The University of Maine School of Law. Committed to justice and leadership in a changing world.
We believe it’s time to reimagine what a law school can be.

This means engaging with communities outside of our building and outside of our comfort zones. It means renewing our commitment to public service, and standing up for justice, rather than watching from a safe distance. It means collaborating with other institutions of higher education, industry, and non-profit organizations to help solve complex problems, from economic development in rural Maine, to civil rights in developing nations. It’s a vision that calls on us to break down old barriers.
Our 2021 Enrolling Class

- **91** Class Size
- **158** Median LSAT
- **3.57** Median UGPA
- **154/161** 25th/75th percentiles LSAT
- **3.24/3.79** 25th/75th percentiles UGPA
- **27** Average Age
- **21-57** Age Range
- **19** States Represented
- **71** Undergraduate Institutions Represented
- **64%** Women
- **67%** Students with Merit Scholarships

Average student debt load is half the national average.
Legal education. Built around you.

An education that is individually tailored to you from day one. Small classes where you develop close bonds with classmates and professors. Legal aid clinics where you represent real clients and learn how to work like a lawyer, not just think like one. A network of people who care about your success during law school and beyond. An ideal location in a city that has been described as a gem of the East Coast.

If this is what you are looking for in a law school, Maine Law might be the place for you.
We take pride in providing the personal attention that few schools can match, a focus on hands-on learning, and a world-class faculty drawn to our incredible setting on the coast of the Atlantic Ocean. Maine Law graduates are public and private sector leaders regionally and around the world. They are judges, elected officials, lawyers in a wide range of practice, CEOs, activists, authors, and arbitrators.

The three-year curriculum offers courses that range from the bedrock foundation of the Socratic method, to legal aid clinics where students represent real clients in real Maine courts. The underlying purpose of the curriculum is to give students a solid foundation in legal analysis and practical lawyering skills that will serve them well in any field they choose to pursue.

Below is a sampling of popular concentrations:

**Earn a Certificate in Information Privacy Law:** In the digital age, data breaches and cybersecurity issues regularly make headlines, and personal information is a coveted commodity. Our legal structure must protect privacy rights while preserving commerce and innovation. Maine Law offers unique opportunities and access in information privacy law. We offer a Certificate in Information Privacy, the Information Privacy Summer Institute, and deep connections to the international Information Privacy community.

**Earn a Certificate in Environmental, Energy, Land Use, and Oceans Law:** Maine Law faculty are at the forefront of research and policy in these rich and wide-ranging areas of study. From our Arctic Summer Institute, to practicums in energy and environmental law, to nationally recognized scholarship around land use, renewable energy, and other sustainable development, our faculty are leading national discourse.

**Earn a Certificate in Transactional Law:** Lawyers play a pivotal role in a wide range of transactions and other matters distinct from litigation. A foundation in business law, negotiation skills, statutory analysis, and public policy is critical for lawyers engaged in litigation and nonlitigation practices alike, and in their civic leadership activity. Maine Law offers a rich mix of curricular and fieldwork opportunities in corporate law, tax, finance, non-profits, economic development, commercial law, intellectual property, compliance, land use, bankruptcy, and more.

**Criminal Law:** In addition to core criminal law doctrinal course offerings, students also have a myriad of clinical and other experiential learning opportunities to prepare themselves for the practice of criminal law.

**Earn a Certificate in Compliance:** In addition to our J.D. compliance offerings, Maine Law offers a Compliance Certificate Program for nonlawyers that stresses skill building for compliance professionals. The individual courses in the program provide skill building and development components and are designed to give participants hands-on experience in the various tasks expected of compliance professionals. In addition to the introductory course and a course addressing Enterprise Risk Management, other courses address a variety of topics relevant to Maine’s business, non-profit, and government communities.
**Dual Degree Opportunities:**

*J.D./M.B.A. (4 years)*  
With the University of Maine Graduate School of Business

*J.D./M.P.H. (4 years)*  
With the Muskie School of Public Service at the University of Southern Maine

*J.D./M.P.P.M. (4 years)*  
With the Muskie School of Public Service at the University of Southern Maine

**Study Abroad Opportunities:**

Maine Law offers international exchanges with the following institutions:

- Arctic University of Norway (Norway)
- Cergy-Pontoise University (France)
- City University of Hong Kong (China)
- National University of Ireland (Galway)
- Reykjavik University School of Law (Iceland)
- Tsinghua University School of Law (China)
- Université Le Mans (France)
- University of New Brunswick (Canada)
- University of Rennes 1 (France)

**Journals:**

*Maine Law Review:* The Maine Law Review is published twice annually by second and third year students at Maine Law. The Law Review contains case notes and comments written by our students on current legal problems, as well as articles by judges, professors, and practitioners on pertinent legal issues.

*Ocean and Coastal Law Journal:* The Ocean and Coastal Law Journal (OCLJ) is dedicated to facilitating discourse on legal issues related to domestic and international use of the sea and seashores. It is published by second and third year students at Maine Law. Volumes include articles by practitioners and scholars, as well as comments and case notes written by students addressing issues of marine resource regulation, coastal zone management, marine environmental protection, and other topics of importance in the field of ocean and coastal law.

**Selected Signature Events:**

*Justice For Women Lecture Series:* We bring a distinguished speaker to Maine annually to present a public lecture and to contribute to a global conversation about justice for women and girls in the developing world. Past lecture topics have included: the human rights crisis in Mexico; the struggle for human rights in Syria; food insecurity; and ending sex trafficking in India.

*Judge Frank M. Coffin Lecture on Law and Public Service:* Every fall, we host a distinguished speaker to present a lecture in honor of the late Judge Frank M. Coffin, a longtime federal judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, former member of Congress, and renowned leader and mentor in public service. Past lecturers have included Mary Bonauto, Civil Rights Project Director, Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders; and Kevin Gover, Director of the Smithsonian Institution’s Museum of the American Indian, among many others.

*Academic Success Program at Maine Law:* Maine Law offers a full array of academic success programming, including a mini bar exam for first year students, academic success teaching fellows in all first year doctrinal classes, a bar preparation class for third year students, and a faculty director of our academic success program.

**7-1 student to faculty ratio**
Learning by Doing

Externships, Semesters-in-Practice, and Experiential Learning Opportunities

Externships:
Maine Law’s Externship Program allows students to work alongside seasoned attorneys and judges for academic credit. Depending on the placement, students in the Externship Program handle advocacy, policy, regulatory enforcement, and transactional legal matters, and may have the opportunity to practice as a student attorney during their third year of law school.

Recent externship placements include:
- **Corporate:** TD Bank N.A.; Cianbro Corporation; Foreside Financial Group, LLC; WEX
- **Criminal:** Offices of the United States Attorney and the Maine Attorney General; Federal Defender’s Office; various District Attorney and public defender offices
- **Environmental:** Conservation Law Foundation; Maine Attorney General’s Office – Natural Resources Division; Maine Department of Environmental Protection; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- **Health:** InterMed P.A.; Mercy Hospital; Maine Medical Association; Consumers for Affordable Health Care; Penobscot Community Health Care; MaineHealth
- **Judicial Externships:** State District Court; U.S. Bankruptcy Court; U.S. District Court (Maine); U.S. Court of Appeals (First Circuit)
- **Privacy:** International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP); Elsevier; RXAnte; Maine Attorney General’s Office – Public Access Ombudsman
- **Public Interest:** Disability Rights Maine; Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project (ILAP); Legal Services for the Elderly; Pine Tree Legal Assistance
- **Create Your Own Externship:** In addition to regularly offered externship placements, students can also create their own externships at any number of courts, agencies, or institutions.

Semester in Practice:
The Semester in Practice Externship Program allows selected students the unique opportunity to spend an entire semester working alongside a seasoned attorney. This is a full-time externship, which provides 12-14 credits for the semester anywhere in the country or the world.

Rural Pathway:
Rural communities face a crisis in their access to justice. A lack of access to lawyers, and by definition justice, threatens to grow significantly worse due to changing demographics and an aging legal workforce. Maine Law has emerged as a leader in efforts to develop the next generation of rural lawyers. Through the innovative Rural Lawyer Project and Rural Legal Aid Clinic, we are comprehensively tackling a serious problem that confronts Maine and other states. In 2017, with funding from the Maine Justice Foundation, Maine Law launched a program to combat this problem by awarding paid summer fellowships to students to work in law offices in Maine’s most rural counties. The Rural Law Fellowships pair students with rural lawyers who serve as mentors, and provide direct exposure to rural practice and inspire them to pursue careers in these communities.

Moot Court:
The Moot Court Board at Maine Law is available to selected students during their second and third year. The Board has up to six teams that travel to moot court competitions across the U.S. Recent Moot Court Teams have won multiple awards including Prize Brief in the Brown Admiralty Law Competition, two prize arguers in the Gibbons Criminal Procedure competition, and the Prize Brief in the Jessup International Law Competition.
At Maine Law students are guaranteed a clinical or externship experience.
The Cumberland Legal Aid Clinic
Programs and Policy Initiatives

**Refugee and Human Rights Clinic:** In the Refugee and Human Rights Clinic (RHRC), students serve as the attorneys assisting low income immigrants through a broad range of cases and projects. Maine Law students are responding to immigration crises as they arise, including working with the Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project, an immigration non-profit in Maine, by helping conduct intakes and education presentations to the newly arrived asylum seekers in Portland, Maine. Students enrolled in the RHRC have also traveled to Laredo, Texas, to volunteer in week- or semester-long increments with the Laredo Project, a collaboration between Jones Day and the Rio Grande Legal Aid. Students’ work involves conducting intakes with detained women and assessing their eligibility for relief from deportation.

**Youth Justice Clinic and the Center for Juvenile Policy and Law:** The Youth Justice Clinic provides students the opportunity to address the needs of troubled children in a number of diverse settings. Students in the Youth Justice Clinic frequently collaborate with local agencies to assist clients in meeting educational, mental health, and housing needs. With guidance and instruction from a faculty supervisor, student attorneys meet with clients and their families, attend school meetings, file motions, appear in court, and take the lead in developing programs for their clients designed to avoid both incarceration and recidivism. Students also work with other legal aid attorneys at the collaborative “Tuesdays at the Teen Center” project, which involves weekly meetings with homeless teens at the Preble Street Teen Center to provide free legal advice, resource referrals, and an occasional pizza. Established in 2017 with a grant from the John T. Gorman Foundation, the Maine Center for Juvenile Policy and Law (MCJPL) supports Youth Justice Clinic students and faculty in their policy work. Students work with the MCJPL, Maine’s Youth Justice Advisory Group, and Criminal Law Advisory Committee to research, draft, and advocate for proposed legislation.

**Prisoner Assistance Clinic:** When people are incarcerated, their “normal” lives get placed on pause – but their legal affairs and loved ones don’t. Prisoners and their families face difficult circumstances for managing parental rights, probate, and other civil matters. Whether these issues are related to the incarceration or independent of it, they require legal counsel often impossible for prisoners to obtain. The Prisoner Assistance Clinic helps inmates at the Maine Correctional Center in Windham in the Men’s, Women’s, and Pre-Release Units. Third year law students, who have been sworn in as student attorneys, meet with their clients in the prison to assist them with their civil legal matters.

**Rural Legal Aid Clinic:** This program was developed to offer students interested in rural practice an opportunity to experience the benefits that come with living and working in a rural region while helping to provide legal services to a chronically underserved region. In partnership with the University of Maine at Fort Kent, Maine Law’s Rural Legal Aid Clinic will provide residents of northern Maine assistance with a wide variety of legal issues. Students are housed on the campus of UMFK at no cost to the student. While living in Fort Kent and participating in the Rural Legal Aid Clinic, each student is expected to maintain a caseload and represent clients in legal matters including Criminal Defense, Protective Custody, Family Matters, Debt Collection Defense, and Foreclosure Defense. In addition to assisting clients in longer-term litigation, Rural Legal Aid Clinic students provide short term, limited representation to community members in civil and criminal matters.

**Protection from Abuse Program:** Most students enrolled in Clinic courses also participate in the Protection from Abuse Program, where they represent victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Clinic student attorneys work closely with court advocates from Safe Voices, a non-profit organization based in Lewiston-Auburn. The Clinic’s work in this program is highly valued by the courts. With the assistance of counsel, most cases are settled without a trial. If an agreed resolution of the case cannot be reached through negotiation, the student attorney represents the client at trial.

**General Practice Clinic:** Each student in the General Practice Clinic maintains a caseload and represents several low income individuals in various areas of the law. Student attorneys interview and counsel clients, develop case theories, conduct discovery, negotiate with opposing parties, prepare cases for court, and conduct hearings, trials, and appeals. Students regularly brief and argue cases before the Maine Supreme Judicial Court and participate in hundreds of matters before Maine’s federal, state, and probate courts, and administrative agencies. Student attorneys take on a wide range of case types in the General Practice Clinic, from criminal defense to family law to consumer law.
“We believe the best way to learn how to practice law is by practicing law.”

– Deirdre Smith, Professor of Law
**Ari Solotoff ’15**

Arts & Entertainment
Attorney at Solotoff Law, Portland, Maine

Ari came to Maine Law after a decade of experience in the music industry and the non-profit sector. He was in executive leadership at the Philadelphia Orchestra and the Portland Symphony Orchestra. Ari chose Maine Law for the outstanding faculty and the ability to craft a personalized experience in law school. While in law school, Ari was a judicial extern with the Maine Supreme Judicial Court, a legal extern for the Chapter 13 bankruptcy trustee for the district of Maine, and a judicial extern for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit.

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**Hannah Wurgaft ’19**

Associate, Brann & Isaacson

Hannah is a native of New Jersey and found Maine and Maine Law as an undergraduate at Bowdoin College, where she had a fellowship with Maine Law’s Juvenile Justice Clinic. After Bowdoin, Hannah worked as a paralegal in the Manhattan DA’s Office. She returned to Maine Law to explore her interests in juvenile law, information privacy law, and private practice.

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**Joann Bautista ’18**

Deputy Secretary of State, Augusta, Maine

Joann grew up in Iowa and graduated from The University of Iowa. Before attending Maine Law, she worked as a paralegal at an immigration law firm in Iowa City. While at Maine Law, she was selected to participate in the 2016 summer fellowship program at the Jerome N. Frank Legal Services Organization of Yale Law School. She further explored her immigration law interests through an internship with Kids in Need of Defense (KIND) in Seattle, WA, and made several trips to Laredo, TX, to work at the border with detained women seeking asylum.

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**Heather Sanborn ’07**

Co-Owner and Director of Business Operations, Rising Tide Brewing Company, Portland, ME, and Maine State Senator

Heather was a public school teacher before studying at Maine Law. After law school, she clerked for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, worked as a litigator at a large Boston law firm, and then returned to Maine and opened Rising Tide Brewing Company with her husband. Before long she was president of the Maine Brewer’s Guild, and Rising Tide Brewing Company has established itself as a model business for sustainability and community revitalization. Heather was elected to the Maine House of Representatives, and is now a State Senator.
Our Alumni at Work

Justin Weiss ’06
Global Head of Data Privacy, Naspers Hong Kong, China

Justin took the first privacy law course at Maine Law with Trevor Hughes, CEO and President of the International Association of Privacy Professionals, in his last semester of law school. He is now a leader in the international privacy community having served as Senior Director for International Privacy and Policy at Yahoo, and now Global Head of Data Privacy at Naspers in Hong Kong. Prior to law school he was a Peace Corps volunteer in Guinea, West Africa, and worked in relations for the Olympic Winter Games Committees of Salt Lake City, Utah, and Torino, Italy.

Tunisia Poole ’05
Employment Law Team Leader at Aflac, Columbus, GA

Tunisia is a Georgia native and came to Maine Law for the faculty, culture, and affordability. From Maine Law she secured a job with a large law firm in Tennessee, and in 2007 returned to her home state to join the largest labor and employment law boutique firm in the nation. She is currently Aflac’s Employment and Labor Law team leader with a broad practice focusing on laws concerning discrimination, harassment, retaliation, workplace safety, restrictive covenants, employment agreements, and unions.

Paul Greene ’07
Founding Partner, Global Sports Advocates, LLC
Portland, ME

Paul has been recognized as one of the world’s top sports lawyers and one of twenty Global Elite Thought Leaders for Sports Law. Prior to attending Maine Law, he was a sportscaster for a Fox News affiliate in Portland, Maine. He has handled sports law matters around the world, including numerous cases before the international Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland. He is a well-known speaker and author in the area of international sports law and a professor of sports law.

Maine Law Class of 2020 Employment*

- Law Firms: 46%
- Clerkships: 17%
- Government: 7%
- Public Interest: 4%
- Education: 7%
- Business: 17%

*Percentage of reported jobs by employment sector for the Maine Law Class of 2020.

For additional information on Maine Law’s employment outcomes, please visit mainelaw.maine.edu.
Our Home

Maine: Yes. Life’s Good Here.

As the public and only law school for Maine, the University of Maine School of Law reaches all corners of the state. Strong connections to the legal community throughout Maine create myriad opportunities for students to have real impact, even as a law student. Maine Law students are drafting and lobbying for new legislation, arguing in front of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court, externing for federal and state judges, and working on policy issues that have national impact.

Engaging with our communities: In response to a rural access to justice crisis in Maine and across the country, Maine Law established the Rural Lawyer Project in 2017. The program pairs students with rural lawyers who serve as mentors, and provides students with direct exposure to rural practice to inspire them to consider pursuing careers in these communities.

Rural Lawyer Project Fellowship Placements
Think about the ideal place to study law. It should have the amenities that are most important to you, whether that means a diverse selection of local food or easy escapes into nature. It should be full of energy. No matter how far you are from your original hometown, you want it to feel like home.

For Maine Law students, that place is Portland. The city is constantly being selected for inclusion on new top 10 lists; it’s been deemed one of the best places in the U.S. to raise kids, live, find a job, and perhaps most importantly, to eat! Portland is a favorite of Washington Post and New York Times reporters.

With over 60,000 residents in the city proper (there are closer to 520,000 in the Metropolitan Statistical Area), Maine’s largest city would be considered small by many standards. But with a thriving music and art community, exceptional restaurants and breweries, and minor league baseball and basketball, there is always something to do in Portland. For those interested in outdoor activities – surfing, swimming, boating, hiking, fishing, island-hopping, mountain climbing, and skiing are an easy drive. Portland is also home to a vibrant and growing multicultural population. Students enrolled in Portland public schools speak more than 60 languages.
The Application Process

We accept applications electronically through the Law School Admission Council’s (LSAC) website. Visit them at LSAC.org for comprehensive instructions.

Eligibility: You must have a bachelor’s degree from an accredited four-year institution by the time you begin study at Maine Law or be enrolled in one of our accelerated law programs (3+3). You can find a list of participating 3+3 institutions on our website (mainelaw.maine.edu). In addition, each applicant must have taken the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) within the past five years and have registered with LSAC’s Credential Assembly Services (CAS).

Application Timeline: Applications open on September 15th and close on July 15th. Decisions are made on a rolling basis until the class is filled. We strongly encourage applicants to apply early and take the LSAT no later than January. Applicants who apply by March 1st are notified of a decision by April 15th. All other applicants will be notified on a rolling basis based on the timing of their application.

Early Action, Non-Binding Application Program: Applications submitted by November 15th with all supporting documents filed no later than December 1st will receive a decision by December 31st.

Standards for Admission: Maine Law is, by design, one of the smallest law schools in the country. We read and consider all aspects of your application and are committed to creating a diverse community of scholars and students. Age, class, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic, and career background are all considered. This diversity is a critical factor in student growth.

Law School Admissions Test (LSAT): We strongly encourage you to take the LSAT no later than January of the year you intend to matriculate. Your LSAT must have been taken within the last five years.

Academic Transcripts: Final academic transcripts from each college or university you have attended must be submitted to LSAC.

Letters of Recommendation: We require at least two letters of recommendation and no more than four. At least one letter from a professor who knows you well and can assess your academic performance and potential for the study of law is preferred. We also welcome letters from employers or supervisors who know you well and can evaluate your work ethic, judgment, motivation, communication skills, and other qualities that would make you a successful candidate.

Character and Fitness Addendum: All applicants with character and fitness disclosures must submit an explanatory addendum.

Resume: All applicants must include a resume or CV with their application.

Personal Statement: A personal statement, written in your own words, is required. It should be two to four double-spaced pages. This is your opportunity to tell us who you are. Share the experiences, values, motivations, and aspirations that will distinguish you from other applicants. Explain why you have chosen to pursue law; why you are well-suited to study and practice law. The statement will be evaluated for writing, reasoning, and communication skills.

Optional Statements: You may include additional essays to support your application. These may include a diversity statement, a statement addressing why Maine Law is the right fit for you, or a statement addressing your LSAT results or undergraduate performance.
### First Year Applicants
- Register with the Credential Assembly Services (CAS) through LSAC. All applications are accepted electronically through the Law School Admission Council’s (LSAC) website.
- Take the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT): No later than January.
- Application submitted online via LSAC.org
  - LSAT Score (must be taken within the last 5 years)
  - CAS Report
  - Two to Four Letters of Recommendation
  - Resume or CV
  - Personal Statement (two to four double-spaced pages)
  - Character and Fitness Addendum (if required)
  - Optional Essays
  - Diversity Statement
  - Why Maine Law Statement
  - LSAT or UGPA Addendum (optional)
- Complete Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by February 15. Use the University of Southern Maine code 009762.

### LL.M. Applicants
- Application submitted online via LSAC.org (Unless applying from partner institution. Please see list on our website at mainelaw.maine.edu.)
  - CAS Report
  - Two to Four Letters of Recommendation
  - Personal Statement (two to four double-spaced pages)
  - Resume or CV
  - IELTS or TOEFL Scores
  - Character and Fitness Addendum (if required)

### Visiting Students
Maine Law welcomes applicants seeking to visit from other ABA-accredited law schools. Please see our website for details.

### Admissions Timeline
- **September 15:** Applications Open
- **November 15:** Early Action Application Deadline
- **February 1:** Priority Merit Scholarship Application Deadline
- **February 15:** Financial Aid Deadline (Even if you have not received a decision, please submit your FAFSA information by February 15.)
- **April 15:** First Deposit Due
- **June 1:** Second Deposit Due
- **July 15:** Applications Close
- **August 1:** Transfer Deposit Due
Maine Law is the public and only law school for the State of Maine

**Degrees Offered**
Juris Doctor (J.D.)
Master of Laws (LL.M.)
Doctor of the Science of Law (J.S.D.)

**Dual-Degree Programs**
J.D./M.B.A. (4 years) With the University of Maine Graduate School of Business
J.D./M.P.H. (4 years) With the Muskie School of Public Service at the University of Southern Maine
J.D./M.P.P.M. (4 years) With the Muskie School of Public Service at the University of Southern Maine

**Certificate Programs**
Business and Transactional Law – J.D. Certificate
Environmental and Oceans Law – J.D. Certificate
Information Privacy Law – J.D. Certificate
Compliance – Non-J.D. Professionals

**Student Budget Estimate 2021-2022**

**Tuition:**
Maine and Canadian Residents: $23,190
Rhode Island and Vermont Residents: $31,650
Non-Resident: $36,000

It is estimated that a single student will spend approximately $17,660 during the nine-month academic year on fees, books, housing, travel, and other living expenses.

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The University of Maine School of Law is accredited by the American Bar Association, is a member of the Association of American Law Schools, and is the only accredited law school in the State of Maine. We are proudly based in Portland, Maine. The University of Maine School of Law is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.