

New York University School of Law

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THE BASICS

New York University School of Law was established in 1835, just five years after the University of the City of New-York (as NYU was then known) opened its doors, and was the first of the university's professional schools. It was accredited by the ABA in 1930.

Located in the Greenwich Village neighborhood of New York City, NYU Law has arguably the best location out of all of NYC's top law schools. Not surprisingly, the cost of attendance is pretty steep, coming in at almost \$70,000 a year.

The school is quite large with an enrollment of approximately 1,400 students. This sizable student body has included some big names over the years, such as Rudy Giuliani (former Mayor of New York City and former Republican U.S. presidential candidate), Paul Tagliabue (former NFL Commissioner), and Louis Freeh (former Director of the FBI).

NYU Law is consistently recognized as one of the premier law schools in New York City and the northeast. Although most grads find jobs in-state, it also has an exceptional reputation in the Mid-Atlantic and South Atlantic regions of the country, and graduates can expect employment opportunities nationwide.

The school is known for its public interest focus, and has an impressive 30 clinics. It also has a wide array of academic and extracurricular activities: 16 study abroad programs in 14 countries, 10 joint-degree options, 9 journals, and 66 student organizations.

Application deadline: 11/15 (Early); 2/1* (Regular)

Application fee: \$75 (electronic); \$100 (paper)

Financial aid deadline: 4/1

Type of school: Private

Tuition and fees: \$47,431 (2010 - 2011)

Admissions: Rolling (regular notification by late April)

Acceptance percentage: 23% (2009)

Incoming class size: 450 (2009)

Early Action/Early Decision available: Yes, binding

Part-time program available: No

GPA AND STANDARDIZED TESTS

LSAT 25th - 75th percentile range: 169 - 173

GPA 25th - 75th percentile range: 3.57 - 3.86

TOEFL not required.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Letters of recommendation: 1 required

Required essays: Personal statement

Optional essays: Scholarship essay(s) (if applicable)

Dean's Certification: None required

Additional documentation: Résumé (optional), Evaluations

To be considered for any of NYU Law's Scholarship and/or Academic Scholars programs, you must submit a **complete application by 1/1.*

NYU Law: The PowerScore Perspective

Solid diversity

The students talk about it, and the numbers back it up: NYU Law is a diverse place. There are students from every conceivable background and upbringing; the student body is a genuine reflection of the melting pot that is New York City. This certainly helps make NYU Law an interesting institution, adding to the conversations happening both in and out of the classroom. Students not only learn from their professors—they learn from their classmates, too.

99th percentile, anyone?

NYU Law's LSAT median is a 171, and the 75th percentile is a staggering 173. These are some of the highest LSAT requirements in the country, and when it comes to NYC schools, only Columbia's numbers are higher. Suffice it to say that NYU Law settles for nothing less than the best of the best academically. And academic achievements are only one piece of the puzzle: NYU Law is also after students who are engaged, engaging, involved, and determined. The school's list of notable alumni is proof positive that this is a place for only the highest caliber of students.

40 librarians?!

No one beats NYU Law when it comes to the size of their library staff (even schools with much larger student bodies!). Although it may not seem all that important, it does say quite a bit about the school's priorities: Making knowledge accessible, providing students with guidance in their studies, and ensuring that resources are available whenever they are needed.

NYU really takes advantage of NYC

One of the things NYU Law does best is use its urban location to its full advantage. One of the most apparent ways in which this occurs is in the practical opportunities that the school provides its students: NYU has numerous clinical programs which take place all over the city, and connect students with many NYC legal organizations (in particular the Civil Division of the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of New York and Civil Division of the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York).

Best NYC location, bar none

Of all the New York City law schools on this list, NYU definitely has the most desirable location. Situated on tree-laden Washington Square in Greenwich Village, the school provides everything that is great about New York City (people-watching, easy access to public transportation,

beautiful architecture, and history) without the typical hassles of city life (crowds and traffic jams).

"If you get in, go"

That seems to be the general consensus from every student with whom we spoke. NYU appears to be a school where students are genuinely happy they said yes to their acceptance offer. The instructors are reportedly fabulous, and the academic offerings can't be beat. Students love the relaxed, artsy Village location, and they love (for the most part) their classmates. "The [school's] rankings are great, and the school really sets you up to get a great job after you're done," says a recent grad.

A strong public interest focus

From its numerous clinical programs with a public interest theme, to its Public Interest Law Center, and on to its public interest scholarships and post-graduate fellowships, there is no doubt that NYU is devoted to helping its students develop and fund their passion for public interest projects. If this is a passion of yours, NYU deserves serious consideration.

A very generous LRAP program

The school has, as we mentioned, a determined commitment to public interest and public service, and one of the ways it shows that commitment is through its Loan Repayment Assistance Program (which helps students by subsidizing all or part of their educational loan payments for up to 10 years after graduation). This generous financial assistance makes it easy for grads interested in pursuing jobs in the

public sector to do so without having to worry about where the money will come from to pay back their school loans.

And even more generous grants

The median grant amount the school gives its students is \$20,000. That's one of the highest amounts on this list, and nearly 50% of the yearly tuition and fees.

A high admissions percentage

In 2009, NYU Law accepted 23% of applicants. Even though the credentials of the admitted students are still very, very strong, this means that qualified candidates aren't turned away at the rate that they are at other similarly-ranked institutions.

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ACCEPTANCE RATES

Full-time: 23% (1,644 of 7,272 admitted)
Part-time: N/A

GPA AND LSAT SCORES

GPA - 75th percentile: 3.86
GPA - Median: 3.72
GPA - 25th percentile: 3.57

LSAT - 75th percentile: 173
LSAT - Median: 171
LSAT - 25th percentile: 169

ENROLLMENT AND ETHNICITY

African-American: 32 (M); 56 (F); 6.2% of student body
American Indian: 3 (M); 0 (F); 0.2% of student body
Asian-American: 83 (M); 67 (F); 10.5% of student body
Caucasian: 404 (M); 282 (F); 48.1% of student body
Hispanic: 33(M); 30 (F); 4.4% of student body
Mexican-American: 8 (M); 8 (F); 1.1% of student body
Puerto Rican: 2 (M); 10 (F); 0.8% of student body
International: 22 (M); 22 (F); 3.1% of student body
Non-Reported: 212 (M); 153 (F); 25.6% of student body

TRANSFERS (FIRST-YEAR) AND ATTRITION

Transfers in: 37
Transfers out: 3

1L attrition: 3 (0 Academic, 3 Other)
2L attrition: 7 (0 Academic, 7 Other)
3L attrition: None

FINANCIAL AID

Merit aid available? Yes
Grants and scholarships available? Yes
Students receiving grants: 495, 34.8% of student body
Median grant amount: \$20,000.00
LRAP program available? Yes

Students rave about the school's "generous loan repayment program [LRAP]," which allows them to "choose work they love without having to worry about compensation," or immediately paying off academic debts.

LIBRARY RESOURCES

Wireless network availability? Yes
Number of wired connections available: 775
Hours per week the library is open: 101
Study seating capacity inside the library: 850
Number of full-time professional librarians: 40

CAREER SERVICES

On-campus Career Services Office? Yes
Number of full-time career services staffers? 16
Career services specializations: Public interest, law firm, government, judicial clerkships

On-Campus Interview (OCI) program? Yes
Number of firms at OCI? 395 (2009)

EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS*

**All statistics are 9 months after graduation*

Employment status known: 484, 100.0% of class
Employment status unknown: 0, 0.0% of class
Employed: 458, 94.6% of class
Pursuing graduate degrees: 18, 3.7% of class
Unemployed: 4, 0.8% of class

TYPE OF EMPLOYMENT

Academia: 4, 0.9% of class
Business and Industry: 10, 2.2% of class
Government: 10, 2.2% of class
Judicial Clerkship: 48, 10.5% of class
Law Firms: 344, 75.1% of class
Public Interest: 42, 9.2% of class

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

The 2009 NYU Law graduating class found employment in the mid-Atlantic (66%), south Atlantic (14%), Pacific (9%), New England (3%), South Central (3%), North Central (2%), and Mountain (1%) areas of the U.S.

Students employed in-state: 68.8%
Students employed in foreign countries: 2.8%
Number of states where students are employed: 28

As per the NYU Law Office of Career Services, more than 130 NYU Law graduates work as judicial clerks each year.

ALUMNI NETWORK

NYU Law has alumni all over the world, and the school works hard to keep them all connected and informed through reunions, databases, and alumni groups. Perhaps even more impressive is the focus the school places on providing alumni access to the Office of Career Services.

BAR PASSAGE RATES

First-time takers: 461 (84.60% reporting)
Average school pass rate: 97.18%
Average state pass rate: 88.98%
Average pass rate difference: 8.20%

NYU Law: The School

"The school absolutely lived up to my expectations," says alum Jeffrey Gardner '94. "The faculty and programs were outstanding, and I had many excellent professors." Alexis H. '08 adds: "Law school is an incredibly demanding experience, but NYU enables you to get through it, retain your sanity, and actually enjoy parts of it."

Incoming class size: 450 (2009)

Typical first-year section size: ~89

CURRICULUM

NYU students have required courses in the fall and spring of their first year. In the fall, they must take **Contracts, Procedure, and Torts**. In the spring, they must take **The Administrative and Regulatory State, and Criminal Law**.

A required 1L year-long course, **Lawyering** (NYU Law's version of other schools' Legal Research and Writing), has students engage in a series of drafting exercises designed to develop essential skills in legal research and writing during the fall semester, and then moves on to the basics of legal interviewing, counseling, case analysis and problem handling, negotiation, informal advocacy, and trial advocacy in the spring.

During their second semester, 1L students can choose from a number of electives: **Constitutional Law, Corporations, Income Taxation, International Law, or Property**.

2L and 3L curriculums are entirely elective, and students can choose from all NYU Law classes.

FACULTY

Student-to-faculty ratio: 9.4 : 1

NYU Law's prominent faculty includes:

Jerome A. Cohen, a Chinese law expert.

Theodor Meron, a human rights and international law expert, and President of the UN War Crimes Tribunal at the Hague (2003-2005).

Richard Pildes, a leading scholar of public law and a specialist in legal issues affecting democracy.

Burt Neuborne, the former National Legal Director of the ACLU and civil liberties expert.

ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES

CLINICS: NYU Law's **semester-long clinics** include : Administrative and Regulatory State Clinic, Business Law Transactions Clinic, Children's Rights Clinic, Comparative Criminal Justice Clinic, Criminal Appellate Defender Clinic, Environmental Law Clinic, Equal Justice and Capital Defender Clinic, Global Justice Clinic, Government Civil Litigation Clinic, Government Civil Litigation Clinic, Immigrant Defense Clinic, International Environmental Law Clinic, LGBT Rights Clinic, Mediation Clinic, Mediation Clinic, New York Civil Liberties Clinic, Prosecution Clinic, Prosecution Clinic, Racial Justice Clinic, and Tax Clinic. **Year-long clinics include:** Brennan Center Public Policy Advocacy Clinic; Civil Rights Clinic; Criminal and Community Defense Clinic; Employment and Housing Discrimination Clinic; Family Defense Clinic; Federal Defender Clinic; Immigrant Rights Clinic; International Human Rights Clinic; Juvenile Defender Clinic; Law, Organizing and Social Change Clinic; and Offender Reentry Clinic.

STUDY ABROAD: NYU Law currently has 16 exchange programs with institutions in Germany, Belgium, Brazil, Italy, Japan, Singapore, England, China, The Netherlands, South Africa, Denmark, Argentina, France, and Australia.

JOINT DEGREE: The school currently offers a JD/LLM in International Law or Taxation; a JD/MA or PhD in Economics, French, History, Philosophy, or Politics; a JD/MA or PhD in Law & Society; JD/MA in Latin American and Caribbean Studies; a JD/MBA, JD/MPA or JD/MUP; and a JD/MSW.

JOURNALS AND PUBLICATIONS

NYU Law's student journals and publications include the *Annual Survey of American Law*, *Environmental Law Journal*, *Journal of International Law & Politics*, *Journal of Law & Business*, *Journal of Law & Liberty*, *Journal of Legislation & Public Policy*, *Law Review*, *Moot Court Board*, and *Review of Law & Social Change*. The school also puts out *The Docket* (a weekly newsletter), and *The Commentator* (the student newspaper).

MOCK TRIAL AND MOOT COURT

NYU Law has a **Moot Court Board** ("a student-run, honorary organization that combines legal scholarship with oral advocacy"), which participates in national competitions. It also puts out *The NYU Moot Court Casebook*, which is "the most widely recognized and utilized set of moot court problems in the nation." It also has a **Trial Advocacy Society**, which also participates in national competitions.

• NOTABLE ALUMNI •

NYU Law has prominent alumni in a number of fields, including entertainment, finance and industry, higher education, law, public service, real estate, and professional athletics. Among them are **Paul Tagliabue** '65, former National Football League Commissioner; **Rudolph Giuliani** '68 and **Edward I. Koch** '48, both former Mayors of New York City; **Jonathan Dolgen** '69, Former Chairman, Paramount Pictures; **Laurie Ferber** '80, Managing Director, Goldman Sachs; **Richard Ketchum** '75, CEO of NYSE Regulation; **Richard M. Joel** '75, President of Yeshiva University; **Robert Abrams** '63, former New York State Attorney General; **Lamar Alexander** '65, U.S. Senator from Tennessee; **Carol Bellamy** '68, former Executive Director, UNICEF; and **Louis J. Freeh** '84, former Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"I look back on law school with fondness," says an '08 grad. For many students, attending law school at NYU is a pleasant surprise: "I knew it would be a mentally exhausting experience...I didn't expect to form such close relationships with my classmates. It was very rewarding."

The student body is "more collegial than anything. No one is trying to sabotage anyone academically, instead students are supportive of each other in every measurable way (study groups, sharing notes, etc)." "We all feel like we are on the same boat, so it doesn't feel overly competitive."

The school has a "very diverse student body." And this diverse student body loves the city it works and plays in. "NYU, being the heart of Greenwich Village, is basically the best setting I can imagine for a law student. The outside world is right there in front of you at all times," says Jeff Gardner '94.

Students love their legal alma mater. "There are many areas of NYU Law that are first-rate, the location is amazing, the career counseling people are excellent to talk to. There is nothing negative about it, in my view," says another recent graduate.

If you want to do public service, students say there's no better place. "NYU has excellent [public interest] resources—clinics, faculty, term-time internship opportunities, and funding—for students. NYU also has a great reputation in the legal profession for graduating public interest practitioners," says Alexis H. '08.

The very active student organizations are a huge plus, and keep the students engaged within the four walls of the school. Combine that with arguably the most dynamic metropolis in the world right at your doorstep and students are in for an extremely rewarding law school experience.

ACTIVITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

NYU Law currently has 64 student organizations. The Student Bar Association (SBA), acts as the liaison between the students, faculty, and administration.

- African Law Association
- American Civil Liberties Union
- American Constitution Society
- Asia Law Society
- Asian-Pacific American Law Students Association
- Black Allied Law Students Association
- Canadian Content
- Christian Legal Fellowship
- Class of 2010 Graduation Gift
- Coalition for Legal Recruiting
- The Commentator
- Cuba Legal Studies Group
- Domestic Violence Advocacy Project
- Education Law and Policy Society
- Environmental Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Health Law Society
- High School Law Institute
- HIV Law Society
- Intellectual Property & Entertainment Law Society
- International Law Society
- Islamic Law Students Association
- JD/MBA Association
- Jewish Law Students Association
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Latino Law Students Association
- Law & Business Association
- Law & Social Entrepreneurship Association
- Law Democrats
- Law Republicans
- Law Revue
- Law Student Drug Policy Forum
- Law Students Against the Death Penalty
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Law Students for Human Rights
- Law Women
- Mediation Organization
- Mental Health Law Association
- Middle Eastern Law Students Association
- National Lawyers Guild
- Older Wiser Law Students
- Open Meditation and Yoga Association (OM)
- OUTLaw
- Law Students for Economic Justice
- Prisoners' Rights & Education Project
- Project on Negotiation & Dispute Resolution
- Public Interest Law Foundation
- Public Service Auction
- Real Estate & Urban Policy Forum
- Research, Education & Advocacy to Combat Homelessness
- Small Business Law Connection
- South Asian Law Students Association
- Southern Exposure
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Student Bar Association
- Student Lawyer Athletic Program
- Substantial Performance
- Suspension Representation Project
- Texas Club
- Trial Advocacy Society
- Unemployment Action Center
- West Coast Connection
- Women of Color Collective (WOCC)
- Youth and Criminal Justice Society

• CLASS PROFILE •

The NYU Law incoming class of 2013 consisted of 476 students.

The class is 43% female and 57% male.

The entire NYU Law student body consists of 1427 students.

The 25th and 75th percentile LSAT scores for the incoming class were a 169 to 175.

31% of the class was made up of students of color.

They represent over 250 colleges and undergraduate institutions.

The 25th and 75th percentile GPAs for the incoming class were a 3.6 to 3.9.

28% of students enrolled directly after college; 62% were out of college one to four years, and 10% were out of college five or more years.

They hail from 49 U.S. states.

The students of the class of 2013 represented 142 colleges.

9% of the students in the class of 2013 hold advanced or professional degrees.

44% of the class is female; 56% is male. 23% are students of color.

They hailed from 42 U.S. states.

11% hold advanced or professional degrees. 3% are citizens of foreign countries.

School Name: The City

Setting: Urban

For many NYU Law students, the best part about attending school is the city they get to live in. “NYU is a dynamic law school located in a city that has everything,” says one ‘08 grad, and that seems to be the prevalent opinion. The school’s Greenwich Village location at the edge of Washington Square Park definitely gives it an edge over other NYC law schools.

LIVING EXPENSES

Where the school *doesn’t* have an edge over other area institutions, however, is in the cost of living. As with other NYC law schools, the expense of having a student pad in the city is incredibly high. The NYU Law school-provided yearly budget comes in at over \$22,000, and that doesn’t include any travel or miscellaneous expenses.

Estimated academic year living expenses*

Room/Board	\$19,839.00
Books/Supplies	\$1,350.00
Health Insurance - NYU Basic Plan	\$1,360.00
TOTAL	\$22,549.00

* Values provided by NYU Law

HOUSING

NYU Law has two high-rise apartment-style residence halls and two low-rise buildings available for students looking to live on campus. For students who choose not to live on campus, the housing options are endless: Many students, however, choose to live in nearby studio apartments, or in the New York City borough of Brooklyn.

On-campus housing available? Y - 810 units
Average apartment rental cost (1 BR/1 BA) \$1,600/mo

DEMOGRAPHICS

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates the 2006 population of New York City to be 8,214,426 people, with 57.3% of the population between 18 and 65 years of age. 27.4% of the population has a bachelor’s degree or higher.

Population density in the New York City area (as per the 2000 census) is 26,403 persons per square mile.

The 2000 census puts the ethnic makeup of the city as 44.7% white, 27.0% of Hispanic or Latino origin, 26.6% African American, 0.5% American Indian or Alaskan native, 9.8% Asian, 0.1% native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, and 4.9% from two or more races.

PARKING AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

There are few places in the world with a public transportation system that is as well-developed as New York City’s. The city’s subway system runs almost 24 hours a day, and Grand Central Terminal, also known as Grand Central Station, is one of the biggest railway stations in the world. Although students may find the transportation system a little intimidating and confusing at first, most quickly adapt to the fast-paced subway, taxi, and pedestrian life, and can get from one place to another within the city with ease. Students suggest becoming familiar with the public transportation systems, and leaving the car at home.

Getting in and out of the city via air is easy: The city is serviced by the John F. Kennedy International Airport, Newark Liberty International Airport, and LaGuardia International Airport.

AREA ATTRACTIONS & ENTERTAINMENT

While it’s no surprise that the city of New York has countless attractions and opportunities for cultural and popular entertainment, the smaller area of Greenwich Village certainly has its share of artistic, offbeat, Bohemian pastimes and hangouts, as well.

The many small shops on Bleecker Street (like Bleecker Street Records or the now-closed Oscar Wilde Memorial Bookshop) add character to the area, and the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame Annex taps into the neighborhood’s musical roots.

Washington Square Park (just a few steps from NYU itself) is a great place to sit, bask in the sun, and people-watch, and the legendary Cafe Wha? (stomping ground for performers like Bob Dylan, The Velvet Underground, Kool and the Gang, and Richard Pryor) is just around the corner.

CITY MUST-DOs

“Too many to list!” says one student of the must-dos in New York City. Specifics are impossible in a city where everything is available.

Students recommend checking out the eateries on Greenwich Village’s “Indian Restaurant Row,” grabbing a beer at the Telephone Bar, and taking in a jazz performance at the Blue Note. They also rave about the vintage shopping opportunities at the many shops in the Village.

If you venture outside of the school’s stomping grounds (you can more or less ride the subway at all hours), don’t forget to be a “tourist in NYC” and check out landmarks like the Empire State Building and Times Square.