students as well.

"I'm extraordinarily proud," she said. "They were very diligent. They took this very seriously, and they gave up time during their bar prep study in the summer to do this.... They worked great as a team. It was a pleasure to have them both semesters and into the summer. I would just really commend their hard work and their persistence to get better and advocate on behalf of our clients."

Though they must wait on a decision, the experience itself has

been something both clinicians reflected fondly upon as they studied for the bar and prepared for careers in litigation.

"When we were in the Sixth Circuit in Ohio, I felt like there was a reason we were doing this kind of work," Alexandrova said. "And when you really think about it, if the Clinic didn't take the case, I think effectively our clients would have been silenced. So, on a big-picture level, I think what we did was important."





# Career Planning and Professional Development

*The Office of Career Planning and Professional Development prepares students to succeed in a competitive legal marketplace by providing them with ready access to the Chicago market and other major markets, a strong alumni network, practical skills training, alternative avenues to begin their careers, and individualized support.*

**95%**

**Bar Passage Rate**

July 2024 Illinois Bar (first-time takers)

**98%**

**Employment Rate**

(Class of 2024, full-time, long-term, JD-preferred)

**4**

**Attorney-Counselors**



# TAILORED Career Advising



## **Steven Santamarina '24**

*"Starting from 1L [Career Counselor] Alex Piller made a point to repeatedly reach out to me offering help with resume development and targeted job searching. He was always very responsive, even when I took a while to get back to him. He was always available for mock interviews both for summer positions during 1L and 2L and for full time jobs during 3L. On more than one occasion he went out of his way to conduct an early morning mock phone interview to accommodate my schedule. Especially during 3L he repeatedly sent me career events that might interest me, and job listings tailored to my personal goals. I really felt supported by the career office and that helped a lot to build my confidence when it came to job searching.*

*"I will be joining Spiros as a full-time associate in August, and I couldn't have asked for a better career outcome. I anticipate that the work will be competitive and intellectually challenging, and the firm appears to have a great culture where I hope to really grow. I chose Illinois instead of other similarly ranked law schools because of what I perceived to be a strong career department. That has proven true during my time here and I couldn't be more grateful."*

# Preparing for Practice

## Externships

Through the Legal Externship Program, students can volunteer their time to perform legal work for pre-approved sponsors (judges, government agencies, and non-profits) and obtain course credit. Externships are composed of the field placement (work experience) and coursework. This arrangement provides students with a substantial experience similar to a lawyer engaged in legal practice. The opportunity to work with practicing attorneys outside of the classroom environment helps students connect what they are learning with their future careers.

## Clerkships

Each year, a portion of our graduates land the most coveted of positions coming out of law school: judicial clerkships. Clerks are selected to work with an entire court or an individual judge. The clerk assists the judge with legal research, analysis of the law, and drafting of legal memoranda, including judicial opinions. Judicial clerkships are highly prestigious and highly competitive appointments and provide many clerks with a competitive edge in post-clerkship employment in both the public and private sectors.

### Sarah Shamsi '25

Extern for Department of Law, City of Chicago



*"I think this is one of the best experiences I've ever had, and I truly, truly mean that. The city's summer law clerk program was really eye-opening and informative. They took us on a bunch of different excursions just to show*

*us how the city works, what other departments there are, how it all fits, how different lawyers are involved there, but also just to show us how such a big city functions."*

### Alex Bailey '23

Judicial Law Clerk for Hon. Crystal S. Wildeman,  
Southern District of Indiana



*"When it comes to the type of writing that Illinois teaches students, as well as the research skills, it seemed like I was able to hit the ground running when I came here. Whether it be regular research for the judge or drafting a motion or having to communicate with parties outside of chambers, I think that Illinois really gave me the tools to be successful from day one. I can't say enough great things."*



## ***Jurist in Residence***

In the 2024–25 academic year, the College of Law launched the Jurist in Residence program, hosting Judge Thomas Kirsch of the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. One of only two law schools in the state to formalize the program, we pursued this initiative to deepen connections to the bench, inspire students to pursue judicial clerkships, and provide opportunities to learn from leading legal minds. While in residence, Judge Kirsch taught a seminar-style course on public corruption and participated in several student-focused events, including a Fireside Chat with the student body. We look forward to hosting many more state and federal judges in the future of this program as we continue to expose our students to the cutting edge of legal issues and developments.

### **Bobby Mannis '25**

*“Judge Kirsch sharing his perspective as a Seventh Circuit jurist and former U.S. Attorney deepened my desire to pursue white-collar prosecution. This class, where Judge Kirsch knew each of our names, taught about statutes and their interpretation, and shared his experiences, was a defining moment in my law school career.”*



Hear more about Sarah, Alex and Bobby's experiences on the Illinois Lawcast at [rss.com/podcasts/illinois-lawcast/](https://rss.com/podcasts/illinois-lawcast/)







# COMMUNITY





Champaign-Urbana is a "micro-urban" community unlike other Midwestern cities. With a vibrant arts and culture scene, diverse population, multidisciplinary research and technology enterprises, highly rated restaurants, and affordable cost of living, it is an ideal place to live, study, and work.

**We embrace not only where we are, but who we are—a diverse population of students, faculty, staff, and alumni that make Illinois Law such a dynamic and energizing place to find yourself.**



# Our Students

*At Illinois, you can pursue your interests and create lasting relationships among our smart, driven, and passionate student body. Complementing the breadth of courses and practical training is an array of opportunities for active engagement outside the classroom.*



College-sponsored  
student trips

*Bona Fide*

ILLINI



**Iyana Alleyne** '25

*"Illinois is kind of the perfect place to be. I had never been to the Midwest or lived in the Midwest—I'm from a super small island—but I still found a way to make this place home. And it's very easy to do that because there are things for everyone, both at the law school and in Urbana-Champaign more broadly."*

# 30+

Student Organizations

# 100+

Lectures and events per year

## Genaro Mauricio '26

*"At Illinois, you meet attorneys who are practicing in different fields and you get a better understanding of their day-to-day lives, the work that they do, and what they see as the benefit of that work. There are people, professors, and events at Illinois that will inevitably shape the direction you're meant to go."*



## Rama Hamad '25

*"Law school is hard, and you're going to be competing—that's a guarantee anywhere you go. But my friends that are in my classes, I love to learn from them. Both classmates and professors, they're always willing to help when questions come up."*



# Our Alumni Network

*Illinois Law alumni are everywhere important things are happening. You can find Illini at leading international law firms; founding cutting-edge boutiques; serving as CEOs, CFOs, and in-house counsel at Fortune 500 companies; in public service as federal and state judges, prosecutors, and public defenders. Our alumni are not only accomplished, but also incredibly loyal and willing to mentor, teach, hire, and support our students.*



**Natali Thomas, '14**  
*Partner, Walker Allen LLP*



**Amy Timm, '13**  
*Deputy General Counsel,  
Chicago Cubs*



**Amber Porter, '14**  
*Section Chief, DEA*



**Lazaro Aguiar, '21**  
*Attorney, Husch Blackwell*



**DeMario Carswell, '11**  
*Senior Associate, Goodwin  
Procter LLP*



**Rayna Gokli, '09**  
*District Court Judge, 17th  
Judicial District, Colorado*

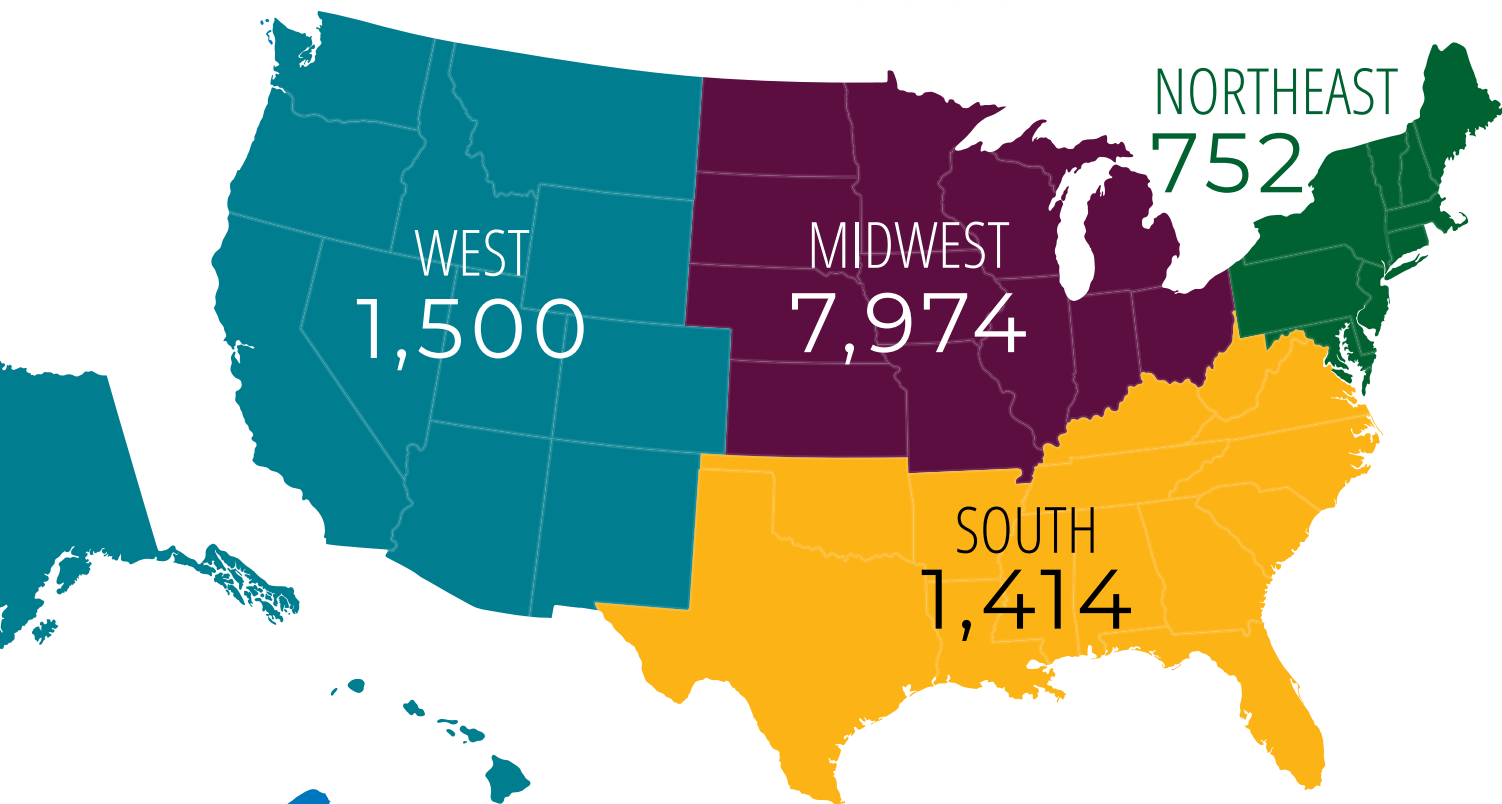


**Dania Duncan Moreno  
LLM '07**  
*Partner, Bell Nunnally*



**Michael Rowles, '92**  
*Executive Vice President and  
General Counsel, Live Nation  
Entertainment, Inc.*





# 11,640 US. Alumni

*"Nearly every position that I have held has been through an Illinois Law connection. Additionally, when I moved from Illinois to South Carolina, I was able to connect with a classmate here who provided invaluable insight about the local firms which allowed me to confidently join Walker Allen LLP as a Partner. Illinois Law provides an excellent legal education and the network to cultivate your career."*

**Natali Thomas** Partner, Walker Allen LLP





# The Campus

*Campus is more than just a place to learn, it's everything you want and need at your fingertips. You can break a sweat a few steps from the Law Building at the Activities & Recreation Center or stroll through the 160 acres of natural beauty in the UI Arboretum. Take in a world-class performance at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts or see an elite athlete compete on one of the University's 21 varsity teams. Find amazing sushi or a new sweatshirt (or both) on Green Street.*







# Student Recs

## **Madelyn Foster**

*"Hit the Quad. Truly nothing better. Take some friends and a football, some snacks and a book, or just sit and enjoy the weather!"*

## **Sarah Shamsi**

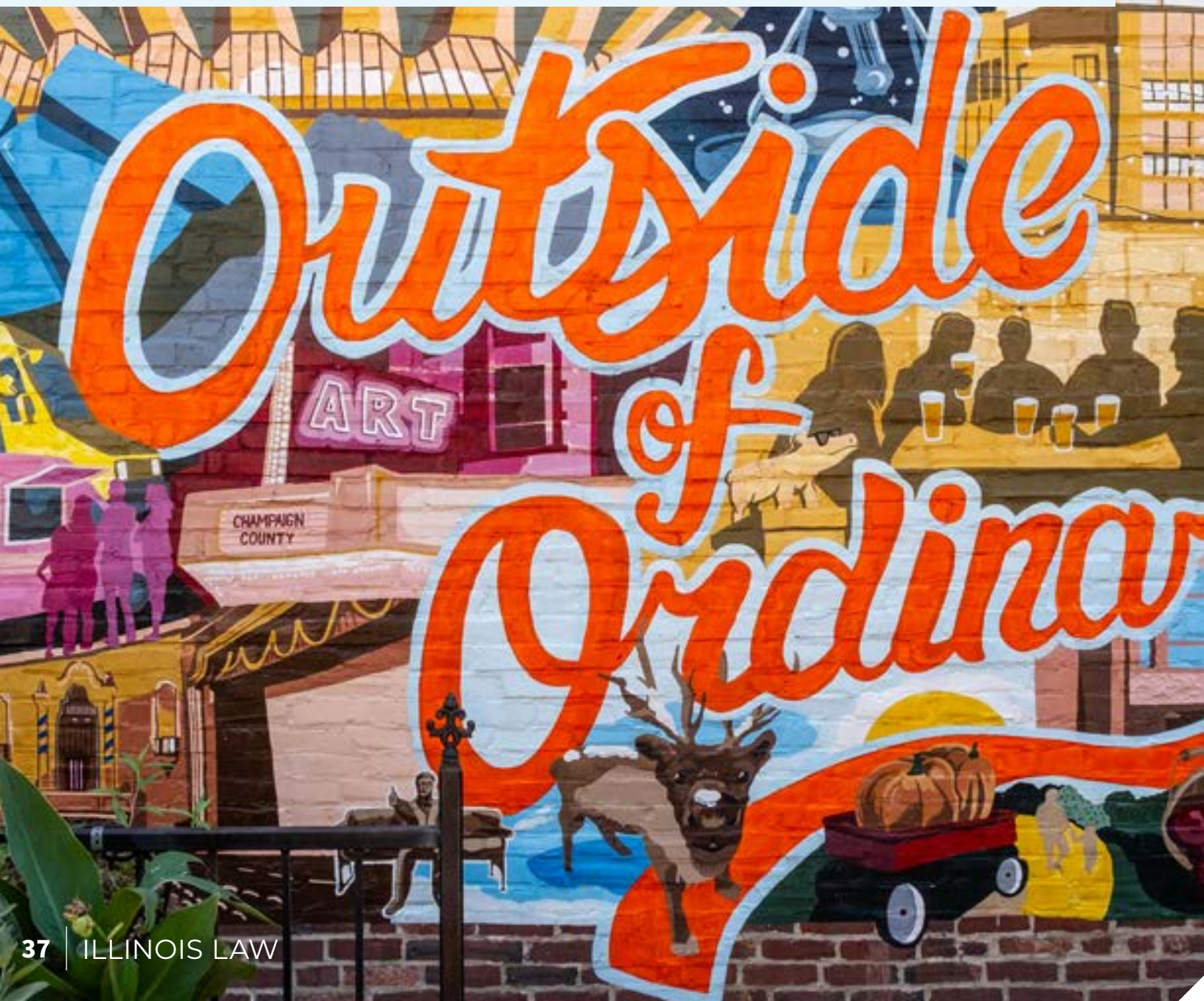
*"Caffe Paradiso is a great place if you like studying in a coffee shop! They have a wonderful variety of coffees and some great seasonal drinks."*

”



# Champaign-Urbana

*Our micro-urban community offers a little bit of everything. Over 1,200 acres of parks and five forest preserves mean you're never far from nature; boutiques in every neighborhood means you can shop local to decorate, entertain, and style; more than a dozen venues hosting artists means you can catch live music every day; and countless restaurants, breweries, and food trucks means you can eat a different cuisine for every meal. If that's not enough, being located at the crossroads of three interstates means you're only a short drive from Chicago, Indianapolis, and St. Louis, putting Champaign-Urbana at the center of everything.*





# Community Highlights



**Greatest Food Town**  
*Midwest Living*

**#13**

**U.S. College town**  
*Best College Reviews*



**Perfect score on LGBTQ Policies and Services**  
*Municipality Equality Index*

**#6**

**College Towns for Students on a Budget**  
*The New York Times*



**2024 Best Places to Live in the U.S.**  
*Livability*

**#17**

**percent of workforce engaged in knowledge, professional and creative occupations**  
*Heartland Forward*



**JOIN US**



# Tuition and Aid

Law school is a significant investment in your professional future. As a public law school on a land-grant university campus, the College of Law is committed to educational accessibility, affordability, and strong return on investment. With a frozen tuition rate and unconditional scholarships, incoming students can be confident in knowing the cost of their legal education.

- All admitted students are automatically considered for merit-based scholarships.
- Our Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP) offers partial loan forgiveness and enables graduates to pursue public interest careers.
- Federal loans are available through the University of Illinois.

## *Cost of Attendance*

(Expenses for Academic Year 2025-2026)

	Resident	Non-Resident
<b>Tuition</b>	\$36,500	\$46,500
<b>Fees*</b>	\$5,665	\$5,665
<b>Room and Board</b>	\$15,730	\$15,730
<b>Books and Supplies</b>	\$1,800	\$1,800
<b>Other Expenses</b>	\$2,750	\$3,090
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$62,445</b>	<b>\$72,785</b>

\*Fees include \$2,176 student insurance fee, for which you can submit a waiver by providing proof of a comparable plan.

# Apply

**Free application; no fee waiver required!**

## Admissions Timeline

<b>September 1</b>	Applications for the following fall are accepted.
<b>January</b>	Applicants seeking admission for the following fall are encouraged to take the LSAT no later than this month.
<b>March 15</b>	Preferred deadline for applicants. Applications will be accepted after this date, however decisions will be released as we are able.
<b>March 27</b>	Admitted Student Open House (in person)
<b>April 10</b>	Admitted Student Open House (virtual)
<b>April 13</b>	First Deposit Due
<b>May 18</b>	Second Deposit Due

## Application Requirements

The College of Law will only accept applications submitted through the LSAC Electronic Application. Applications must include:

- Complete academic history
- Law school admission test (LSAT, GRE, or JD-Next)
- Resume
- Letters of recommendation (two are required, will accept up to four)
- Personal statement

*Illinois is one of only two law schools in the state that will accept a JD-Next admissions test score. Prospective law students may opt to participate in JD-Next and use their score to apply to law schools, as an alternative to the LSAT. Participants complete an eight-week online contracts course that culminates in a law school-style exam.*

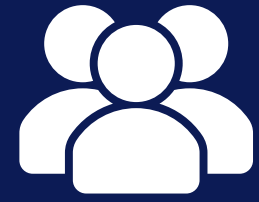
In addition to a bar examination, there are character, fitness, and other qualifications for admission to the bar in every U.S. jurisdiction. Applicants are encouraged to determine the requirements for any jurisdiction in which they intend to seek admission by contacting the jurisdiction.



**Learn more and apply:**  
[law.illinois.edu/apply](http://law.illinois.edu/apply)

## Class of 2028 Profile

191



Matriculants

24

Average Age

47% MALE

3% NONBINARY OR TRANS

47% FEMALE

4% UNDISCLOSED

19%

First Generation Students

43%

Illinois Residents

26 States & 8 Countries Represented

Median LSAT 166

25<sup>th</sup> 160 75<sup>th</sup> 168

Median GPA 3.81

25<sup>th</sup> 3.55 75<sup>th</sup> 3.92

106

Institutions Represented

61%

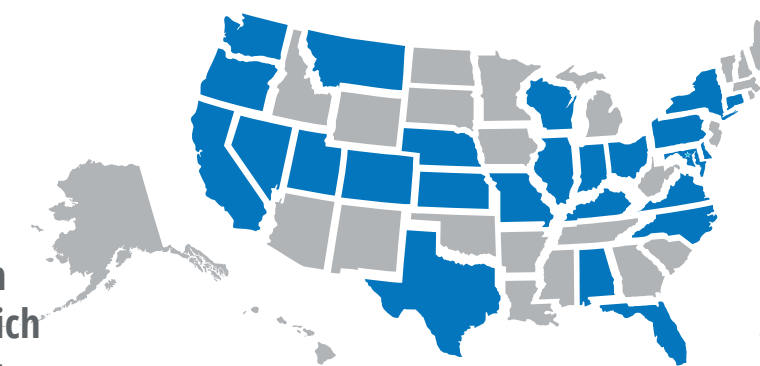
Bring Work Experience

44

Majors

95%  
PASSAGE RATE  
for July 2024 Illinois Bar (first-time takers)

98%  
EMPLOYMENT RATE  
Full-time, Long-term employment for which a JD was required or preferred. (Class of 2024)



33% of those employed from the Class of 2024 accepted positions outside of Illinois in 24 states, D.C., Guam, and 1 country. After Illinois, the largest employment states were California, Texas, and Missouri.

33%

69% LAW FIRMS

18% GOVT/PUBLIC INTEREST

4% BUSINESS/INDUSTRY

6% JUDICIAL CLERKSHIPS

3% EDUCATION

472

Total JD Enrollment



38%

Minority



6.6:1

Student Faculty



8

Joint Degree Programs



135+

Offered Courses



10

Clinics, field placements, and other live client courses



Illinois Law at a Glance





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Champaign, IL 61820

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