ASU Law's three-year, full-time JD program is designed for those interested in becoming an attorney and practicing law. Within ten months of graduating, nearly 90% of our JD graduates are offered employment. Students participate in unique experiential learning opportunities and can customize their program with a comprehensive curriculum that includes 250+ courses.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: JD Juris Doctor of Law
The JD degree program from the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law prepares the next generation of legal scholars to become successful lawyers. The Juris Doctor program offers a large selection of courses with options for transdisciplinary study with other departments on campus. Students find the opportunity to take classes with a more traditional, theoretical focus and to take advantage of many options that focus on the development of practice skills. The variety of focus areas offered by ASU Law include:

- business law
- criminal law
- health law
- Indian law
- intellectual property
- international law
- international rule of law and security
- law, science and technology
- law and sustainability
- patent practice
- sports law and business
- trial advocacy

ASU Law JD students must complete a total of 88 credit hours in order to graduate. First-year JD students take courses in civil procedure, contracts, torts, legal method and writing, property, constitutional law I, criminal law, legal advocacy and professional responsibility. After the first year, all courses are electives; students must satisfy two writing requirements and an experiential requirement in order to graduate. A
full list of graduation requirements can be found on the ASU Law website: 
https://law.asu.edu/aba-disclosures.

Focus programs, (https://law.asu.edu/degree-programs), certificates (https://law.asu.edu/degree-programs/jd/certificates), study abroad options (https://law.asu.edu/experiences/abroad), the Washington, D.C. campus, and many other opportunities are available, to enhance students' experiences.

Students can pursue a Juris Doctor concurrently with other degrees from ASU like an MBA, MSW, MSLB or a PhD in justice studies. Mayo Clinic School of Medicine students also have an opportunity to pursue a dual JD/MD degree. More information is available on the Mayo Clinic and ASU website: https://mayo.asu.edu/dualdegrees.

A flexible schedule program is offered for students who wish to attend law school but cannot manage full-time enrollment due to other obligations in their lives; however, it is not an evening program. More information can be found on the ASU Law website at https://law.asu.edu/degree-programs/jd/jd-flexible-schedule.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law
- **Location:** Downtown Phoenix campus

Concurrent Program Options

Students can choose to create their own concurrent degree combination to match their interests by working with their academic advisor during or after their first semester of study. Some concurrent combinations are not possible due to high levels of overlap in curriculum; students should speak with their academic advisor for more details.

This degree is also offered as a concurrent program with the following:

Justice Studies, PhD

Compare Programs

Social Work - Standard Program, MSW

Compare Programs

W. P. Carey MBA - Full-Time Program

Compare Programs
**Degree Requirements**

**Required Core (30 credit hours)**
- LAW 515 Contracts (4)
- LAW 516 Criminal Law (3)
- LAW 517 Torts (4)
- LAW 518 Civil Procedure (4)
- LAW 519 Legal Method and Writing (3)
- LAW 522 Constitutional Law (3)
- LAW 523 Property (4)
- LAW 524 Legal Advocacy (2)
- LAW 638 Professional Responsibility (3)

**Electives (58 credit hours)**

**Additional Curriculum Information**
A minimum of 64 units must be obtained from courses that involve attendance at regularly scheduled class sessions. The following do not count toward these required 64 units: all externships; independent studies; non-LAW courses taken at the College of Law under section II A 11 c; credits received for working for a journal under section II A 11 d; credits received for Moot Court under section II A 11 e; credits received for being a teaching assistant under section II A 11 f; and credit from courses without regularly scheduled meetings.

Students should see the ASU Law's Statement of Student Policies for additional JD degree requirements.

**Admission Requirements**

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

To be considered for admission to the JD program, applicants must have taken the LSAT (excludes applicants applying to the ASU Achievement Program) and have earned or will earn by the time of enrollment in law school a bachelor's degree that has been awarded by an institution that is accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education.

ASU Law requires applicants to apply electronically through the Law School Admission Council website at [https://www.lsac.org/](https://www.lsac.org/).

An application for admission must include:

1. electronic application (application fee waived for all 2021 applicants)
2. personal statement (no more than two pages, double-spaced and font size no smaller than 11 point)
3. resume (no more than two pages and font size no smaller than 11 point)
4. character and fitness statement, if applicable, explaining affirmative answers to questions 1-8 in the Character and Fitness section
5. binding admission contract, if applicable;
6. a valid LSAT score (excludes applicants applying to the ASU Achievement Program)
7. transcripts from each undergraduate and graduate institution attended (must be sent to LSAC)
8. proof of English proficiency for applicants whose native language is not English regardless of current residency.

Applications may also include:

- letters of recommendation: no more than two letters submitted through LSAC to be included in applicant's Credential Assembly Service report*
- Optional addenda

*Since these are not required, the admission office will not wait for letters to complete an applicant's file for review.

**Additional Application Information**
The JD program enrolls one first-year class per year, entering in the fall semester. The degree is a three-year full-time program. However, ASU Law offers a flexible scheduling option for students with circumstances that make full-time enrollment impossible, but it is not an evening program. Admission to ASU Law is competitive and each year ASU Law receives more applications from eligible candidates than can be accommodated.

ASU Law seeks to enroll a dynamic group of individuals that will provide an engaging learning environment. The admissions committee makes decisions after considering all the information provided by the applicant. Among the factors influencing the admission decision are LSAT performance, undergraduate grade point average, quality and grading patterns of undergraduate institutions, previous graduate education, demonstrated commitment to public service, work and leadership experience, extracurricular or community activities, history of overcoming economic or other disadvantages, uniqueness of experience and background, maturity, ability to communicate, foreign language proficiency, honors and awards, service in the armed forces, and publications.

For detailed information about the Juris Doctor application process, interested applicants are asked to visit the ASU Law website. [https://law.asu.edu/admission/jd](https://law.asu.edu/admission/jd)

**Global Opportunities**

**Global Experience**
Study abroad is possible for graduate students, with more than 50 program opportunities spanning seven continents. Faculty-directed programs tend to be the best fit for graduate students; taking courses over the summer or during academic breaks with ASU professors offers close mentorship and professional network growth in many fields of study while earning ASU credit. Exchange program participation is also possible with careful planning. More information is available on the Global Education website. [https://goglobal.asu.edu/students/graduate-students](https://goglobal.asu.edu/students/graduate-students)
Career Opportunities

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of lawyers is projected to grow 9% between 2020 and 2030. The Juris Doctor degree can lead to a lucrative career in any of several fields.

Career examples include:

- administrative or regulatory attorney
- antitrust lawyer
- appellate lawyer
- arbitration, mediation and dispute resolution attorney
- banking lawyer
- chief executive officer
- chief legal officer
- compliance attorney
- corporate lawyer
- criminal prosecutor or criminal defense attorney
- education lawyer
- elder law attorney
- environmental lawyer
- family lawyer or divorce attorney
- health care lawyer
- human rights or civil rights lawyer
- immigration attorney
- intellectual property lawyer
- international lawyer
- judge advocate in the U.S. military
- judicial clerk
- law firm administrator
- law firm partner
- law school professor
- politician or member of congress
- tax lawyer

Professional Licensure

ASU programs that may lead to professional licensure or certification are intended to prepare students for potential licensure or certification in Arizona. Completion of an ASU program may not meet educational requirements for licensure or certification in another state. For more information, students should visit the ASU professional licensure webpage: https://admission.asu.edu/academics/licensure.
Contact Information

Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law | BCLS 420
asulaw.admissions@asu.edu | 480-965-1474

Admission Deadlines