Laws, LLM

With many popular areas of focus, this graduate degree for lawyers caters to professionals who want to expand their legal knowledge, enhance their academic credentials, or specialize in a particular legal field.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: LL.M. Laws
The LLM program allows one year of post-JD study tailored to the scholarly and practice interests of participating students. Study is available in a variety of areas in which the law school holds particular strength.

With more than 250 unique courses to choose from each year, the 24 credit hour Master of Laws program is customized to meet students' career goals with focus on popular areas of study. The graduate program is flexible with fall and spring starts as well as full-time and part-time options. In order to be admitted to the Master of Laws program, applicants must have completed a Juris Doctor degree or a law degree at a foreign institution that would qualify an applicant to practice law.

The college also offers a Master of Laws in biotechnology and genomics and in tribal policy, law and government.

To learn more, students should attend one of many provided information sessions.

Emphasis areas include:

- business law
- criminal law
- entrepreneurship law and strategy
- health law
- Indian gaming and tribal self-governance
- Indian law
- intellectual property law
- international law
- international rule of law and security
 Degree Requirements

The program requires 24 credit hours. Required courses depend on the student's particular concentration in the degree. International students are required to take LAW 596 Professional Legal Writing. A candidate may elect either to write a master's degree portfolio paper or complete an applied project. The remaining credit hours generally are obtained from the list of elective courses. With faculty advisor approval, a candidate may satisfy up to six credit hours with courses offered by other ASU departments or by law courses that are not included on the approved elective list.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a Juris Doctor degree in the U.S. or a law degree at a foreign institution that would qualify the applicant to practice law or pursue license to practice in that country.

All applicants must submit:

1. completed LLM application form
2. official transcripts from all institutions attended
3. explanations to affirmative answers to any conduct questions
4. resume, not exceeding three typed pages
5. statement of interest, not exceeding 1,250 words (double-spaced, typed pages)
6. two letters of recommendation
7. writing sample
8. proof of English proficiency
Additional Application Information
An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of their current residency. Applicants should see the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law website for acceptable TOEFL scores and additional information for foreign educated applicants.

All foreign educated applicants are required to use the Law School Admission Council LLM Credential Assembly Service, which includes the ASU Law Electronic Application, the Document Assembly Service, and the International Transcript and Authentication Service. Students should refer to the special instructions for foreign-educated applicants at the school admission website.


The CAS report must be from the current application year and is found at https://www.lsac.org/.

U.S.-educated applicants have the option of applying through the LSAC LLM Credential Assembly Service, which includes the ASU Law Electronic Application and Document Assembly Service or applying through the ASU Law website using the LLM application form.

ASU law alumni graduates who are interested in the LLM should refer to the Law for Life program.

Transcripts and letters of recommendation or evaluations must be submitted through the Law School Admissions Council's Credential Assembly Service and these are provided to the ASU College of Law by LSAC. Transcripts are required from all institutions attended, and transcripts showing that the bachelor's degree and law degree were conferred must be included. Applicants who encounter any problems should contact the LSAC help desk at 215-968-1001.

For applications to be considered complete, submissions must include all items in the bulleted list above.

Admission to the program is competitive. Selection is based on academic background and potential, diversity of experience and background, career experience and ambitions, strength of experience related to the program sought, space and resource limitations in the law school and other factors.

Applicants should see the program website for application deadlines.

Tuition Information
When it comes to paying for college, everyone's situation is different. Students can learn about ASU tuition and financial aid options to find out which will work best for them.

Attend Online

ASU Online
ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may view the program's ASU Online page for program descriptions and to request more information.
Career Opportunities

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of lawyers is projected to grow 9% between 2020 and 2030. The Master of Laws degree can lead to a number of opportunities in the legal profession at large, helping current lawyers advance in their careers by refining their leadership skills, becoming fluent with advanced terminology, and developing a keen sense of professionalism.

Career examples include:

- chief executive officer
- chief legal officer
- judge
- law firm administrator
- law firm partner
- law school professor
- litigation support director
- politician or member of Congress
- private banker

Contact Information

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Admission Deadlines