



MAINE
UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SCHOOL OF LAW
LAW





“I have found an extremely
welcoming environment.
The community has embraced me.”

— KATRISSE HERNANDEZ, CLASS OF 2011



Legal education. Built around you.

An education that is individually tailored for 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. / An ideal location in a city that has been described as a gem of the East Coast. / A network of people who care about your success during law school and beyond.

**If this is what you are looking for in a law school,
Maine Law might be the place for you.**

**“Every student has a unique background and experience
that they bring to Maine Law.”** — ISABEL MULLIN, CLASS OF 2016





By design, Maine Law is one of the smallest law schools in the country.

That's an asset and a source of great pride. Our size fosters a sense of community that is embraced by students, alumni, faculty and staff. It also gives us the flexibility to adapt to the rapidly changing legal profession and the new demands of the job market. 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. Our faculty come from diverse backgrounds, including some of the finest law schools in the U.S., and they are making a mark in scholarship, policy and public service.

A competitive edge

We are committed to working closely with our students and graduates in crafting creative paths to jobs.

That's why Maine Law has built a thriving externship program, matching students with employers and mentors in law, the judiciary, business, and non-profit settings. It's why we've expanded our information privacy law curriculum, working closely with alum Trevor Hughes, '95, president of the world's largest association of privacy professionals. And it's why we emphasize "hands-on" training through robust clinical programs, such as the Juvenile Justice Clinic, the Refugee and Human Rights Clinic, and the Prisoners Assistance Clinic.

Clinics, fellowships, internships, access to an active career services office and a loan repayment assistance program are some of the ways Maine Law can help you achieve your goals.

We take special care to prepare students to demonstrate core competencies and to do well on the bar exam.

Maine Law continues to respond effectively to changes in the legal profession and the job market. Here are some of the steps the Law School has taken:

Created a Clerkship Committee comprised of Maine Law faculty who communicate with judges, and help students apply for positions. From the past three graduating classes, more than 20 students have accepted judicial clerkships.

Advanced curriculum to emphasize emerging career tracks. Changes included new courses, a summer institute and internship placement for students interested in the field of data privacy.

Worked with alumni to increase networking, interview opportunities and workshops for students, both in Maine and around the country. For example, the Career Services office has coordinated road trips for students to meet with practicing lawyers around Maine.

The path starts here in Portland, a beautiful city overlooking the sea. And it goes where ever you want to take it.

Professor Anna Welch oversees Maine Law's Refugee and Human Rights Clinic. She teaches and supervises student attorneys as they represent low income immigrants in asylum petitions and a wide range of other cases and projects. Prior to joining Maine Law she taught at the Immigrants' Rights Clinic at Stanford Law School. Here's what one recent student said about Professor Welch: "Anna is a brilliant teacher and attorney, but beyond that she is a genuinely great person. She was always willing to take time out of her hectic schedule to explain a legal concept or simply ask how your day was going."



THE STUDY OF LAW IS THE STUDY OF IDEAS. AT MAINE LAW, WE PUT THOSE IDEAS TO WORK.

TRAIN HERE. GO ANYWHERE.

Few experiences drive home the significance of a law degree with as much impact as hands-on practice experience. At Maine Law, students don't just learn how to think like lawyers. They learn the skills they will need to work as lawyers. Practical skills give you confidence and the edge you need in the legal job market. Our students choose from a number of clinical practice opportunities. You can represent real clients, including juveniles, prisoners, and immigrants, at Maine Law's Cumberland Legal Aid Clinic — one of the oldest clinical programs of its kind in the nation. And through the growing Externship Program, you can work alongside experienced lawyers in corporate counsel offices, higher education legal offices, non-profit legal services, prosecutor offices or government agencies.

Clinical practice opportunities include the following:

General Practice Clinic / In this clinic, student attorneys represent low-income clients in a wide range of case types, from criminal defense to family law to civil rights. From intake meetings to filing court documents to standing up before a judge, student attorneys handle all aspects of client relations and case management, under the supervision of faculty.

Juvenile Justice Clinic / Students work with troubled youth on a number of levels. The primary focus is the direct representation of juveniles with pending delinquency matters in state courts. Students also work closely with social service agencies to implement personalized, holistic solutions for each juvenile.

Prisoner Assistance Clinic / Clinic students travel to the Maine Correctional Center every week to meet with prisoners. Most of the matters involve family law, such as parental rights. But students also assist prisoners with a wide range of legal matters, ranging from tort defense to bankruptcy. Students also help disabled prisoners apply for Social Security.

Refugee and Human Rights Clinic / In this clinic, student attorneys assist low-income immigrants through a broad range of cases and projects. Clients include asylum applicants who have fled human rights abuses in their home countries; immigrant survivors of domestic violence; and abandoned or abused children seeking legal status in the U.S.

Protection from Abuse Program / Most students enrolled in clinical courses also participate in this program, where they represent victims of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking. Student attorneys attend at least one or two days of the protection from abuse (PFA) docket calls in Lewiston District Court.



EXTERNSHIPS

The global job market demands that law school graduates have the practical skills they need to contribute immediately to a law firm, business, non-profit organization or government agency. That's why Maine Law has built a strong externship program, where students work alongside seasoned attorneys, for academic credit. Our judicial externship program matches students with federal or state judges.

In these semester-long programs, students earn 6 credits for work at their placement and completion of a required course component. Placement supervisors are attorneys and judges who are committed to teaching law students and providing feedback on their work. Here are some examples of the organizations where student externs work: Conservation Law Foundation; International Association of Privacy Professionals; Monster Worldwide, Inc.; Maine Attorney Generals's Office; Federal Defender's Office.

For judicial externships, examples include the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit; State District Court; U.S. Bankruptcy Court; Maine Family Treatment Drug Court.

PRACTICE-FOCUSED COURSEWORK

At Maine Law, practice-focused coursework allows students to observe and apply legal theory in a wide variety of practice situations. We have designed several capstone courses in specialized subject areas for students to learn practical skills in a small classroom setting. These courses are taught by experienced practitioners who demonstrate the daily realities of practice and who challenge students to perform the work of practicing attorneys. For example, we offer courses in estate planning and business planning. We also offer a number of general skills courses in the areas of writing, research, dispute resolution, and litigation technique.



“THE SCHOOL DOES A GREAT JOB CONNECTING YOU WITH PEOPLE IN MAINE AND AROUND THE COUNTRY. YOU HAVE SO MANY RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO YOU, AND MAINE LAW IS VERY GOOD AT FACILITATING THOSE CONVERSATIONS.”

— JOHNATHAN NATHANS, CLASS OF 2012

NETWORKED FOR SUCCESS

Relationships matter. In Maine, legal education is just as much about the people you will meet as it is about the cases and the theories you will study.

The members of Maine’s bench and bar genuinely care about your success, and are available as resources every step of the way. They will challenge you. They will inspire you. And in many cases, they will help open the doors to jobs in Maine or around the country.

Here are just a few of the ways that we connect students with practicing attorneys, business leaders and other professionals.

- Receptions and seminars at area law firms
- Guest speakers from the bench and bar
- Alumni mentor program
- Reserved time for students to meet with attendees at law school events such as the annual Coffin Lecture, Justice for Women Lecture, and Alumni cocktail parties
- Internship and Externship programs

Close relationships with alumni and other practitioners are built into your education at Maine Law, largely because of our standing as the state’s public and only law school. This provides our students with a unique advantage — direct access to the highest levels of government, industry, and the legal community in Maine. During your time in Portland, you will likely have an opportunity to meet the Chief Justice, the Governor, the Attorney General and members of Congress.

The Career Services Office at Maine Law also plays a crucial role as you make important contacts. The office runs recruitment programs in the spring and fall, bringing a wide range of employers to the law school building. The office also conducts workshops, speaker panels and other events covering networking, interview skills, resume preparation and other topics.

A location like no other

We're not the only ones saying it: There really is no place like Portland.

In the digital era, as professionals are moving away from major metropolitan areas in search of a better quality of life, Portland has become a hot destination. The city consistently ranks high in national “best of” lists for all sorts of categories, from *Forbes’* latest list of the best places to find a job, to *Travel and Leisure Magazine’s* list of the top ten greenest cities in the U.S.

With just over 60,000 residents in the city proper, Maine’s largest city would be considered small by many standards. But with a thriving arts community, dozens of exceptional restaurants and minor league baseball, basketball and hockey, there is always something to do in Portland.

Surfing, swimming, boating, hiking, fishing, island-hopping, mountain climbing and skiing are some of the activities that are available in the city or a short drive away. Portland is home to a vibrant and growing multicultural population. Students enrolled in Portland

Public Schools speak more than 60 languages. The city embraces diversity, and traditions from many nations are reflected in the unique neighborhood shops, restaurants and festivals.

In Portland you can find the historic (Portland Head Light, commissioned by George Washington, and the most photographed lighthouse in the world), and the offbeat (the world’s only cryptozoology museum. Think proof of Bigfoot and Nessy.)

Portland is well known as a haven for foodies. It is one of the top cities for restaurants per capita, offering affordable world cuisine, from Greek and Italian to Cuban and Eritrean. Live music abounds in Portland’s Old Port District, which is marked by cobblestone streets, coffee shops, restored brick buildings and historic sites.

Come for a visit and let us show you around!



PORTLAND BY THE NUMBERS

Portland is the largest city in Maine, with an estimated population of 66,194 in 2010. The Greater Portland metropolitan area, with a population of around 514,000, is home to more than one-third of the state's residents.

Casco Bay, home to the port of Portland, boasts 7 lighthouses, 12 major islands, nearly 100 smaller islands, several marinas and a popular year-round ferry service.

Portland is 100 miles from Boston; 125 miles from Montpelier, Vermont; 200 miles from Montreal, Quebec; and 280 miles from New York City. For a truly adventurous road trip, head south on historic U.S. Route 1. The road doesn't stop until you hit the Gulf of Mexico at Key West, Florida.



The first step in your law school application: get organized.

When you understand the components of a successful application, you can focus on the details and produce the best reflection of who you are — and who you hope to become. Here are the critical elements of the Maine Law application:

Academic Performance / We look for outstanding performance in all of your undergraduate and graduate studies. In addition to your grade point average, the Admissions Committee considers the rigor of your course of study — and your pursuit of intellectually challenging courses that involve difficult analytical material in any of a wide range of disciplines.

LSAT Performance / Because the LSAT is widely considered a predictor of your success in law school, it pays to prepare well before you take the test. Consult the Law School Admissions Council website at www.lsac.org for more information, and consider the value of widely available commercial preparation resources — from books to courses. If you take the test more than once, we'll consider your highest score — and we welcome any written explanation of disparities between

different results. We recommend that you take the test, if possible, no later than December in the year of your application.

Personal Statement / This is your opportunity to tell us who you are. Write carefully — and share the experiences, values, motivations and aspirations that will distinguish you from other applicants. Explain why you're well-suited to study and practice law — and why you think Maine Law is the right fit for you. Our Admissions Committee places substantial weight on your personal statement. Make sure it's the perfect reflection of you.

Recommendations/Evaluations / When you consider candidates to draft your recommendations/evaluations, be sure they know you — and your abilities — very well. Letters should address your analytical ability, judgment, motivation, communication skills, critical thinking and distinctive talents or experiences. At least one letter should be from a professor, or an individual who has known you in an academic setting. We also welcome letters from former employers, colleagues and others who know you, your strengths, and your promise as a prospective law student.

WHEN YOU TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR LAW SCHOOL APPLICATION, THE PROCESS IS SIMPLE. FOLLOW OUR STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS — AND YOU’LL BE ONE STEP AHEAD OF THE GAME.

THE APPLICANT’S ESSENTIAL TO-DO LIST

While you consider the elements of your law school application, take the time to review and follow the steps in our essential to-do list:

Subscribe to the Law School Data Assembly Service (LSDAS) / With applicant materials for all ABA accredited law schools, the LSDAS — available through the Law School Admissions Council’s (LSAC) website (www.lsac.org) — provides you with a one-stop application resource, and a convenient way to manage your applications.

Take the LSAT / The LSAC is your single-stop resource for LSAT registration and administration.

Arrange for recommendations / Give your references plenty of lead time, and let them know they can submit recommendations directly to the law school, or through the LSDAS recommendation service.

Write your personal statement / Then rewrite it until you feel it meets your goals and standards, confining it to no more than three pages. You can submit it with your application through LSAC.

Consider writing an optional supplementary statement / As a supplement to your personal statement, this gives you an opportunity to explain or highlight elements of your application that require deeper detail. This should consist of no more than two paragraphs, and should not duplicate your personal statement.

Complete the application / Go to the LSAC website, and draft and submit your application online. Applications are due no later than March 1st — but submission as early as November 15th for the early action program is welcome. If your application is complete by December 1st, the Admissions Committee will provide you with a decision by the end of December.

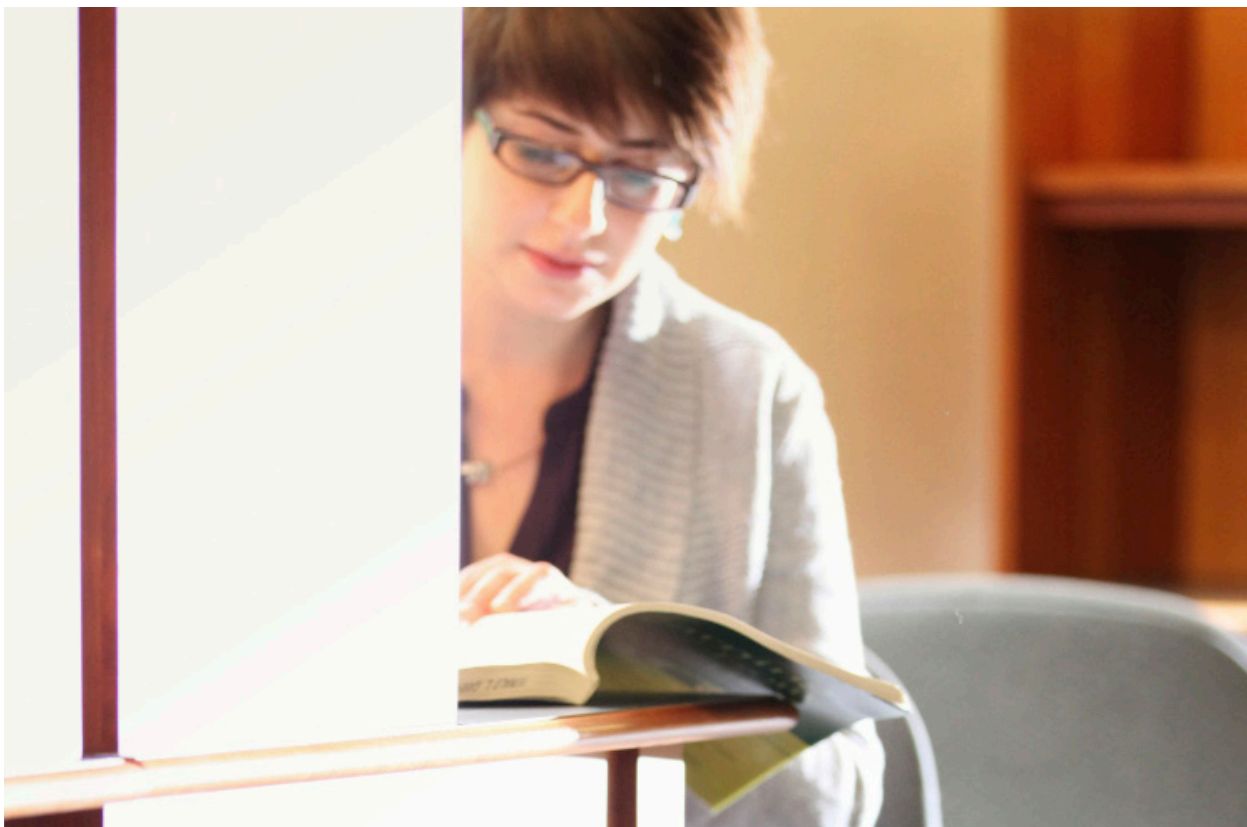
SPECIAL SITUATIONS

Maine Law welcomes and encourages applications from transferring, visiting and international students. Application processes for these students differ from our standard application, so the following distinctions apply:

Transferring students / Transfer applications and supporting materials are due by July 1st of the year of the proposed transfer, and are welcome sooner. If necessary, we will accept transcripts of your most recent spring semester grades after that date. For more information, visit the admissions website at www.minelaw.maine.edu.

Visiting students / The same procedures apply to visiting students as to transfers.

International students / All international applicants are required to submit the same application and supporting materials as our first year applicants. For more information, visit our admissions website at www.minelaw.maine.edu.



TYPE OF INSTITUTION

Public Law School, founded 1962
Law School of the University of Maine System

DEGREES GRANTED

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

Joint degrees with the University of Maine School of Business

JD/MBA

Joint degrees with the University of Southern Maine School of Business

JD/MBA

Dual Degrees with The Muskie School of Public Service

CLINICAL PROGRAMS

Cumberland Legal Aid Clinic (Protection from Abuse Program, General Practice, Juvenile Justice, Prisoner Assistance, Refugee and Human Rights) Externship, Judicial Externship

TUITION COSTS AND BUDGETS

For information on tuition, costs, and budgets, please see our website at www.mainerlaw.maine.edu.

ALUMNI

Over 3,400 practicing in 42 states and abroad.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU!

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CRITICAL DATES AND MILESTONES

In the interest of fairness, we take deadlines very seriously. Please mark your calendars, and don't miss a date.

EARLY ACTION ADMISSION PROGRAM

LSAT

Take no later than September/October administration

Completed Application

Submit no later than November 15th

Supporting Documentation and LSDAS report

Due by December 1st

Admissions Decision

Mailed no later than December 31st

REGULAR DECISION ADMISSION PROGRAM

LSAT

Take by December, although applications from those taking the February LSAT will be considered

Completed Application

Due no later than March 1st

Admissions Decision

Made on a rolling basis, starting in December and continuing through April

TRANSFER AND VISITING STUDENT

Applications are reviewed upon completion, followed by timely notification by the Admissions Committee.

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.

To learn more about our school, including how to apply for admission, contact the Director of Admissions at lawadmissions@maine.edu or 207 780-4341.

Maine Law is committed to diversity in its student body, and does not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin or citizenship status, age, disability or veteran status.



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