

UNIVERSITY OF THE
PACIFIC

McGeorge
School of Law

JD Student Handbook



Introduction

Welcome!

Welcome to McGeorge School of Law. Part of McGeorge's hands-on approach to the law school experience includes regular guidance through the Office of Student Services to help you identify your goals, access useful resources, and design an academic plan that will prepare you to meet your future career goals.

In addition to one-on-one meetings, we offer this reference guide. Here you will find detailed information about graduation requirements, academic policies, program descriptions, and more. If there is something not answered here, please ask. We are here for one purpose: to help you succeed.

Disclaimer

This handbook is intended to be a helpful summary of many academic policies and procedures. However, it should not be considered or relied on as the definitive source of information. The Catalog, Grading and Advancement Rules, the McGeorge Code of Student Responsibility, and the UOP Student Code of Conduct are the documents of authority for all students and are not superseded by other information published by the various academic units.

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McGeorge-At-A-Glance

Office of Student Services

The Office of Student Services is part of the community that exists to support McGeorge students. Our principal job is to help students navigate law school. We provide academic advising to JD students and assistance to all McGeorge students with academic or personal struggles. We oversee student wellness and work with our student government and McGeorge student organizations. We also enforce the Code of Student Responsibility.

Code of Student Responsibility

The [Code of Student Responsibility](#) governs McGeorge Students both on- and off-campus at all times, from the day you submit your application until graduation, expulsion, voluntary withdrawal, or academic disqualification not followed by reinstatement. The Code is divided into four parts – Canons of Ethics, Disciplinary Rules, Organizational Rules, and Procedural Rules. This Code embodies the key concepts of professionalism and civility that are crucial to the legal profession.

The Docket and The WRIT

The Office of Student Services prepares two weekly emails for students called The Docket and The WRIT (Weekly Report of Important Things), with important announcements, deadlines, and upcoming events. **It is critical you read these emails to stay abreast with campus happenings and key information you will need that you will not receive elsewhere.**

Disabled Student Services

McGeorge makes every reasonable effort to accommodate students with physical, psychiatric, learning, or other disabilities. Appropriate services and modifications are worked out on a case-by-case basis. Our campus facilities are accessible to students with mobility impairments, and, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, we do not discriminate in the administration of our educational programs, admissions, scholarships, loans, or other activities or programs based on disability. Please contact the **Services for Students with Disabilities office (SSD) at ssd@pacific.edu** for more information.

Office of the Registrar

The Office of the Registrar is the official academic records office. Services provided include official transcripts, enrollment verifications, degree evaluation, diplomas, and veteran and military enrollment certification.

Academic Year

The academic year extends from May (the first day of the summer session) through May (the last day of the Spring Semester). Your cumulative and annual GPA at the end of the academic year are significant because they are used to make advancement and scholarship determinations. The Academic Calendar can be found on the McGeorge website at <https://law.pacific.edu/law/calendars-and-schedules> and in the online catalog at <https://catalog.pacific.edu/>.

Faculty Support Office (“FSO”)

The FSO conducts a variety of services in support of faculty and students. These include obtaining and publishing course syllabi before the first day of class, managing testing processes, distributing reference materials, maintaining and updating the LibGuides site where students can obtain syllabi and important first-day assignments prior to the start of the semester, and a drop off location (electronic via email and in-person) for exams, papers, and other written assignments requiring timestamps for deadline submissions. They also return (to students) graded exams, papers, and other written materials when available, and serve as liaison between faculty and students in the administration of anonymous grading. Students are encouraged to seek the FSO’s assistance in relaying questions to professors while still preserving anonymity. You can reach out to the FSO at fso@pacific.edu.

Accessing Syllabi

Course syllabi can be accessed via the FSO [LibGuides](#) site, which can be linked from both the FSO and Library’s website pages. If you access LibGuides off campus, you will need to log in using your name and student ID number (not your MyPacific password). Please contact the library at 916-739-7131 if you have any login issues and/or questions.

Technology

Student E-mail: McGeorge sends the majority of its correspondence solely through email to your University-assigned email account (username@u.pacific.edu). **Students are responsible for all information sent to their university-assigned email** and are required to check their email on a frequent and consistent basis to stay current with campus communications and, if necessary, act in a timely manner based upon these emails.

MyPacific (my.pacific.edu) is the university's campus portal with student access to register, check grades, print unofficial transcripts, manage your PacificCard balance, and other information and services. Sign in using your PacificNet username and password.

Canvas (Canvas.Pacific.edu) is Pacific's learning management system which enables faculty to offer online assignment submission, discussion boards, wiki pages, and other tools. Canvas also allows students to interact outside of the class meeting time.

LockSmith (LockSmith.Pacific.edu) is the Pacific Technology site to reset your password if forgotten. Please enroll as soon as possible as this will ensure your account password is secure and has proper security protocols in place if you have to reset your password.

Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) – As part of our commitment to keeping Pacificans and the technology systems we use safe from cyberthreats, Pacific uses OKTA, a multi-factor authentication (MFA) system. Users may already be familiar with or use MFA to verify their identity for banking, social media or other applications. The setup for MFA is required before accessing sites such as Canvas, MyPacific, and other applications and internal Pacific sites. You can find more information on how to setup and enroll at <https://my.pacific.edu/pages/mfa>.

Free Resources for Students: Pacific also offers other free technology resources to currently enrolled students including:

- Microsoft Office 365, a suite of services that allows you to collaborate and share documents with colleagues
<https://my.pacific.edu/pages/office-365-proplus-for-home-use>

If you need IT support:

- Email sachelpdesk@pacific.edu
- Call 916-739-7325 (including after-hours)
- Open your own ticket through the Pacific Technology Help Center at <https://technology.pacific.edu>.
- Schedule an appointment to visit the Pacific Technology Helpdesk located at Fuller Hall (across the corner of 5th Ave. from the Library) Monday through Friday from 8:00 am – 5:00 p.m. using the above contact information or online by going to [Bookings Help Desk](#).

Campus Public Safety

The Department of Public Safety is located at 2981 32nd Street and provides 24-hour patrol, crime prevention, and response services for the Sacramento campus community. To contact the on-duty Public Safety Officer please call the 24-hour Public Safety phone number: 916.739.7200. (Or call 916.217.0896 when campus phone lines are down or during a campus power outage.) To request an escort, call 916.739.7200 or contact the attendant at the Sacramento Campus Law Library circulation desk and they can call and request an escort for you.

Tuition and Fees

McGeorge publishes tuition payment and policy information in the Academic Catalog and on the McGeorge website <https://law.pacific.edu/law/tuition-and-fees>. Please consult those resources for more information and contact Student Business Services/Student Accounts at sac_busoffice@pacific.edu with any questions.

Additional Policies and Procedures

Please visit the website at pacific.edu/law for links to additional policies and procedures, as well as the most up-to-date versions.

New Student Checklist

Welcome to campus! As you embark on your first semester, here are important items to complete:

- ❑ **Purchase your textbooks.** You can order your books through the virtual campus bookstore at:
bkstr.com/pacificsacstore/home.

Books can also be ordered directly from the publishers. A list of required books for each class can be found on LibGuides.
- ❑ **Electronic/Online Books** - be mindful of purchasing electronic/online textbooks as there may be limitations of their use in class or during exams. For example, some professors do not allow electronics in class and eBooks are not allowed during proctored exams, even if they are otherwise open book.
- ❑ **Check your Pacific email.** Correspondence from Pacific will be sent to your Pacific email account, so be sure to check it frequently. Contact the IT Helpdesk (sachelpdesk@pacific.edu or 916.739.7325) if you have any technical difficulties.
- ❑ **Attend Orientation.** Orientation is mandatory and provides the academic and administrative information necessary for a successful 1L year, as well as opportunities to connect socially with the classmates, professors, and staff who will become your colleagues and support system during law school and beyond. You will be required to sign in and out of various Orientation sessions to verify attendance. Contact sacstudentaffairs@pacific.edu with any questions.
- ❑ **Remember your continuing duty to timely disclose any conduct that would have required disclosure in your law school application.** Disclosures prior to the first day of classes should be submitted to Admissions, and after the first day to Student Services.
- ❑ **Submit your official transcripts with degree conferral date to the JD Admissions Office.** There is an ABA requirement that we have your final degree-granting transcript on file by the start of classes. Everyone must complete this step, even if you applied with a final transcript on file.
- ❑ **Go to the FSO's LibGuides page to download your course syllabi.** Most law school classes have a reading assignment that needs to be completed before the first day. Access course syllabi here:
<https://libguides.mcgeorge.edu/facultysupportoffice>
- ❑ **Update your contact information.** Students should check and update their personal information each term via MyPacific at my.pacific.edu - from the Dashboard → Tools Menu → Student Support Services → Student Services → Student Records → My Profile. Personal Information changes include phone numbers, addresses (billing, permanent and mailing), emergency contacts, ethnicity, race, and veteran/disability statuses.
- ❑ **Submit your emergency contact information to PacificConnect.** In the event of an emergency, Public Safety uses the PacificConnect system to contact students, staff, and faculty with real-time alerts. You can access the registration page here:
<https://www.pacific.edu/student-life/safety-wellness/public-safety/emergency-management-response/emergency-communication-system/pacificconnect-registration>.
- ❑ **Complete your Work Certification on MyPacific (full-time students only).** Students enrolled in 12 or more units may not engage in more than 20 hours per week of paid work. You may access this form on MyPacific.
- ❑ **Submit your Title IV Authorization Form and Direct Deposit Form to Student Business Services/Student Accounts.** Both forms are fillable PDFs, so you can complete them electronically and submit them to sac_busoffice@pacific.edu.

- ❑ **Accept Financial Responsibility on MyPacific.** All students are required to accept Financial Responsibility for each term. To complete, go to: MyPacific, Select Student Support Services → Select the tab “Student Services” → Click on Registration and then select Student Financial Acceptance. Once there you will need to select the correct current term ([LAW Fall 2026](#)) in the drop down → read the statement and click on the “I Accept” button. Students who do not fill out this form will have a registration hold placed on their account.

- ❑ **Log in to TWEN and Canvas to see course websites.** Your Westlaw/TWEN password will be provided during Orientation. Canvas uses your regular Pacific login. Both TWEN and Canvas are classroom management platforms that your professors use. If you have problems with TWEN or Canvas, contact Amber Cain (acain@pacific.edu) or Dan Breuer (dbreuer@pacific.edu) in the Library.

- ❑ **Request Accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act.** You can apply for services through an online application by visiting the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) website at <https://www.pacific.edu/student-life/student-services/services-for-students-with-disabilities>

- ❑ **Meet the Director of Academic Success.** Professor Antoinette Pierre-Louis is our Director of Academic Success. It is her job to help all students excel in law school. All 1Ls will have the Skills Lab course with her.

- ❑ **Complete any mandatory Sexual Misconduct and Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention training.** Check your school email for more information.

- ❑ **Complete the Health Insurance Enrollment/Waiver Process.** To ensure your academic success, Pacific mandates that you maintain comprehensive health insurance if you are enrolled in 6 or more units per semester. **The waiver deadline is September 4, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.,** after which anyone who did not complete the waiver process will be auto enrolled in the annual student plan at a cost of \$2,524 per semester. The waiver/enrollment process is a requirement you must meet each academic year. Students will have no option to terminate or waive out in the Spring semester unless

they graduate or enter the armed forces. Visit <https://www.pacific.edu/student-life/health-and-wellness/health-insurance> for more information. SHIP comes with Dental and Vision benefits.

- ❑ **Visit the Library’s Student Services Guide, available at**

<https://libguides.mcgeorge.edu/Library>. Learn about online study aids, how to access virtual reference assistance, and tips to help you navigate TWEN, Canvas, and the campus network.

- ❑ **Do not upgrade your operating system or purchase a laptop with the very latest operating system without checking the Library Technology page.** Exemplify (the software used to take exams at McGeorge) does not support all versions of Mac OSX or Windows. Always confirm minimum system requirements with the Exemplify support site before upgrading or purchasing a new laptop. Visit <https://libguides.mcgeorge.edu/technology> then navigate to Examsoft/Exemplify.

- ❑ **Verify that your Pacific ID card will allow you to access the buildings and rooms you should have access to** such as the Library, Gazebo, and Rec/Pool area.

- ❑ **Network.** Like any skill, networking takes practice. Attend bar association meetings, virtual and on-campus events, get to know your professors, and generally begin to build your professional network (starting with your classmates). Personal contacts are a primary source for securing jobs for most of our students. Those contacts are often facilitated through school sponsored events, courses, and extra-curricular activities. We have many in-person meetings and activities with opportunities to connect with classmates, professors, and practicing attorneys.

- ❑ **Run/vote for 1D and 1E Student Bar Association Representative.** The SBA reserves four seats on its Board of Governors for first-year JD students. Serving on the SBA Board is an opportunity to connect with the campus as a whole and to develop your leadership skills. Check your email for instructions regarding the election and the responsibilities of these positions.

- ❑ **Consider involvement in 1 or 2 extra-curricular activities.** Join a Registered Student Organization, volunteer on a Student Committee, seek out Volunteer or Pro Bono opportunities such as the Immigration Fair, Pro Se Help Day, or get involved with the Sacramento Campus Community Garden. Find enjoyable activities that will round out your 1L experience and help you stay happy, healthy, and motivated.
- ❑ **Register with the California State Bar.** Review the “Bar Admission” page for instructions. This is required to sit for the California Bar Exam and to apply to be a certified law student after your first or second year. **You must register within 90 days of the first day of classes.**
- ❑ **Attend your Mandatory CSO Orientation.** Beginning in August, the Career Services Office will meet with students to orient you to the Career Services team and our services to help you begin to develop your individualized career plan. You will get access to 12twenty (your career management system), information about 1L summer jobs, and receive specific CSO career planning tools. Keep an eye on your email for details about your 1L CSO Orientation time.
- ❑ **Registration for the spring semester in your first year occurs in September.** You will receive an email from the Office of the Registrar with details on when and how to register in early September. A video and written instructions will be provided.
- ❑ **Verify that your devices (cell phone, laptop, and/or tablet) can connect to the PacificNet Network.** Contact IT if you have any connectivity issues.
(sachelpdesk@pacific.edu or 916.739.7325)
- ❑ **Submit Immunization Records and Complete Online Forms/Questionnaire.** All incoming undergraduate, graduate, and professional students enrolled in one or more units attending any of the three Pacific campuses are required to meet immunization requirements. Failure to submit immunization and vaccination records may result in a registration hold. Visit <https://www.pacific.edu/student-life/safety-wellness/student-health-services/immunization-requirement> for more information or call Health Services at 209-946-2315.

Additional Checklist - After First Semester

Here are some basic things to keep in mind after your first semester. Most of these items are discussed at length in other parts of this Handbook. Please use the Table of Contents to find more information. If you have any questions, please contact the Office of Student Services at sacstudentaffairs@pacific.edu or 916.739.7089.

Student Services

- ❑ Schedule **Academic Advising** and **Career Advising** through the Offices of Student Services and Career Services.
- ❑ Submit your application for **Endowed Scholarships** and **fill out the FAFSA** by the first Monday in March each year. Complete this application even if you think that you have a merit-based scholarship that is likely to be renewed.
- ❑ Students who wish to apply for a **Certificate of Concentration** must first submit the online concentration application. Upon acceptance by the Concentration Director, students must complete the provided Change of Program form and submit it to the Concentration Director for approval by the add/drop deadline of the semester preceding their expected graduation.
- ❑ Review your annual **Academic Progress Email**, **Class Rank Email**, and **Transcript** each summer.
- ❑ Review **DegreeWorks** regularly to ensure that your progress towards your graduation requirements and your degree are on track. Report any perceived problems to the Dean of Students.
- ❑ Review and accept your **Financial Aid Offer** every summer and complete a **Mandatory Financial Aid Exit Counseling** during your final semester.

Co-Curricular

- ❑ **Mock Trial:** The Ben Franz 1L Mock Trial Competition happens during the Spring of your first year. Tryouts for the Mock Trial Competition Team happen in late spring.
- ❑ **Moot Court:** The 1L Moot Court Competition takes place during the spring semester of your first year. The application process for full Moot Court Honors Board membership takes place in the spring semester of your second year.
- ❑ **Negotiation:** The Negotiation Team holds tryouts in the spring semester for the following year's ABA competitions. Check with Team Coach Claudia Wrazel (cwrazel1@pacific.edu) for more details.
- ❑ **Client Interviewing:** McGeorge participates in the Spring ABA Client Interviewing and Counseling Competition. Only 6-8 team members are selected, and priority is given to students in the Client Interviewing and Counseling course offered in the Fall.
- ❑ **Law Review:** Solicit for Greensheets during the Spring of your first year if you are a full-time/three-year student or second year if you are a part-time/four-year student, and for Law Review Comment over the summer of your first or second year depending on your division.
- ❑ **Externships and Legal Clinics:** Apply for Externships at least a semester or two before you want to extern. Apply for Legal Clinics in late-Spring for the following year.

Admission to the Bar

- ❑ Sign up for the **MPRE Exam**. You must receive a passing score on the MPRE Exam before you can be sworn in as an attorney.
- ❑ Register for the **Bar Exam**. On your application you will use the last day of classes in your graduating term as your graduation date on your Bar Exam application. **Do not use your Commencement date.**
- ❑ Submit your **Moral Character Application**. The California Bar takes at least 6-8 months to process Applications and recommends that you file at least 8-10 months before the exam. Do not wait until after you graduate.
- ❑ Finalize your **Bar Prep Plans**, including finances and time off work to focus on studying. Consider taking the **PASS I** and **PASS II** classes during your final year of law school. Students will be automatically enrolled in the BEAT (Bar Exam Advantage Training) Program during their final semester to get free supplemental bar exam support.
- ❑ **After Graduation, make bar preparation your full-time job. Fully participate in the BEAT** Program to take advantage of McGeorge's free supplemental bar exam support.

Conditional Scholarship Retention

- ❑ Some of you may have received a scholarship that requires you to maintain a certain position in the class. This calculation is made at the end of the academic year. It is crucial that you monitor your progress after each semester so that you do not miss the opportunity to apply for supplemental or additional scholarships if needed.
- ❑ Conditional Scholarship Retention is determined based on **Academic Standing**, which includes only students who completed the Spring term and are continuing and/or academically disqualified at the end of the Spring term.
- ❑ Academic Standing differs from **Class Rank**. Class Rank is determined by the Registrar's Office and is broader than Academic Standing, and is inclusive of all students who were and are part of the class, including some students who may not appear in the Academic Standing Report.

McGeorge Academic Planning

A mandatory academic planning (MAP) meeting will automatically be scheduled for you, in a small group session, during the spring semester of your first year.



Read this Book!

There is a strong possibility that your question is answered somewhere in here.



Familiarize yourself with the list of subjects that will be tested on the bar exam.

Each state tests different material on its bar examination. Alums report that taking the bar-tested subjects in law school proved to be immensely helpful during bar study.



Talk to your professors, upper division students, and practicing lawyers.

Faculty members are available to talk to you about academics and provide other sources of advice and information. In addition, many upper division students, alumni, and supervisors at your externship sites are good resources for academic and career counseling.

Academic Success

You probably have heard that law school is hard and that it is like nothing you have experienced before. Both of these statements are true. As a result, every student in law school needs assistance to achieve their full potential. McGeorge affords that assistance in a number of ways through its comprehensive Academic Success Program.

First Year Skills Lab & 1L Study Groups

All first-year students at McGeorge are required to take a 1-unit Skills Lab that incorporates the substantive law courses they are taking that semester. During this course, students are taught foundational law school skills and are given the opportunity to practice and receive feedback on the various skills needed to be a successful law student. These include critical reading, case briefing, extracting and writing rules, note-taking, outlining, the IRAC exam-writing method, legal analysis, multiple choice assessments, time management, and stress management. Additionally, all first-year students are placed in 1L Study Groups (Structured Study Groups), which are led by an upper division student. The 1L Study Groups meet once per week and have required assignments, which are connected to both the substance and skills taught in their Skills Lab.

Individual Assistance

The Director of Academic Success is available to meet with and counsel students at any time regarding study techniques (critical reading, case briefing, outlining, attack sheets), exam taking, time management, supplemental materials, study groups, and other matters related to academic progress.

Academic Success Resource Center

The Academic Success Resource Center is a study space on the first floor of the Library, just inside the main entrance near the seating area. Students may come to the Resource Center to study individually, meet in their study groups, or meet with teaching assistants. Within the Resource Center is a library of supplemental study materials that students may check out including course supplements, commercial outlines, audio materials, flash cards, and bar exam preparation materials. The library also provides a range of online study aid materials.

Practice Examinations

The primary methods of assessment in law school are essay and multiple-choice exams. Both formats require students to apply the law to new fact scenarios by analyzing how the facts might support valid arguments for each side. These assessment methods are used because they are similar to state bar examinations and the practice of law, where hypothetical fact patterns become real client problems.

Many professors release past essay exams so that students may take practice exams on their own to prepare for their assessments. Students can then meet individually with their professors or the Director of Academic Success to discuss their answers. This individual exam writing practice is key to student success in law school. Past exams are available on the Library online database, and students are encouraged to download these exams and compile their own practice exam libraries.

Directed Study Program

Students with cumulative first-year GPAs that indicate they would benefit from more intensive skills instruction are placed in the Directed Study Program (GPA below 3.0). This Program is designed to help students reach their full potential in law school through a continuum of academic support and counseling, as well as to introduce them to the skills necessary to pass the bar exam on the first attempt. Students placed in Directed Study will remain in the program for the duration of their time at McGeorge.

Directed Study Program Requirements: All students in the Directed Study Program must take Remedies in their second year of the full-time/three-year program or third year of the part-time/four-year program. Additionally, students must take Business Associations, PASS I, and one of the three bar-tested courses - Wills and Trust, Community Property, or Criminal Procedure. Lastly, all students must schedule a

mandatory academic advising meeting once an academic year with the Office of Student Services

DIRECTED RESEARCH: Directed Study Program students with a 1L GPA of 2.5 or below are also required to take a Directed Research course in the fall semester of their second year. The one-unit requirement focuses on improving study skills, exam writing, and legal analysis. Students take multiple written assessments with extensive individualized feedback and one-on-one counseling.

Directed Study FAQ

Q: Why do we have Directed Study?

A: The Directed Study Program is intended to bolster a student's command of and confidence in core legal skills, with the goal of increasing success in law school and paving the way to bar exam success. There is a strong correlation between performance in law school and bar passage. Failure to pass the bar on the first try is difficult financially, emotionally, and professionally, so we want to do everything possible to help McGeorge students succeed while they are in law school and on their first bar exam attempt.

Q: Who is part of Directed Study?

A: Students who have a cumulative GPA below a 3.0 after their first year are automatically enrolled in the Directed Study Program for the duration of their enrollment at McGeorge and must meet its requirements. Students who have a cumulative GPA between 2.9 and 3.0 may petition to be removed from the Directed Study Program.

Q: How will I know if I am in Directed Study?

A: Students are notified within their Academic Progress Email received at the conclusion of their

first year. See "Advancement and Grades" for more about Academic Progress Emails.

Bar Support

PASS I: In either the Fall or Spring of their final year, Directed Study Program students are required to take Practical Analysis, Strategies, & Skills I (PASS I). PASS I is a three-unit pass/fail course that covers effective preparation and performance strategies for the multiple choice, essay, and performance test components of the California Bar Exam. PASS I students complete substantial writing practice and receive extensive individualized feedback on their answers.

Although Directed Study Program students are required to take PASS I for graduation, this course is open to (and encouraged for) all McGeorge students in their final year of study.

PASS II: PASS II is a three-unit, graded elective course that reviews the substantive law of Civil Procedure, Contracts, and Property. Students use commercial bar review course materials in this fast-paced class that prepares them for post-graduation bar preparation. Although not required, all students are strongly encouraged to enroll whether in the Directed Study Program or not.

Questions

Professor Antoinette Pierre-Louis

Director of Academic Success
916.739.7257 | apierrelouis@pacific.edu

Professor Lindsay Harrington

Director of Bar Support
916.524.8025 | lharrington@pacific.edu

Working While in Law School

Limitations on Employment

Law students may not engage in paid employment for more than 20 hours per week in any semester in which the student is enrolled in 12 or more course hours.

Please note that for purposes of this rule, it does not matter whether you are classified as being

part of the Full-Time/3yr Program or Part-Time/4 yr Program.

Annual Certification

Students are required to certify each year, during the registration process, that they understand this policy and agree to be bound by it.

Change of Division

Required Units Per Division

Full-Time/three-year division students must be enrolled for credit in 12-17 units per semester and must be devoting substantially all working hours to the study of law (summer session excepted).

A Part-Time/four-year division student must be enrolled for credit in 8-11 units per semester (summer session excepted).

Registration for units outside of this range requires approval from the Dean of Students in consultation with the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs.

All JD students may take as few as 6 units **in their final semester** with approval from the Dean of Students.

Switching Divisions

Upon satisfactory completion of the first year of study, students may apply for transfer between the full-time/3-yr and part-time/4-yr programs.

Part-time/4-yr Program students who wish to move into the full-time/3-yr division are advised that the Dean of Students will consider academic performance to date in making their determination. Students with at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA will be permitted to switch.

To switch divisions:

1. Develop a general plan for how you will meet the various degree requirements,
2. Consult with the Financial Aid Office, and
3. Schedule a meeting with the Dean of Students for academic counseling and approval.

Contact the Office of Student Services at **sacstudentaffairs@pacific.edu** or 916.739.7089 to schedule your appointment.

Graduation Requirements

Requirement	Description														
Units	You must earn a minimum of 88 units.														
Graded Units	Of your 88 units, a minimum of 72 must be graded units.														
Required Courses Although not required, JD students who are planning to take the bar exam are strongly encouraged to take all bar-tested courses.	You must take and pass (“D” or above) all of the following courses: <table> <tr> <td>☐ Civil Procedure (4)</td><td>☐ Skills Lab (1)</td></tr> <tr> <td>☐ Contracts (4)</td><td>☐ Statutes & Regulations (3)</td></tr> <tr> <td>☐ Criminal Law (4)</td><td>☐ Torts (4)</td></tr> <tr> <td>☐ Global Lawyering Skills I (2)</td><td>☐ Constitutional Law (4)</td></tr> <tr> <td>☐ Global Lawyering Skills II (3)</td><td>☐ Evidence (4)</td></tr> <tr> <td>☐ Legal Professions (1)</td><td>☐ Global Lawyering Skills III (3)</td></tr> <tr> <td>☐ Property (4)</td><td>☐ Professional Responsibility (2)</td></tr> </table>	☐ Civil Procedure (4)	☐ Skills Lab (1)	☐ Contracts (4)	☐ Statutes & Regulations (3)	☐ Criminal Law (4)	☐ Torts (4)	☐ Global Lawyering Skills I (2)	☐ Constitutional Law (4)	☐ Global Lawyering Skills II (3)	☐ Evidence (4)	☐ Legal Professions (1)	☐ Global Lawyering Skills III (3)	☐ Property (4)	☐ Professional Responsibility (2)
☐ Civil Procedure (4)	☐ Skills Lab (1)														
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☐ Criminal Law (4)	☐ Torts (4)														
☐ Global Lawyering Skills I (2)	☐ Constitutional Law (4)														
☐ Global Lawyering Skills II (3)	☐ Evidence (4)														
☐ Legal Professions (1)	☐ Global Lawyering Skills III (3)														
☐ Property (4)	☐ Professional Responsibility (2)														
Experiential Learning Requirements*	You must successfully complete all of the following: ☐ Two capstone experiences: (1) McGeorge Legal Clinic or Externship for 3 units minimum, and (2) a second McGeorge Legal Clinic, Externship, Mock Trial, or Moot Court for 3 units minimum ☐ Additional units of other experiential courses, including Simulation and Practicum courses, equaling 11 total units. <i>*To obtain the required units in this category, students may only count 6 or 7 units of the transformational capstones, leaving 4 or 5 additional units in other experiential courses, which may include clinics, externships, simulations, or practicums, for 11 experiential units total.</i>														
Directed Study Program	If your cumulative GPA after your first year is below a 3.0, you must complete the following: ☐ Business Associations (4) ☐ Remedies (3) (2D/3E) ☐ At least one of the following bar courses: Community Property (2), Criminal Procedure (3), Wills & Trusts (3) ☐ PASS I (3 P/F) (3D/4E) ☐ Directed Research Course (required for students whose Cumulative GPA is 2.5 or below) ☐ Academic advising each year through the Office of Student Services														
GPA	Your cumulative grade point average must be 2.33 or higher at graduation.														
Bar Exam	If you sit for any bar exam (excluding the Patent Bar) prior to completion of all degree requirements, you will not earn a JD degree from McGeorge. An exception may be made for a student who wishes to sit for the Delaware or North Dakota bar exam, which are offered only one time per year.														
Period of Study	You must complete your JD degree within 84 months of matriculation . You cannot complete your JD degree in less than 24 months .														

Any student who anticipates that they will graduate earlier or later than expected is advised to seek academic advising with the Office of Student Services and must notify the [Registrar](#) of any changes to their expected graduation date.

When to Take Your Required Classes

Full Time / Three Year Division	Part Time / Four Year Division
First Year ☐ Civil Procedure (4) ☐ Contracts (4) ☐ Criminal Law (4) ☐ Global Lawyering Skills I and II (2, 3) ☐ Legal Profession (1) ☐ Property (4) ☐ Skills Lab (1) ☐ Statutes & Regulations (3) ☐ Torts (4) Second Year ☐ Constitutional Law (4) ☐ Evidence (4) ☐ Global Lawyering Skills III (3) Anytime ☐ Professional Responsibility (2) ☐ Two capstone experiences (minimum 6 units) and additional units of other experiential courses totaling 11 units	First Year ☐ Skills Lab (1) ☐ Civil Procedure (4) ☐ Criminal Law (4) ☐ Global Lawyering Skills I and II (2, 3) ☐ Legal Profession (1) ☐ Torts (4) Second Year ☐ Contracts (4) ☐ Constitutional Law (4) ☐ Global Lawyering Skills III (3) ☐ Statutes & Regulations (3) ☐ Property (4) Third Year ☐ Evidence (4) Anytime* ☐ Professional Responsibility (2) ☐ Two capstone experiences (minimum 6 units) and additional units of other experiential courses totaling 11 units *To stay on track for graduation, part-time/4-yr students must take at least 10 units during their summers. Tuition for any units outside of the block rate is charged on a per unit basis.
Directed Study Program students must also complete the following courses:	Directed Study Program students must also complete the following courses:
Second Year ☐ Remedies (3) ☐ Directed Research (1) (if applicable) Anytime ☐ Business Associations (4) ☐ At least one of the following bar courses: Criminal Procedure (3), Wills & Trusts (3), Community Property (2) Third Year ☐ PASS I (3 P/F)	Second Year ☐ Directed Research (1) (if applicable) Third Year ☐ Business Associations (4) ☐ Remedies (3) Anytime ☐ At least one of the following bar courses: Criminal Procedure (3), Wills & Trusts (3), Community Property (2) Fourth Year ☐ PASS I (3 P/F)

Accelerated Honors Program

McGeorge has an Accelerated Honors Program (“AHP”) that allows select full-time/3yr Program students to complete their JD degree in two and one-half years. The typical AHP curriculum includes a 10-week honors externship during the 1L summer and a heavier load of 17 credits each semester after the first year. To be part of AHP, students must be accepted into the program at admission and cannot opt in after completion of their first year. AHP students must maintain a 3.00 GPA to remain in the program. More information about the AHP program can be found online here: <https://law.pacific.edu/law/accelerated-honors-jd-program>. If you have questions about constructing your AHP schedule, contact Associate Dean Proske, jproske@pacific.edu or Assistant Dean Adams at ladams@pacific.edu.

When to take your required classes for AHP Students:

AHP Students
First Year ☐ Skills Lab (1) ☐ Civil Procedure (4) ☐ Contracts (4) ☐ Criminal Law (4) ☐ Global Lawyering Skills I and II (2, 3) ☐ Legal Profession (1) ☐ Statutes & Regulations (3) ☐ Property (4) ☐ Torts (4) ☐ AHP Seminar Course (1)
First Year Summer ☐ AHP Externship (7) *satisfies the “two transformational capstone experiences” portion of the Experiential Requirement
Second Year ☐ Constitutional Law (4) ☐ Evidence (4) ☐ Global Lawyering Skills III (3)
Second <u>or</u> Third Year ☐ Professional Responsibility (2) ☐ Other experiential courses totaling at least 4 units, including Externships, Clinics, Simulations, or Practicums
A few other notes: - AHP students need to take 17 units each semester to stay on track to graduate. - All students are encouraged to take all of the bar-tested courses, as well as PASS I and PASS II. PASS I and PASS II may be taken during your last year of law school, which for AHP students would mean either the Spring of your 2L year or the Fall of your 3L year.

Experiential Curriculum

Graduation Requirement

Two transformational capstone experiences: (1) a McGeorge Legal Clinic or Externship (3 units minimum) and (2) a second McGeorge Legal Clinic, Externship, Mock Trial, or Moot Court (3 units minimum) **Additional units of other experiential courses,** including Simulation courses, equaling 11 total units. *To obtain the required units in this category, students may count only 6 or 7 units in the transformational capstone category, leaving 4 or 5 additional units in other experiential courses, which may include clinics, externships, simulations, or practicums, for 11 experiential units total.*

Q: What is a Clinic or Externship?

A: Through Externships and Legal Clinics, students get **hands-on legal experience**, putting the theory learned in the classroom into practice in an on-campus or hybrid clinic, or an externship in a government agency or nonprofit setting. Students in the on-campus clinics represent real clients under careful supervision. All Clinic and Externship students gain real-world legal skills.

Q: What is a Simulation Course?

A: **Simulation courses** provide substantial experience, not involving an actual client, that (1) is reasonably similar to the experience of a lawyer advising or representing a client or engaging in other lawyering tasks in a set of facts and circumstances devised or adopted by a faculty member, and (2) includes direct supervision of the student's performance by the faculty member; opportunities for performance, feedback from a faculty member, and self-evaluation; and a classroom instructional component.

Q: What is a Practicum Course?

A: **Practicum Courses** are courses in which at least one-third of instruction is devoted to a professional skill or set of professional skills characteristically used by practicing lawyers. Practicum courses give students the opportunity to learn substantive law while also learning and appreciating the context in which that law is to be applied by working on lawyer-like projects on simulated legal matters.

Q: How will I know which courses qualify?

A: By their very nature, these courses tend to be dynamic, cutting-edge offerings. **From year-to-year the list of qualifying courses will change to reflect legal trends and interesting opportunities for McGeorge students.** In past

academic years, simulation courses have included: Advanced Appellate Advocacy, Taking and Defending Depositions, Mediation, and Trial Advocacy. Practicum courses have included: Elder Law & Social Policy, Employment Law, and Family Law. Qualifying courses are indicated on the Academic Schedule with the notation of SIML or PRAC.

Q: May I take extra experiential courses?

A: Like much of law school, it depends.

Students are not permitted to exceed the required number of Capstones (clinics or externships) without express permission from the Director of Externships, The Director of Clinics, and the Dean of Students. However, you can enroll in several practicums and simulations. Students report that the courses in the Experiential Curriculum prepare them well for the practice of law.

Q: What if I cannot meet the Clinic/Externship Requirement because of my job?

A: Part-time students who work full time in a law-related job during normal business hours may request a waiver of one of the transformational capstones in the Externship/Legal Clinic portion of the Experiential Curriculum. Students can email sacstudentaffairs@pacific.edu to make the request.

Waiver requests will be reviewed by the Dean of Students and granted for good cause only. The student must provide proof that meaningful efforts have been made to secure an externship or clinic, and explain why those efforts were unsuccessful. You will also be required to meet personally with the Dean of Students.

Classroom Policies and Standards

Class Attendance, Preparation, Participation & Performance

Regular and punctual class attendance is mandatory and required by the American Bar Association. The faculty expects that you will be fully prepared and that you will actively participate in class. The faculty is required to take class attendance. Many professors incorporate preparation, participation, and class performance into consideration in grading. Your attendance and active involvement in class discussion form a central part of the learning process in law school for you and your classmates. Failure to meet the minimum standards set by your professors may result in a lower grade, or exclusion from taking the final examination or submitting the final assignment, resulting in a failing grade.

The Office of Student Services may provide an administratively excused absence, with documentation, for a medical issue, bereavement, accident or emergency, a school sanctioned activity (e.g., competition or court hearing), a religious obligation, or an obligation to the National Guard or similar organization. Absences may not be administratively excused, for any reason, without documentation.

Classroom Conduct

The Code of Student Responsibility notes: “[l]egal education demands free debate, characterized by the quick interplay of ideas, skillful use of logic, and knowledge of precedents, all tempered by compassion.” Students are expected to act civilly, ethically, professionally, and respectfully towards one another and their professors, and to be sensitive and accommodating to the wide range of feelings and perspectives of our diverse faculty and student body.

Laptop Use

Laptop computers may be used in class only for appropriate academic purposes as determined by the professor. Some professors do not permit in-class laptop use; however, in some cases laptop use may be permitted as an accommodation for a documented disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act. Using a laptop computer during class for a non-academic purpose (e.g., browsing the internet) distracts other students and may violate the Code of Student Responsibility.

Religious Holidays

McGeorge is committed to diversity and inclusion and this extends to how we observe religious holidays. McGeorge respects the rights of all members of our community to observe religious holidays and our hope is that we can all work together— staff, faculty, and students—to find constructive ways to achieve this. Students are encouraged to be proactive in speaking with professors and the Dean of Students about possible conflicts early in each semester and working together to find suitable solutions, including recording classes (see the next page for more information). The Office of Student Services also works with students whose religious commitments conflict with classes and/or exams.

Faculty Office Hours

All full-time faculty members have regular office hours posted outside of their office, listed on their syllabus, and posted on their course Canvas or TWEN site. They make every effort to honor these hours by being available at the times indicated. The approachability of our faculty is a hallmark of McGeorge, so do not hesitate to take advantage of this opportunity.

Policies of Individual Professors

Faculty members have the discretion to give students further information about how they interpret the rules concerning attendance, class preparation, class participation, and other subjects, and what consequences flow from violations of those rules.

Recording Classes

Based upon a resolution approved by the faculty, audio recording or video recording of class sessions is prohibited except to accommodate:

1. A student's observance of a **religious holiday**. If a student plans to miss class due to religious observation, the Office of Student Services must be notified one week in advance of the class(es) to be recorded;
2. A student's absence from a **make-up class** scheduled at a time that conflicts with a regularly scheduled class;
3. The scheduling of a **make-up class or review session** outside of the regular class hours;
4. Students who are called to **active military duty** by the Armed Forces;
5. A student's **documented disability** as part of services recommended for and provided to students under the Americans with Disabilities Act;
6. Students in the **LLM Legal Research Writing and Analysis** course when the instructor has determined that the student is having difficulty in understanding spoken English;
7. Any **extraordinary circumstances** outside a student's control, as approved by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs or the Dean of Students; or
8. A **request by faculty** for special purposes such as, e.g., developing online instruction, marketing, or capturing a guest lecture, as approved by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

No student shall copy, display, download, upload, post, release or otherwise distribute or publish any recordings of any class given at McGeorge, nor shall any student use such recordings for any commercial purpose without the written consent of the professor. Violations of this policy will result in disciplinary action pursuant to the Code of Student Responsibility.

To request permission to record, email the Office of Student Services. Once approved, students may self-record their classes. If the need for recording is due to the students' absence from the classroom, the school will require a minimum notice of one full business day. Please note that the school does not require that professors record their classes.

Institutional Learning Outcomes

At McGeorge, our learning outcomes are the lawyering skills that students are expected to obtain through the completion of a legal education. Consistent with ABA Standards, upon completion of a JD degree, graduates of the McGeorge School of Law will demonstrate mastery of the following student learning outcomes at the level needed for admission to the bar and effective and ethical participation in the legal profession as an entry level attorney. McGeorge School of Law has designed its curriculum to prepare students with the key skills and competencies needed to demonstrate these learning outcomes in the legal profession.

Each student will:

1. Demonstrate the ability to identify and understand key concepts in U.S. substantive law, legal theory, and procedure.
2. Apply knowledge and critical thinking skills to perform competent legal analysis, reasoning, and problem solving.
3. Demonstrate the ability to strategize, develop, and conduct efficient legal research in U.S. law.
4. Demonstrate the ability to identify and understand foundational concepts in international law and to perform international legal research.
5. Demonstrate communication skills, including effective listening and critical reading, writing in objective and persuasive styles, and oral advocacy and other oral communications.
6. Demonstrate professional judgment, ethics, and professionalism through conduct consistent with the legal profession's values, standards, and discipline.
7. Demonstrate the ability to understand, collaborate, and engage with people of diverse backgrounds and experiences in a variety of legal settings and contexts.
8. Demonstrate understanding of the legal profession's commitment to access to justice.
9. Demonstrate understanding of career options and steps toward defining and achieving career goals in light of personal value.

Examination Policies

Most courses have a comprehensive written examination at the end of each semester. All courses should also have one or more exams, quizzes, or written assessments and/or assignments during the semester. Some courses, such as experiential courses, Trial Advocacy, or Directed Research, may not have examinations but have grades based on evaluation of written assignments and performance standards.

Exam Schedule

The tentative final exam schedule is published before registration. Students may not register for classes with conflicting exams without permission from the Dean of Students.

Exam Instructions

Students are advised to read the exam instructions carefully; students are responsible for knowing and complying with all examination instructions.

Exam Materials

Unless an announcement is made to the contrary, students are permitted to have only pens, pencils, and a laptop computer with them in the examination room. If it is necessary to bring backpacks, etc., into the room, the items must be left either in the front or back of the room, as the proctor or professor indicates, and not retrieved until time has been called for all students to stop. Additionally, only analog watches are permitted. McGeorge is not responsible for items left unattended during exam periods; leave valuable items at home.

Conduct During Exams

Students are expected to conduct themselves honorably and in a professional manner during examinations. Any breach of this standard may result in disciplinary action under the Code of Student Responsibility.

Submitting Questions & Exam Responses

Examination materials must be turned in as the proctors or professors designate before the student leaves the examination room. The proctor or professor will indicate whether the exam question may be taken or must be returned. Multiple-choice questions, if any, must always be returned at the conclusion of the examination.

Policy Regarding Rescheduling Exams

Exams must be taken at the scheduled date and time unless the Dean of Students approves an exam change. Approved excuses are limited to the following circumstances:

- A **medical issue, bereavement, accident, or emergency**,
- A school sanctioned activity (e.g., competition or court hearing).
- A **religious obligation, or an obligation to the National Guard or similar organization**.
- An **accommodation for a disability** and timely notice has been provided to the Office of Student Services, as described in the policy for students with disabilities,
- A student has **three consecutive in-person timed exams over the course of one or two days**. In such cases one exam will be rescheduled to an earlier date.

Only the Dean of Students can approve a student to miss an examination or any portion of an examination. To maintain the anonymity of the grading process, **do not contact your professor about exam scheduling or missed exams**. To reschedule an exam for a non-emergency reason, **contact** sacstudentaffairs@pacific.edu at least four weeks prior to the examination (or as soon as the emergency arises). The Dean of Students will then review and either approve or deny the request. Full written verification of the details of such an event may be required.

Handwriting Exams

If you plan to handwrite an exam, please notify the Office of Student Services. You may need to take your exam in an alternate room to maintain anonymity.

Advancement and Grades

Academic Progress Email

After Spring exams end, you will receive an email from the Dean of Students titled "Academic Progress Email" which contains vital information about your academic status, next steps for continued study, and instructions for how to access your transcript on MyPacific. Read this email carefully. If you are in Directed Study, on probation, disqualified, or have failed a required course, that information will be included in your Academic Progress Email. First-year students will also receive an Academic Progress Email in early-January after their first semester grades have been released.

Academic Progression

Three-Year division student must be enrolled for credit in 12-17 units per semester and must be devoting substantially all working hours to the study of law (Summer session excepted). A Four-Year division student must be enrolled for credit in 8-11 units per semester (Summer session excepted). Registration for units outside this range requires approval from the Dean of Students in consultation with the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs. 3yr and 4yr students can take as few as 6 units in their final semester with approval from the Dean for Students (Summer session excepted).

The [Office of the Registrar](#) will review your academic progress at the end of each Fall and Spring semester to determine your class attribute level using the following table which is based on 33% (Three Year) and 25% (Four Year) completion:

Class of 2029			Class of 2030		
Three Year Students			Four Year Students		
	Min Units	Max Units		Min Units	Max Units
D1	1	30	E1	1	19
D2	31	59	E2	20	41
D3	60	88	E3	42	66
			E4	67	88

Exam and Paper Return

At McGeorge, many professors return exams and papers to students, a practice that differs from that of many law schools. Reviewing your exams gives you an opportunity to evaluate your performance and to learn from successes and mistakes. During the semester, midterm exams/assignments are returned to students either in class or through a SharePoint folder that is administered by the FSO. Final exams/assignments may be available, at faculty discretion. Please note that exams require scanning and processing prior to student distribution and will not be available on the same day the professor releases them.

Withdrawal/Leave of Absence

Class attendance is a fundamental aspect of the law school's program. Thus, no law student will be allowed to take a leave of absence for a portion of a semester, including summer.

If extraordinary circumstances dictate that a student must take time off from law school, the student must withdraw from all courses in which they are enrolled in that semester. Students who withdraw, other than those in the first semester of the Three Year program or the first year of the Four Year program, may request to return as soon as the following semester, but in no event may the leave continue for more than two full semesters. Eligibility to return to the law school will be evaluated by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Dean of Students upon the written request of the student, including reasonable evidence that the student is ready to resume study.

A student in their first semester of the Three Year program or a student in the first year of the Four Year program who withdraws from the law school must reapply through the Office of JD Admissions. Eligibility to return to the law school may be denied based on academic performance as of the date of withdrawal.

Involuntary Withdrawal

McGeorge School of Law may require a leave upon specified terms, terminate a student's enrollment, or decline to award a degree if the Administration determines it is in the best interests of the law school or that a student is not qualified for admission to the legal profession because of factors other than academic standing.

Repeating Courses

Students may not repeat courses in which they received a non-failing grade. A student who receives a failing grade ("F") in a required course must repeat that course and the highest number of grade points that can be credited is the equivalent of a "C+" grade. Under G&A Rule 701, the original grade remains on the transcript, but only the repeat grade counts for GPA purposes. (Note: different rules apply for students on probation or who have been readmitted following disqualification.)

Class Rank

At the end of each academic year, JD students are ranked against students in their academic year and division based on cumulative GPA. Class ranks are emailed to students after sufficient time has elapsed from the publication of year-end transcripts to allow time for changes due to petition approvals. Ranking information is not provided by phone.

In mid-July you will receive an email from the Office of the Registrar titled "Class Rank". Class ranks are calculated only once per year. Students who change divisions are ranked with the class of the division in which they are enrolled during the Spring term. First Year students must complete the entire academic year (enrollment in both Fall and Spring) to be ranked.

Please keep in mind that **Academic Standing**, which includes only students who completed the Spring term and are continuing and/or academically disqualified at the end of the Spring term, differs from **Class Rank**. Class Rank is determined by the Registrar's Office and is broader than Academic Standing, and is inclusive of all students who were and are part of the class, including some students who may not appear in the Academic Standing Report. It is possible to have a class rank that is in the top 50%, but not have an Academic Standing that is in the top 50%, which may impact scholarship retention.

Grade Changes

Individual professors do not have authority to change grades once submitted, and the G & A rules expressly discourage them from re-reading examination papers for the purpose of reevaluation and grade change. Do not contact your professor directly to request a grade change.

- If you believe there is a **mathematical error**, contact the Dean of Students or the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.
- If you believe that there was **discrimination or an abuse of discretion in assigning the grade**, the procedure to challenge a grade is described in G&A Rule 512. Contact the Dean of Students if you are considering such a petition.
- Grades cannot be changed for any other reason.

Good Standing

A student is in good standing with a cumulative GPA of 2.33 or above.

Probation

A student whose cumulative GPA falls within the range from 2.18 – 2.32 at the end of any academic year, other than the final year, may continue his or her enrollment on academic probation, under the conditions described in G&A Rule 606. Students cannot repeat probation.

Academic Disqualification

Under G&A Rule 605, a first-year student must have at least a 1.90 GPA at the end of the Fall semester to advance to the Spring semester. Students who do not meet the 1.90 GPA threshold after the Fall semester are academically disqualified. After the second semester, a student is disqualified when his or her cumulative GPA at the completion of an academic year falls below 2.18, or, for a student who was on academic probation, when their cumulative GPA falls below 2.33. Procedures and timing for requesting readmission following academic disqualification are discussed in G&A Rule 703.

Degree Evaluation and Diploma

The Office of the Registrar automatically applies eligible students for pending graduation status based on their expected graduation date and verified completion of program requirements in Degree Works. Students should contact Student Services and notify the Registrar of any changes to their expected graduation date.

Diplomas

Students are responsible for ensuring their permanent address is accurate, as this is the address used to mail diplomas. Updates must be made via the “Personal Information” link on the MyPacific Student Information tab at my.pacific.edu. Diplomas are printed using the legal name on file unless an alternate diploma name is submitted. Students may provide a

preferred diploma name by using the “Update Student Graduate Term And/Or Diploma Name” option on the MyPacific Student Services Menu. All updates to diploma name and permanent address must be submitted no later than the Add/Drop deadline of the student's final term of attendance. This ensures accurate printing and timely delivery of the diploma. Failure to update this information may result in delays or delivery issues related to your diploma.

Grading

Grading System

For courses with final letter grades (as distinguished from Pass/Fail courses), grades range from A+ to F. Weighted averages are computed from exam scores and scores on any other graded assignments in the course, and the professor then designates the range of averages to equate to a letter grade. A professor may adjust grades upward or downward based on class attendance, preparedness, participation, and performance.

Anonymous Grading

Under G&A Rule 509, grading in most courses at McGeorge is anonymous. Each Fall, after the add/drop deadline, students are given a new confidential exam number to use for assignments and exams for the year. The professor does not know which grade goes with which student by student name.

In some courses, however, grading may not be completely anonymous. In those courses, students will use their confidential exam number for some assignments and exams and will use their name for other assignments and exams. In other courses, grading is not anonymous at all – assignments and exams are graded using only the student's name.

Additionally, professors can provide grade adjustments based on a student's attendance, preparation, participation, and performance, per G&A Rule 301. In such cases, the professor will necessarily know a student's name when making the adjustment. Moreover, a professor may also opt to ascertain how a student performed on the assignments and exams in the course when deciding on an adjustment for that student.

Professors will inform students in writing of the anonymous or non-anonymous grading procedures for the assignments, exams, and grade adjustments in their course. If you have a

question about how grading will operate for a particular course, please ask the professor.

Grading Scale/Scores

Under G&A Rule 411, for grading in Torts, Contracts, Property, Civil Procedure, Criminal Law, Statutes & Regulations, Legal Profession, Skills Lab and Global Lawyering Skills I and II, scores are based on the following scale, which is roughly equivalent to the following letter grades:

Scaled Points	Grade
100	A+
95-99	A
90-94	A-
85-89	B+
80-84	B
75-79	B-
70-74	C+
65-69	C
60-64	C-
55-59	D+
50-54	D
Lower than 50	F

Scores do not appear on transcripts and do not represent a final grade in a course. All scores are subject to adjustment and finalization under G&A Rule 501.

Grade of Incomplete

A grade of "Incomplete" may be entered in a course when a student's submitted work is of passing quality and represents a significant portion of the requirements for a final grade, but for good cause, determined by the professor in consultation with the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and the Dean of Students, the student cannot complete the entire course within the semester. The student and professor must sign an Incomplete Grade Contract and the work must be completed in the timeframe set out in G&A Rule 410. If the work is not completed and a grade change form is not submitted, a grade of "F" (fail) will be entered, as specified in G&A Rule 410. For graduating seniors, the incomplete work must be completed prior to the graduation date.

Grade	Grade Points
A+	4.33
A	4.00
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.00
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C	2.00
C-	1.67
D+	1.33
D	1.00
F	0.00

Subjective Interpretation of Grades

Under G&A Rules 501 and 510, letter grades, ranging from A+ to F, with pluses and minuses, have the following subjective interpretations:

Grade	Subjective Interpretation
A	Exceptional, Outstanding Performance
B	Very Good, Skillful
C+	Satisfactory Demonstration of Professional Competence
C	Unsatisfactory because of Some Deficiency in Knowledge or Analysis or Both
D	Unsatisfactory, Showing Grave Deficiencies in Knowledge and Analysis
F	Failing, No Demonstration of Knowledge or Analytic Ability

Units of credit for a course are awarded if the course grade is "D" or higher. No course or unit credit is granted for a grade of "F."

Grade Point Average (GPA)

Under G&A Rule 511, a student's GPA is determined by dividing his/her grade points earned by the number of units attempted, but not counting P/F units in which a grade higher than "fail" was received. Grade point values are awarded for letter grades (multiplied by the number of units for that course) as follows:

Grade Distributions

Under G&A Rule 502, all grades in required courses other than Global Lawyering Skills I, II, and III must meet the following grade distribution standard, in addition to the targeted arithmetic means:

Letter Grade	Grade Distribution Standards (Min% - Max%)	Corresponding Score on the G&A Rule 411 100 Point Scale	Corresponding Grade Points
A+	0% - 2%	100	4.33
A	2% - 10%	95-99	4.00
A-	5% - 15%	90-94	3.67
B+	15% - 25%	85-89	3.33
B	25% - 35%	80-84	3.00
B-	15% - 25%	75-79	2.67
C+	5% - 15%	70-74	2.33
C	0% - 15%	65-69	2.00
C-		60-64	1.67
D+		55-59	1.33
D		50-54	1.00
F		Lower than 50	0.00

In determining compliance with the ranges above, fractions may be rounded up or down at the discretion of the instructor. For example, in a class of 70 students, 5% = 3.5 students and 15% equals 10.5 students. The instructor may therefore give 3 to 11 grades of C+.

Pass/Fail Courses

Some elective courses are designated as Honors/Pass/Low Pass/Fail courses in the catalog. Of the 88 semester units required for graduation, 72 must be earned in graded (i.e., not P/F) courses. The only P/F courses are those so designated by the faculty. Students do not have the option to enroll in a graded course on a P/F basis. Under G&A Rule 202, the following grading standards apply in P/F courses:

Grade	Subjective Interpretation
Honors	Work performed at a superior level
Pass	Work performed at an acceptable level
Low Pass	Work performed at the "C", "C-", "D+" or "D" levels
Fail	Receives no unit credits for the course

Students earning the grade of "Fail" do not receive unit credits for the course. In determining a student's cumulative grade point average, units attempted in P/F courses are not counted for any course in which a grade higher than "Fail" was received.

Grades Earned at Other Law Schools

Grades earned at another law school and accepted towards a student's McGeorge JD degree do not count in computing a student's McGeorge grade point average. Only the units, not individual course grades, are recorded on a student's McGeorge transcript.

Grades/Transcripts

Grades are subject to approval through the Office of Academic Affairs. Courses are graded early for seniors who are graduating in a given term. The remainder of the course may be graded later for all non-senior students.

The "in progress" section of transcripts will only show courses that are ungraded for the current term. Once the term ends, all "in progress" courses for the new term appear. Any ungraded courses at the end of a term will disappear from the "in progress" section on the transcript and will reappear in the appropriate term once the final grade is posted. Transcripts are updated at the end of the grading and petition period.

Grading "Curve" FAQ

Q: Is the grading system a mandatory curve?

A: The grading system is not a mandatory curve, at least in the traditional sense. In required courses, it does require professors to distribute the grades, but they have significant latitude as to how they do that. Having a targeted mean ensures that whatever the distribution, the students in that class are not materially advantaged or disadvantaged relative to other students taking the course. Also, elective courses are governed only by targeted means, which ensures some comparability but gives maximum flexibility as to distribution.

Q: Why were the G&A Rules amended to include mandatory distributions and targeted means?

A: Previously, professors had no guidance about the distribution of grades. This led to some very high grades and some very low ones, sometimes even within different sections of the same subject. This inconsistency raised very real fairness issues, especially where class standing and scholarship monies are concerned. It also made our grading less transparent and reliable to outside audiences, such as employers.

Q: Why did we adopt the 100-point scale?

A: Previously, there were ten points (90-100) at the A+ level, and all the other scores were compressed between about 60 and 90. The 100-point scale spreads the scores out more, and in addition, the scores are roughly equivalent to those awarded at other institutions.

Q: Why don't all of my courses have to use the 100-point scale?

A: Professors believed there was less need for scoring uniformity after the first year. Therefore, upper-division faculty have more discretion.

Q: Do professors have to fail students?

A: No. The G&A Committee did not want to adopt a system where professors were required to fail a certain percentage of students, and that is reflected in the mandatory distribution where grades of C and under may range from 0 to 15%.

Q: Who should I talk to if I have a question about grading?

A: If you want to verify what your scores were, you should contact the Academic Affairs Office. If you have a question about the G&A Rules or wish to contest a grade, you should contact the Dean of Students, Dean Adams, or the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Dean Proske.

Grading & Advancement Committee

Petition Process

The Grading and Advancement Committee (“G&A Committee”) is the body duly authorized to study, develop, adopt, and apply rules, regulations, and procedures pertaining to examinations, grading, advancement, graduation, and related matters for all McGeorge students. The G & A Committee presents major policy considerations to the entire faculty for debate and vote before official adoption.

G&A Rules

The G&A Rules (pertaining to examinations, grading, advancement, graduation, and related matters) are located on the McGeorge website. These rules are subject to amendment at any time by the faculty, without prior notice. Although the faculty seeks to avoid changes which would result in preventing a student who is satisfactorily following a regular course of study from graduating at the normal time, students do not acquire any vested rights in the continued enforcement of the G&A Rules as now set forth.

Grade Appeals

Pursuant to Rule 512, a petition for a review of a grade must be filed within 15 calendar days of the announcement of the final grade. Mere dissatisfaction with a grade or a professor’s teaching style is an insufficient basis for a grade appeal. Rather, a student petitioning for review of a grade must allege **discrimination or an abuse of discretion** on the part of the professor in the evaluation of the student’s work or in assigning the grades. Grade appeals follow the same process as any other petition. The G&A Committee will review the matter in consultation with the professor involved and may grant such relief as it deems appropriate.

G&A Petitions

Any student who is **adversely affected** by the application of the G&A Rules may file a petition for relief through the Office of Student Services. The G&A Committee meets to hear student petitions on an as-needed basis. Upon receipt, the Office of Students Services will calendar the petition with the Committee.

There is **no specific required format** for a G&A petition; typically, petitions will be in the form of a letter addressed to the committee setting forth the nature of the relief being requested and the reasons why it should be granted. In drafting your petition, be sure to review the G&A Rules to identify which rules are applicable to your circumstances and then reference those rules in your petition. Petitions should be emailed to sacstudentaffairs@pacific.edu.

Personal Appearance

Students who submit a G&A petition may also have the right to make a personal appearance before the committee. The purpose of a personal appearance is to provide any additional information that was not available at the time the petition was filed and/or to answer any questions that the Committee members may have regarding the petition. If you wish to make a personal appearance, be sure to specify this on your petition and provide a phone number where you can be reached for scheduling purposes.

G&A Hearing Process

Prior to the hearing, Committee members will receive and review copies of all petitions and any attachments. If you are making a personal appearance, the Office of Student Services will coordinate the specific timing of that appearance with you in advance. The Committee will deliberate and make a decision after you leave the room. The Dean of Students will notify you of the outcome of your petition. The G&A Committee’s appellate panel is the **final decision-making body** in matters concerning student petitions; there is no appeal to the Dean or Provost.

Students should refrain from contacting the faculty members on the Committee outside of the hearing process, as this may compromise the fairness and objectivity of the process.

Questions

Questions may be directed to the Dean of Students or the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

Honors and Awards

Dean's List

Students who earn a 3.30 or higher annual GPA at the completion of an academic year are named to the Dean's Honor List and will see a notation to that effect on their transcript. Students must be enrolled in both the fall and spring semesters and have letter graded courses in each term of the academic year to receive Dean's List Honors. Dean's List eligibility may change at the discretion of the Dean.

CALI Excellence Awards

McGeorge has partnered with the Center for Computer Assisted Learning (CALI) to issue CALI Excellence Awards to the student (or two students, in the case of an exact numerical tie) with the highest grade in every law class of ten students or more, as well as every GLS class and every clinic regardless of size. Awards are not given for Competition Team classes, Law Review, PASS I or II, or iLaw classes. Students receiving a CALI Excellence Award will be notified after grades are finalized each semester.

Graduation Honors

Valedictorian Awards

The graduating student in each division with the highest grade point average in the division is presented a medal that recognizes their achievement.

The Order of the Coif

A national law school honor society was founded to encourage legal scholarship and advance the ethical standards of the legal profession. Seniors whose academic records place them in the top 10% of the combined Three-Year and Four-Year division and who have completed at least 75% of their law studies in graded courses at McGeorge are eligible for election to membership.

With Great Distinction

Members of the graduating class whose cumulative grade point average is 3.50 or higher graduate "With Great Distinction."

With Distinction

Members of the graduating class whose cumulative grade point average is 3.10 or higher graduate "With Distinction."

Traynor Society

Students whose grades during any two academic years qualified them for the Dean's Honor List are named members of the Traynor Society, named in honor of the late Honorable Roger J. Traynor, former Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court.

The Order of Barristers

Up to ten graduating seniors may be elected to membership in recognition of performance in intramural and interscholastic appellate and trial advocacy competitions.

Faculty Honors and Awards Committee

The Faculty Honors and Awards Committee annually selects graduating JD students for the awards and honors listed below. The SBA President serves on this Committee to represent the student voice.

Outstanding Graduating Senior Award

This award is given annually to the student in each division (3yr/4yr Program) who most successfully demonstrates excellence in academic achievement; consideration is also given to criteria such as honors the student received and the student's participation in activities that exemplify outstanding individual accomplishment during their law school career.

Outstanding Student Leadership in Diversity and Inclusion

Recognizes the student who cultivated an inclusive campus environment by celebrating and supporting diversity on campus, overall leadership abilities, and an unremitting commitment to the McGeorge community, and by significant participation in activities that foster diversity, equity, and inclusion in the McGeorge community during the student's law school career.

Outstanding Scholastic Achievement Award

This award is given annually to the student in each division (3yr/4yr Program) who has made the most significant contribution toward overall legal scholarship in their class. This award is intended to recognize significant study and writing, such as might be demonstrated through publication of a student comment, or other meaningful contribution to legal scholarship or study.

Outstanding Student Achievement Award

This award is given annually to a student in each division (3yr/4yr Program) based primarily on student leadership abilities, with secondary consideration being given to: the student's scholastic standing and honors; service in government offices, committees, and special projects; participation in the Pacific Law Review; work on other student publications; participation on competition teams; outside activities; and work experience during law school.

ALI-CLE Scholarship & Leadership Award

[ALI-CLE](#) provides post-admission education for the legal profession. ALI-CLE is dedicated to keeping the legal community abreast of current developments and providing practitioners with the resources necessary to enhance their practice. This award is given annually to the student in each division, day and evening, who best represents a combination of scholarship and leadership qualities embodied by the [American Law Institute](#) and the [American Bar Association](#)

Outstanding Student Service Award

This award is given annually to up to 3 students in the 3yr Program division and up to 2 students in the 4hr Program division to recognize students who have given the most significant service and contributed in the most meaningful way to the McGeorge Community.

Dual Degree Program

McGeorge currently has a JD/MPP dual degree program, in which – with advance approval – graduate credit earned in one program is accepted toward the degree from the other program.

Admission

Students must be admitted separately to the McGeorge School of Law JD Program and to the program that will confer the Master's degree. Admittance to McGeorge's JD Program does not guarantee admission into other degree programs, even those housed within the McGeorge School of Law.

Approval

Students who want to pursue a dual degree should consult with the Dean of Students regarding their planned course of study. Students can schedule an appointment by contacting the Office of Student Services at **sacstudentaffairs@pacific.edu** or 916.739.7089.

They should also schedule an appointment with the Program Director of the Public Policy program at the earliest stages of planning. Students in the Directed Study Program may not pursue the JD/MPP dual degree without approval.

JD/MPP Opportunity

Students may pursue both a JD and a Master of Public Policy Degree (MPP) in both the full-time division or part-time division. Typically, this option reduces the total time needed to complete both degrees separately by up to one year. Students apply to each program separately and in the first year, only Law courses are taken. The Master of Public Administration (MPA) may also be completed by JD students in one additional year. Contact the Public Policy programs at publicpolicy@pacific.edu to learn more.

Other Programs

Occasionally, a student may be interested in pursuing a Master's degree in an area in which a dual degree program is not available, such as history, international relations, or social work. The student must consult with the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs to determine if any credit for the Master's program coursework would be accepted by McGeorge. Upon approval of a written proposal, up to 9 units of credit may be accepted toward the JD degree.

Transfer of Credit

To be accepted by McGeorge as elective credit toward the JD unit requirements, the credit (1) must be for graduate level courses, and (2) must have been earned concurrently between initial matriculation and graduation from the McGeorge JD program.

Transcript

An official transcript of completed Master's course work to be accepted toward the JD degree must be furnished to the Registrar; only the number of units (not grades) accepted are reflected on the McGeorge transcript.

Program Length

The Dual Degree programs at McGeorge can be completed in 4-5 years for full-time division students and 5-6 years for part-time division students.

Centers of Distinction

McGeorge has three Centers of Distinction. Each Center offers students the opportunity to pursue a Certificate of Concentration in its area of legal specialty in addition to your JD degree.

Capital Center for Law & Policy

The Capital Center trains students to make and change law and policy through an interdisciplinary approach across McGeorge's programs. The core of its programs is the nationally recognized Capital Lawyering Concentration, one of few such programs, offering specialized classes, a legislative clinic, externships, law and policy trainings and events, specialized public policy and government jobs career counseling, and networking activities with alumni and policymakers around the capital. In the Legislative and Public Policy Clinic, students lobby bills into law. The Center's programs also include the Washington D.C. Fellowship, affiliation with the "Greensheets" California Legislation Review, the California Initiative Review, the Public Legal Services Society, and the McGeorge Capital Lawyering Association for Students.

Eglet Center for Advocacy & Dispute Resolution

This Center supports our outstanding Mock Trial, Moot Court, Client Counseling, and ADR competition teams, presents scholarly programs, including the annual Lou Ashe Scholar in Residence symposia and presentation, hosts the National Ethics Mock Trial Competition, and engages in international advocacy training.

In the past, the Center has engaged in a several year teaching exchange with Russian law professors to enhance advocacy training in Russia, has trained Chilean prosecutors and defense attorneys in client counseling, plea bargaining, and trial skills, and has trained law professors throughout China in experiential learning and advocacy.

Aided by our innovative Trial and Appellate Advocacy Concentration and Global Lawyering Skills courses, our student competition teams excel. The Trial Advocacy Program is regularly

ranked among the top Trial Advocacy programs in the country. The Moot Court Program is frequently ranked in the top fifteen nationally and brings home too many oral argument and best brief victories to count. The school also provides students a rare opportunity to represent clients in federal court at hearings and trials through its year-long Federal Defender clinic, one of only a few in the country.

Global Center for Business & Development

The Global Center is dedicated to ensuring that McGeorge students are well prepared for careers in an ever-more globalized marketplace and to promoting the development and dissemination of policy research and scholarship pertaining to global issues. The Global Center houses the International Concentration, which guides students through curricular choices and provides those who successfully complete the coursework and other requirements with a certificate that signals international law expertise and commitment to employers.

Each year, the Global Center hosts international speaker series and symposia. Students are encouraged to attend Global Center events and join the conversation. The Global Center also runs an international internship program, through which students can apply for internships with a variety of employers and types of organizations around the world.

Certificates of Concentration

McGeorge offers a variety of ways to build your resume and focus your studies on a particular practice area. Currently we offer *optional* Certificates of Concentration in the following areas:

Certificate of Concentration	Faculty Director(s)
Business	Christine Manolakas
Capital Lawyering	Erin O'Neal
Elder & Health	TBD
Intellectual Property	Michael Mireles
International	Omar Dajani and Jarrod Wong
Tax	Christine Manolakas
Trial & Appellate Advocacy	Mary-Beth Moylan
Water & Environmental	Rachael Salcido and Jennifer Harder

Students interested in a Certificate of Concentration should submit an application at the earliest stages of planning but, in no event, after the Add/Drop Deadline of their final law-school term.

You can find a full listing of the Concentration requirements and application on the McGeorge website here:

law.pacific.edu/law/certificates-of-concentration

Students are encouraged to schedule an appointment with the Faculty Director to plan their required curriculum.

Q: What if there is not a Certificate of Concentration in the area of law I want to pursue?

A: If McGeorge does not offer a Certificate of Concentration in your desired practice area, there are other ways to accomplish the same aim – for example, you could take electives and pursue co- and extra-curricular activities to build your skillset and increase your connections in a specific field.

Q: Can I earn two (or more) Certificates of Concentration?

A: Under most circumstances, the answer is “no”. However, there are instances where programs have overlapping requirements and two concentrations may be approved. For example, if you take Federal Income Taxation, it will satisfy a requirement for both the Business and Tax Concentrations. If you would like to pursue more than one Certificate of Concentration, please schedule an appointment with the Dean of Students or the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs to discuss your options.

Q: How close to graduation can I apply for a Concentration?

A: Students are required to apply no later than the Add/Drop Deadline of the semester term in which they intend to graduate.

Q: What if I applied to a concentration but find I am unable to complete the requirements to earn it?

A: Students who are unable to meet the requirements of a concentration are required to notify their concentration director prior to starting their final two semesters leading up to graduation. The Concentration Director must submit a Change of Program form to the [Office of the Registrar](#) to remove the concentration. Students are advised to check their progress on their concentration each semester via **Degree Works**.

Please consult with the Concentration Faculty Director if you have any questions.

International Study Opportunities

European Summer Experience

Broaden your law school experience by taking advantage of McGeorge's unique summer program in Salzburg, Austria. Salzburg has been the site of McGeorge School of Law's annual Summer Program on International Legal Studies since 1974. The three-week program in Salzburg offers international and comparative law courses in public and commercial law fields. European and American faculty, as well as renowned practitioners teach courses. To learn more about the Salzburg Summer Program, email mcgeorgesummerabroad@pacific.edu.

In addition to the academic program in Salzburg, students may also enroll in **one-unit internships** with legal offices abroad to be completed in advance of the Salzburg program. Participating in an internship provides practical legal education, as well as promotes networking globally with lawyers in other jurisdictions. Please note that the one-unit international internships do not satisfy the transformational capstone requirement.

All students who participate in the Salzburg Summer Program must be enrolled students at an ABA-approved law school as of the first day of the program in order to participate, meaning that **any student who is academically disqualified after the Fall or Spring semester will not be able to participate**. Please consult with the Dean of Students before enrolling in the program if your GPA is below a 2.5 after the Fall semester.

Exchange Programs

Add a true international dimension to your JD experience by participating in an Exchange Program, spending a semester or year studying law at a university in another country. McGeorge currently has exchange agreements with four universities:

- **University of Salzburg, Austria** – Salzburg is located at the geographic and historic crossroads of Central Europe. Classes are held in the Law Faculty Building of the University of Salzburg, located in a renovated 16th Century palace in the heart of Salzburg's historic Old Town. Courses are taught in English and focus primarily on the law of the European Union.

- **University of Parma, Italy** – the University is located in a strategic part of a lively city, full of cultural life and particularly welcoming towards students and their diverse needs. The size of this University, neither too large nor too small, together with Parma lifestyle attracts a large number of students from all over Italy. Courses are taught in Italian and English. Some fluency in Italian is recommended.
- **Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium** – The entire town of Louvain-la-Neuve was built around the campus of this university in the French-speaking part of Belgium. Some courses are held in English, but to be able to participate in this exchange, some fluency in French is preferred. Applications for the Fall semester must be submitted by the previous May 31 and for the Spring semester by the previous October 31.
- **University of Copenhagen, Denmark** – This University has been around for centuries and is located in the heart of Denmark's largest city. It offers a full selection of law courses in English, so knowledge of Danish is not necessary to study there. Students must be nominated by McGeorge to participate in this exchange and interested students should request to be nominated no later than May 31 for enrollment in either the following Fall or Spring semester.

These Exchange Programs give you an opportunity to get first-hand knowledge of another country's legal system and culture. Gaining a global perspective is essential in today's legal practice. Approved classes taken at these universities will qualify for credit towards your JD degree. If you are considering an Exchange Program, please contact Assistant Dean for Graduate, International, and Online Programs, Clemence Kucera, at ckucera@pacific.edu or 916.739.7353 at your earliest stages of planning.

Summer Abroad Programs at Another ABA Accredited Law School

McGeorge students may take up to six units of elective credit at another ABA-accredited law school. To request permission, submit a Rule 902 Application to the Office of Student Services (email sacstudentaffairs@pacific.edu for the electronic version). Upon approval, McGeorge will accept up to 6 units of credit earned with passing grades in elective courses (not Externships).

International Externships/Internships

Students can earn academic credit for international Externships/Internships (also referred to as a “Semester-In-Practice” or “Summer-In-Practice”), or they can elect to volunteer. In recent years students have gone to Vietnam, the Netherlands, Germany, Italy, Guatemala, Cambodia, India, Switzerland (Geneva), China, and Hong Kong, among other places. A listing of available international internships is regularly updated and is available through the CSO. For students interested in interning in a foreign private practice, please contact Clemence Kucera at ckucera@pacific.edu or 916.739.7353.

Related International Activities

- **Visiting Scholars:** The Global Center hosts distinguished foreign professors or jurists who complete independent research projects, audit courses, and participate in campus events.
- **Visiting Foreign Faculty:** The Global Center hosts 2-3 distinguished professors or practitioners each year who teach elective courses.
- **International Law Society:** McGeorge’s International Law Society (MILS) is a student organization that brings together those interested in international law. Members meet to discuss current legal trends and the club sponsors speakers on current international topics.

Opportunities to get involved with the above events and activities are regularly featured in The Docket and The WRIT.

Fast Track LLM in Water Resources Law

Our Fast Track LLM program allows JD students at McGeorge to apply up to 12 credits of JD coursework towards the LLM in Water Resources Law. You may specialize in either U.S. or international water law and earn your LLM degree in just one additional semester of study.

If you are interested in pursuing this advanced degree in water law, we encourage you to consider the fast track option during academic

planning. The ideal time to apply for the fast track LLM is during the Spring of your 2L year. For details about the program and application process, contact the Graduate and International Programs Office at graduatelaw@pacific.edu or 916-739-7019. You can also find more information online at <https://law.pacific.edu/law/water-and-environmental-law>.

Legal Clinics

Legal Clinics have been a hallmark of McGeorge for over 50 years. We have a broad array of clinical programs to meet our students' learning needs and to serve our community's legal needs. Clinical experience is one of the ways that our school shows its commitment to public service, social justice, and real-world work experiences for our students. We teach what can best be learned through experience: creative problem-solving and skilled advocating for clients. Visit the Legal Clinics Facebook page and website at law.pacific.edu/law/legal-clinics.

Community Legal Services (CLS)

Our four on-campus clinics (Immigration Law, Elder and Health Law, Homeless Advocacy, and Bankruptcy) are known as Community Legal Services. Law students are placed in the role of an attorney in a law office setting serving low-income and vulnerable clients. Students take major responsibility for real cases under careful faculty supervision then use those real-life experiences to discuss in an academic setting the issues that lawyers face in their legal careers. Students often appear in administrative, state, and federal courts. CLS also employs full time work-study students during the summer.

Hybrid, Off-Campus Clinics

We have also established an innovative hybrid clinic, the Civil Rights Mediation Clinic, with an important community partner, where students do much of their work off-campus. This hybrid clinic is one of only a few such clinics in the country.

Legislative and Public Policy Clinic

Our Legislative and Public Policy Clinic recognizes the role of lawyers in the public policy arena. Students advocate for and draft legislation and policy that is sponsored by our community.

All Clinics include a seminar component.

Clinic Descriptions

Bankruptcy Clinic students represent (under supervision) debtors and creditors in bankruptcy proceedings. Students interview and counsel clients as well as assist clients in all aspects of case assessment, negotiation & settlement, and representation of debtors in bankruptcy proceedings in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of California.

Elder Law and Health Clinic students represent (under supervision) people over aged 60 in a variety of issues unique to the aging population including, alternatives to conservatorships, wills, trusts, powers of attorney, social security, Medicare/MediCal, and elder abuse. Elder law (including health issues for the elderly) is one of the country's growing areas of legal specialization. Students handle all aspects of the case and acquire a command of complicated substantive state and federal law, as well as a high level of ethical competence. Students have the opportunity to represent elders in court in probate, financial abuse litigation and restraining orders, which includes depositions, motions and other civil litigation tools. Students represent clients in transactional matters concerning planning for death, incapacity, and a variety of other issues. Students also participate in joint classes with UCD medical students.

Clinic descriptions continue on the next page.

Homeless Advocacy Clinic students represent (under supervision) unhoused people who have had contact with the criminal legal system. The Homeless Advocacy Clinic is a litigation clinic prioritizing cases involving public benefits, expungement of criminal records, infraction defense and reduction of fines and fees, and child support. Through their casework, students develop and hone fundamental lawyering skills including client interviewing, fact investigation, research and writing, client counseling, and oral advocacy. Moreover, students receive extensive training in the provision of trauma-informed lawyering. Students appear in criminal and administrative courts.

Immigration Law Clinic students represent (under supervision) low-income non-citizens before the Department of Homeland Security and the Executive Office for Immigration Review. Students represent clients in a range of matters including applications for asylum and related relief, visas for trafficking and domestic violence survivors, as well as family-based petitions and naturalization applications. Clinic students interview and counsel clients, as well as prepare declarations, legal briefs and supporting evidence. Students appear in administrative and superior courts.

Legislative and Public Policy Clinic students identify areas of law and policy suitable for reform. Students: collaborate with other clinic students in our various clinics, community organizations and experts to craft statutory language that is submitted to the Legislative Counsel's office. Working with community sponsors, authors are identified to introduce a bill for legislative action. Participation in the Capitol Certificate Program is preferred, but not required.

Prisoner Civil Rights Mediation Clinic students co-mediate section 1983 prisoner civil rights cases with a federal magistrate judge. Students learn both the theory and practice of mediation and develop the skills necessary to serve as mediators, including participating in mediation simulations. Students will also learn section 1983 prisoner case law.

How to apply for a Legal Clinic

All of our clinics require an application. The electronic application is available on the [Legal Clinics webpage](#). You will be asked to provide the following information:

- Contact information
- Language proficiency (other than English), if any
- Relevant work or volunteer experience
- A resume
- A one-page statement of interest (explaining what draws you to that Clinic and any past experiences/future career goals as they may relate to participation in that Clinic)

Students can only enroll in one clinic at a time. You may apply for up to three clinics and will be asked to indicate your order of preference on the application form.

Satisfying the Experiential Requirement

Only the clinics listed in this section may satisfy the Legal Clinic portion of the Experiential Curriculum requirement for graduation.

Repeating Clinics

Students may participate in the Bankruptcy, Elder Law & Health, Homeless Advocacy, or Immigration Law Clinic for more than one semester, space permitting.

The Clinics At-A-Glance

Applications

An application is required for all clinics. Electronic applications are on the Legal Clinics webpage.

Clinic Name, Professor & Seminar Meeting Time	Prerequisites (P) / Prereq. or Concurrent Enrollment Requirements (PC)	Certified Law Student	Units	Length of Commitment	Offered During
Bankruptcy Clinic Professors Warren Jones and Linda Coco	PC: Bankruptcy, Evidence, Civil Procedure	Yes	3 units	Semester	Fall & Spring
Elder & Health Law Clinic Professor Lacey Mickleburgh	PC: Elder Law & Social Policy, Evidence, Civil Procedure	Yes	3 units	Semester*	Fall & Spring
Homeless Advocacy Clinic Professor Ron Hochbaum	PC: Evidence, Civil Procedure, Poverty Law (when offered), Elder Law & Social Policy (encouraged)	Yes	3 units	Semester*	Fall & Spring
Immigration Law Clinic Professor Blake Nordahl	PC: Immigration Law, Evidence, Civil Procedure	Yes	3 units	Semester*	Fall & Spring
Legislative and Public Policy Clinic Professor Aaron Brieno	Capital Lawyering & Policy Making and Lawmaking in CA are strongly recommended prior to, or concurrent with, the Clinic. Students in the Capital Lawyering Concentration receive preferred enrollment.	No	3 units per semester	Academic Year	Year Long
Prisoner Civil Rights Mediation Clinic Professor Ederlina Co	P: Mediation, Negotiations & Settlements, ADR, or a non-credit basic 40-hour meditation course with the approval of the faculty.	No	3 units	Semester	Fall & Spring

*Students are encouraged to do this clinic for two semesters.

Externships

Externships promote real-world practical experience by assisting students to think outside the box about their options, potential and goals. Approved General Externship and Judicial Externship opportunities allow students to earn academic credit, develop skills and legal knowledge, experience daily legal practice, and build resume and networking opportunities. Visit our Director of Externships, Colleen Truden, for approved Externship Sites at local, state, and federal courts, government agencies, and nonprofit entities. Private law firms are not eligible for the Externships Program.

Application Process

- ☐ For general information on Externships, on <https://www.pacific.edu/law/externships>
- ☐ Review details and our approved [Externships Sites](#) on 12twenty, Resource Library, Externships folder
- ☐ Complete your [Notice of Intent](#) at mcgeorge.libwizard.com/f/notice-intent
- ☐ Schedule your appointment with Director Colleen Truden using 12Twenty Appointments
- ☐ Complete and submit all application materials directly to each Externship Site to which you want to apply. Follow the instructions listed in the Directory of Externships available on 12twenty.

Units	Total Hours	Hours Per Week (14 Weeks)
3	150	Approx. 12
4	200	Approx. 15

Be Advised

- Students are limited to two Capstone experiences, or the equivalent (single experience for 6-14 units).
- All District Attorney Offices, Public Defender Offices, and other DOJ related offices will require a completed background check before you can start working. Applications for Externships must be submitted well in advance to allow up to 3 months for the background check.
- Students will not be allowed to register for, or participate in, any Externship Site that requires a background check unless the background check has been approved before the first day of the semester classes.
- Some Externship Sites will require a student become a certified law student by the California Bar.
<https://www.calbar.ca.gov/admissions/special-admissions/certified-law-student-program>
- Students on academic probation at the start of a semester are not eligible to serve in an Externship.
- Some externship sites may have limitations as it relates to immigration status or criminal background.
- We do not approve law firms.

Application Documents

- ☐ Mandatory: Resume and Cover Letter
- ☐ Documents that may be requested: Unofficial Transcript, Writing Sample, References/Letter of Recommendation.

Deadlines

- ☐ Deadlines are posted on 12twenty

Externship Interview

- ☐ The Externship Site will contact you directly if they want to interview you.
- ☐ Schedule your interview at a mutually convenient time.
- ☐ If you receive an offer and accept, let the Externships Office know.

Registration

- ☐ Contact the Externships Office for registration instructions upon receiving your Externship offer.
- ☐ Externships must occur during the academic semester. Fall and Spring session externships start the first day of classes and conclude on the Friday before reading week. Summer sessions run for 10 weeks during the time set forth by the Externships Program. If you need to adjust your start and end date you must have approval by the Director of Externships.
- ☐ Failure to participate in the Seminar will prevent you from receiving credit for the Externship.
- ☐ Enrolling in an Externship commits you to both the Externship Site and the Externships program.
- ☐ Be advised, you cannot start late, finish early, or drop the Externship without approval of the Director of Externships and your Supervising Attorney for the Externship Site.
- ☐ Dismissal from an Externship for any reason precludes you from receiving academic credit.

Semester-In-Practice Externships

General SiP Externships

Allows you to continue your legal education in a government, or non-profit law office setting where you focus on the details and intricacies of the practice of law under the supervision of a practicing attorney. SiP Externships are for students who want to devote full- or half-time work to a single externship that could be local or in another city

Eligibility Requirements:

Must be in the top 50% of your class, and pre-approved by the Director of Externships and Dean of Students.

Units	Total Hours	Hours Per Week (14 Weeks)	Notes
7 P/F	280	20	Top 50% of your class
12 P/F +2 graded	560 Plus a Paper	40	Top 1/3 of your class
14 P/F	560	40	Top 50% of your class

Judicial SiP Externships

Gives students who have demonstrated outstanding academic performance an opportunity to learn firsthand about the judicial system by working full-time (or in limited situations half-time) for a Federal Court Judge, a Justice of the California Supreme Court or Court of Appeals, and other State Appellate Courts or specialty courts.

- ☐ Judicial Externships: Complete and submit all application materials for each Externship Site for which you want to apply, to **sacexternships@pacific.edu** before you submit. The Externships Office will review the materials and confirm that you can submit to the Externship Sites.

Eligibility Requirements:

Must be in the top third of your class. The Externships Office will notify eligible students during the Fall of your 2D/3E year of your

eligibility and provide counseling and instructions on how to apply.

Units	Total Hours	Hours Per Week (14 Weeks)	Notes
7 P/F	280	20	Top 1/3 of your class
12 P/F +2 graded	560 Plus a Paper	40	Top 1/3 of your class
14 P/F	560	40	Top 1/3 of your class

Getting Started for General or Judicial SiP Externships

- ☐ Complete your Notice of Intent at <https://mcgeorge.libwizard.com/f/notice-intent>
- ☐ Mandatory meeting with Dean of Students to determine your academic schedule and eligibility, and to develop a plan for meeting all graduation requirements
- ☐ Mandatory appointment with the Director of Externships to discuss your eligibility, potential externships, and the application approval process.

Be Advised

- Not all Externships are approved for a SiP and each Externship must be separately approved by the Director.
- The full-time SiP requires early planning, is very demanding, and is designed to fulfill a full semester of classes. Students chosen to participate should not expect to be approved for additional classes. Contact the Externships Office to schedule an appointment to explore your opportunities.
- Some externship sites may have limitations as it relates to immigration status or criminal background.
- We do not approve law firms.

Competition Teams

Our student teams are top performers in some of the most prestigious national and international competitions. Through participation on a competition team, you can expand your courtroom or alternate dispute resolution experience, improve oral and written advocacy skills, and refine client counseling, negotiation, and arbitration skills. Team membership is based on a competitive application process.

First-Year Competitions

The **Ben Franz Mock Trial Competition** and the **First-Year Moot Court Competition** take place each Spring semester. All 1D and 1E students who are interested in advocacy are encouraged to participate. These competitions help to identify talent for our teams but are open to all students irrespective of whether they decide to try out for spots on the competition teams.

How does it work?

The competitions are organized by upper-division students. Interested 1D and 1E students sign up to participate in one or both competitions and receive training and instruction in trial and/or appellate advocacy from the upper-division student-organizers. **The competitions are designed, and dates are selected, to allow students to participate in both opportunities.**

All 1D and 1E students who sign up get to compete in the preliminary rounds. Those who score highly advance to the finals.

The top three **finalists in the Ben Franz First-Year Mock Trial Competition** receive a scholarship, have their name permanently engraved on a plaque on display in the Courtroom Trophy Case, and are almost always selected as competition team members the following year.

The **First-Year Moot Court Competition** awards cash prizes to the top oralist, top brief writer, and top advocate, plus top performers are regularly offered research assistant positions during their second year. Moot court research assistants are then given top priority for selection as team members in their 3L year. Hence, competing, and performing well, in the 1L moot court competition provides an added reward.

Keep an eye on your University email for more information about participating in these competitions during your first year.

Mock Trial Competition Team

Our Mock Trial Teams are comprised of 2D, 3D, 2E, 3E, and 4E students who display talent in trial advocacy and a willingness to work hard to achieve excellence. The teams compete against law schools throughout the country, engaging in every phase of trial practice including arguing pretrial motions, opening statements, closing arguments, and direct and cross examinations.

Why try out for Mock Trial?

Our teams have won many trophies all over the country and have an excellent national reputation. For the past several years U.S. News and World Report has ranked our Trial Advocacy Program in the top ten, in large part because of the success of our teams. Many of our Mock Trial Team alumni have become extremely successful trial lawyers and judges, owing their jobs and success in large measure to the training they received during their time on the team. Prospective employers in Sacramento are favorably impressed when they learn that a graduate seeking a job was a team member. We maintain a close to 100% employment rate for graduating team members. The Sacramento District Attorney and Public Defenders Offices are among the many organizations and law firms that continue to hire our graduates' year after year.

Where do our teams compete?

Our teams compete throughout the United States. Some team members comprise our scrimmage team which competes against another McGeorge Mock Trial team on campus in the Fall and participates as a traveling team competing against other schools in the Spring. The mock trial fact patterns are almost always derived from real cases around the country.

Who can try out for the Mock Trial Team?

All 2D, 3D, 2E, 3E, and 4E students not on probation are eligible to try out for the Mock Trial Team. We have had several Part-Time students join the team and compete for three consecutive years. Having completed or being concurrently enrolled in Evidence and Trial Advocacy is strongly encouraged but is not a prerequisite to making the team but team members generally complete both courses during their Mock Trial tenure.

When are Mock Trial Team tryouts?

Preliminary tryouts are typically held in late April. Students work with a short fact pattern and perform five minutes of a cross examination and five minutes of a closing argument. 24 to 26 students are called back for final rounds a week later. From this group of finalists, 10 to 20 are chosen to be on the team.

Commitment and Units

Once chosen to be on a team, students participate in a late-summer boot camp, culminating in an intra-squad competition at the beginning of the school year. During the year, students attend practices three times a week. Teams generally compete in one to two competitions in the Fall and again in the Spring. Team members are also required to participate in a full-year Mock Trial Evidence course where they learn how to apply the Federal Rules of Evidence in a courtroom setting. The Mock Trial Evidence class is 2 graded units each semester.

Trial Advocacy Association

There are opportunities to participate in Trial Advocacy-related events, even if you are not a Mock Trial Team member, by joining the student-run Trial Advocacy Association. Among other activities, this organization holds meetings focusing on advocacy issues, invites outside speakers to serve on panels, participates in the Mock Trial Summer Trial Advocacy Training Program and helps run our first-year Ben Franz Mock Trial Competition.

National Ethics Trial Competition

In the Spring, McGeorge has traditionally hosted the National Ethics Trial Competition, where teams from around the country compete at the Federal Courthouse downtown. Over the course of this three-day competition, numerous student volunteers are needed to act as live witnesses, bailiffs, and clerks in the courtrooms.

More Information:

For information about our Mock Trial Competition Teams or the National Ethics Trial Competition, contact Professor Dominique Hinson (dhinson@u.pacific.edu).

For information about the Trial Advocacy Association, contact Kathryn Kane at k_kane1@u.pacific.edu.

Moot Court Competition Team

McGeorge has one of the top Moot Court programs in the country. In recent years, it has been ranked in the top ten of all law school Moot Court programs in the country. The program offers opportunities for students to compete nationally in as many as 14 different competitions.

What is Moot Court?

Moot court involves the appellate side of advocacy. As such, it emphasizes legal writing and oral argument. All students who have completed their second year of law school are eligible for moot court. Selected students show strong skills in either written advocacy, oral advocacy, or both. All of the Moot Court teams are coached by McGeorge professors and alums.

Why try out for Moot Court?

Many employers are now viewing Moot Court team membership on par with (or superior to) law review work because of the direct correlation it provides to actual practice. Students who achieve success in Moot Court invariably have the skills to be successful practicing attorneys because of the high degree of writing proficiency and oral advocacy the practice of law requires, and because of the evidence of strong time-management skills participation in Moot Court promotes. Moot Court alums are especially loyal to the program. Many hold that it is the most significant and rewarding single activity they participated in while in law school. In addition to the excellent instruction in brief writing and oral arguments they receive, students find the experience of competing on behalf of their law school in a program that is nationally recognized especially meaningful.

Where do our teams compete?

McGeorge competes in up to 14 Moot Court competitions each year. The competitions cover the following areas of law: criminal procedure, entertainment law, corporate law, asylum and immigration law, human rights law, constitutional law, hate crime legislation, copyright and trademark law, labor law and administrative law.

How do I become a team member?

Membership on the competition teams is based on acceptance onto the Moot Court Honors Board, which is a student-run organization that is supervised by the Faculty Director of the Moot Court Program, Professor Ed Telfeyan. In addition to the Honors Board, selected 2L students serve as research assistants for specific competition teams. These RAs are chosen by virtue of their success in the intra-school first-year moot court competition.

When do I apply?

Students apply for the program during the Spring semester of their second year. Acceptance is based in large part on the work in the second-year Global Lawyering Skills course (GLS III) which includes the preparation of a full appellate brief and the presentation of a full appellate brief and the presentation of a full appellate oral argument. New members of the Honors Board are chosen during the spring semester.

Advanced Appellate Advocacy

All Moot Court team members are required to take the Advanced Appellate Advocacy course Professor Telfeyan teaches. That course is a two-semester, four-unit graded course.

Moot Court Society

The Honors Board also runs the Moot Court Society, which is a club that is open to all students. Every year the Moot Court Society features a guest speaker on the subject of appellate advocacy. In past years jurists like Justice Kathleen Butz and George Nicholson of California's Third District Court of Appeal and appellate attorneys have been featured.

More Information:

For more information about the McGeorge Moot Court program, contact Professor Ed Telfeyan at etelfeyan@u.pacific.edu or 916-739-7340, or any of the current Moot Court Honors Board members.

For more information about the Moot Court Society, contact Grace Telford (who is the student exec. Chair of the Moot Court Honors Board) at g_telford@u.pacific.edu

Negotiation Competition Team

The McGeorge Negotiation Team teaches students to resolve legal disputes *without* litigation. Unlike moot court or mock trial, where students learn to argue to a court or a jury, negotiation training prepares them to deal directly with opposing counsel. Negotiators learn to think like chess players, speak like diplomats, and use strategy and interpersonal skills to reach settlements with their counterparties that satisfy both sides – with the added benefits of avoiding the stress, delays, and financial burden of going to trial.

Every year, teams from over 200 law schools nationwide meet to compete in the ABA's 10 regional negotiation competitions, with problems drawn from a wide range of topics. Each team of two students negotiates with a two-person team from another school in front of judges who assess their ability to work together and with the opposing team, to reach an agreement that maximizes their clients' interests, and to assess their own performance at the end of the negotiation.

The top teams in each region are invited to compete in the Negotiation Finals in Chicago – and the winners of the national competition are invited to an international tournament with teams from countries around the world. McGeorge teams have qualified for the national competition several times in recent years, once placing third in the nationals and once winning and going to the international competition – where it won again!

Team tryouts are held in the spring. Prospective members must have completed their first year of legal studies. The 8-member team practice weekly during the fall semester. Team members then choose four of their number to compete in the Fall Regional (we take two teams of two members each.) We repeat the process for the Spring Regional. Team members not only learn crucial skills but make great friends and great memories along the way. We hope to see you at tryouts! Contact the Negotiation Team Coach, Adjunct Professor Claudia Wrazel at cwrazel1@pacific.edu, if you are interested in learning more.

Client Counseling Competition Team

The ABA Client Counseling Competition is a unique competition involving practical lawyering skills. It addresses fundamental skills necessary for all successful attorneys, namely the ability to interview, counsel, and support a client through their legal issue. Competitors conduct an initial interview with a person playing the role of the client and then address both the client's legal and non-legal needs. Students are called on to explain various aspects of the attorney-client relationship, build rapport, determine the client goals, and consider applicable law and options that may be available to the client.

The legal subject matter changes from year to year, but it often includes some elements of civil procedure and professional responsibility. Students are selected in the Fall Semester for the ABA Client Counseling team that competes in the Spring Semester. Priority is given to students participating in the Client Interviewing and Counseling course offered in the Fall semester. For more information, contact Adjunct Professor Kathleen Friedrich, kfriedrich@pacific.edu.

Mock Trial, Moot Court, and Other Advocacy Teams Participation Policy

McGeorge School of Law has approved moot court, mock trial, negotiation, and client counseling programs and teams, directed by full-time and part-time faculty members, where the students are selected on a competitive basis. No student or team of students may enter any other moot court, mock trial competition, excluding intramural competitions, or any other advocacy competition without the approval of the director of the relevant program. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that any student or team of students seeking to compete in such competitions receives adequate instruction and coaching and that any such individual or team represents the law school in a favorable light.

Journal

The University of the Pacific Law Review ("UPLR") is a student-run, scholarly journal published on a quarterly basis that contains articles written by members of the bar and bench, legal analysis and commentary on cutting-edge transnational issues, student-authored comments, and student-authored reviews of recently enacted California legislation. Eligible students have two opportunities to solicit for UPLR membership:

Review of California Legislation ("Greensheets")

Greensheets, named for the distinctive color of its pages, reviews recently enacted California legislation. Students with GPAs of B- and above in the 1D/2E classes are eligible to compete for Greensheets membership through the solicitation process each March. Solicitation consists of a closed-research writing competition. Staff Writers spend the summer writing articles about bills making their way through the Legislature. Creditworthy articles are eligible for publication.

Comment

Rising 2D and 3E students who meet any of the following criteria and have not previously solicited for Comment are invited to participate in solicitation: students with GPAs of B- and above; current Greensheets member (upon successful completion of Greensheets assignments); and transfer student in the top 50% of their former law school class. Solicitation consists of a closed-research writing competition in July. Each Staff Writer will spend the year writing persuasive comments on a unique legal issue of their choosing. The Board of Editors will select comments for publication in the following year's volume.

UPLR Editors

2D and 3E members of Greensheets or Comment are eligible to run for Board or Editor positions for the following year.

2026-2027 Board of Editors

- Erin Forger, Editor-in-Chief
- Taylor Horton, Chief Managing Editor
- Karina Cardenas, Chief Technical Editor
- Bryce Divine, Chief Comment Editor
- Hope Austin, Chief Legislation Editor
- Dalton Mabery, Chief Articles & Symposium Editor
- Analiese Machado, Chief Production Editor

2026-2027 Primary Editors

John Mark Wenger, Peter Liu, Eric Brown, R.J. Aitken, Madison Kiefer-Green, Emily Ghasemi, Mark Stanley, Logan Birrell, Michael Smith, Shelby Wood, Joshua Sayer, Bradley Senneway, Catherine Cordano, Julia Galloway, Dora Nagy, Mika Carl, Sabrina Agaiby, Mason Campbell, Levy Nguyen, Joseph Artieres, Mehak Chandi, Sana Rahbari, Cassandra Tubiello, Ashley Rehal

UPLR Role	Units
Greensheets Staff Writer	1 unit in Fall and 1 unit in Spring
Comment Staff Writer	2 units in Fall (includes the 1-unit Law Review Seminar) and 1 unit in Spring
Primary Editor	1 unit per position (maximum 2 positions)
Board of Editors	1 unit in Fall and 1 unit in Spring
Editor-In-Chief and Chief Managing Editor	2 units in Fall and 1 unit in Spring <u>or</u> 1 unit in Fall and 2 units in Spring

* All UPLR units are Pass/Fail. Students may not opt out of receiving UPLR units.

Directed Research

Directed Research provides the opportunity for JD students to engage in a comprehensive individual research project under the supervision of a full-time faculty member. The work product may take the form of a scholarly paper, empirical study, analysis of topical readings, or other creative format that demonstrates in-depth legal research and original analysis.

Advance Approval Required

Advance approval of the research topic and unit credit is required. A student must submit a detailed written proposal of the research topic and obtain approval from a full-time faculty member willing to supervise the student's research. The proposal and a completed "McGeorge Directed Research Request Form" (available online on MyPacific listed as Directed Research-McGeorge Directed Research Request) must be submitted to the Registrar no later than the last day to add/drop of the term in which the student intends to enroll in Directed Research. **Directed Research cannot be added after the add/drop or for previous terms.**

Supervision Required

Directed Research must be supervised by a full-time faculty member on a regular basis. Specifics regarding supervision of the course are left to the supervising faculty member, but the general expectation is that the student will provide an outline and draft of the project at established deadlines, and the faculty member will provide regular feedback to the student.

Number of Units

A student may enroll for either 1 or 2 credit hours (Honors/Pass/Low Pass/Fail) for Directed Research. A student is expected to put in at least 50 hours of work for each credit hour. If the resulting work product is a paper, as a general rule, the student should produce a paper of approximately 15-20 pages in length for 1 unit of credit or 25-30 pages in length for 2 units of credit. Completed work must be submitted to the professor by the last day of the term for final grading.

Limitation

A student is not permitted to receive credit for Directed Research for a project produced for the student's employer or for any other law school course or activity.

Registration for Classes

When to Register for Classes

Registration for the 2027-2028 academic year is anticipated to occur according to the following schedule:

	Priority Registration for Seniors Rising 3D/4E/AHP	Open Registration for All Students Rising 2D/2E/3E	Add/Drop Deadline Courses dropped after the Deadline require administrative approval and will result in a "W" on the student's transcript.
Summer 2027	Tuesday March 24, 2026 9:00 a.m.	Wednesday March 24, 2027 9:00 a.m.	Varies by Session (Refer to Academic Schedule)
Fall 2027	Monday June 21, 2027 9:00 a.m.	Tuesday June 22, 2027 9:00 a.m.	Monday August 23, 2027 11:59 p.m.
Intersession and Spring 2028	Wednesday June 23, 2027 9:00 a.m.	Thursday June 24, 2027 9:00 a.m.	Tuesday January 18, 2028 11:59 p.m.

Registration Policies and Overview

Timing

McGeorge has annual registration, meaning that students will register for the entire academic year (Fall and Spring) during June. Students register via [MyPacific](#) web registration (instructions below). Registration for summer school takes place in March.

Spring Registration for First-Year Students

Incoming/first-term JD students will be pre-registered for their Fall courses by the Office of the Registrar during First Week. First-year students will register for their Spring courses in September following the start of the Fall term. Students will receive an email with detailed instructions.

Course Load

Course Load	Three-Year JD Division	Four-Year JD Division
Minimum	12 units*	8 units*
Typical	14-16 units**	9-11 units**
Maximum	17 units	11 units
Summer School***	None required	2-5 units

*If during your final semester you wish to take fewer than the minimum number of units required for your division and be charged tuition on a per-unit basis, you must submit a written request in advance to the Dean of Students.

** Students must be in this typical range to graduate on time.

***For Summer School Financial Aid purposes, Full-Time is 4 units and Part-Time is 2 units.

Adding Classes

Students may add classes until the Add/Drop Deadline. No student will receive academic credit for any course unless he/she is officially registered in the course prior to the add/drop deadline. Some courses have special enrollment procedures, such as an application process. A select number of courses require instructor approval to enroll. These special cases are noted in the registration instructions sent to students each Spring by Academic Affairs. McGeorge has established wait list procedures for adding closed classes (see “Closed Classes and Waitlists”). Students must follow these procedures and should not seek instructor approval for adding a class. Late add requests must be submitted in writing (email) to Dean of Students.

Dropping Classes

Students may drop any upper-division course without approval through the Add/Drop Deadline. It is the student's responsibility to know the tuition and fee refund provisions. After the Add/Drop Deadline, classes may be dropped for good cause and only with the written approval of the Dean of Students or the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and will result in a “W” on the student's transcript. Classes may be dropped through the last regular class day of the term, but not on or after the first day of the final examination period. First-year students may not drop classes except in extraordinary circumstances. When such circumstances exist, the Dean of Students may permit a Three-Year JD student to drop to the standard first-year Four-Year JD student course selection. No other courses may be dropped. Students who stop attending a class and do not complete the formal drop process are subject to receiving an “F” grade and are liable for tuition. Students who do not take a final examination or complete required coursework will receive an “F” grade.

Unit Defined

Consistent with the requirements of ABA Standard 310, a “unit” is an amount of work that reasonably approximates: (a) not less than one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and two hours of out-of-class student work per week; or (b) at least an equivalent amount of work as required in subparagraph (a) for other academic activities, including simulation, field placement, clinical, co-curricular, and other academic work leading to the award of units.

Closed Classes and Waitlists

When a class reaches capacity (also known as being “closed”), a waitlist is created to determine enrollment priority as seats become available. During the initial registration period, students encountering a closed class are encouraged to join the waitlist immediately. Waitlists frequently clear, so there is a strong possibility of gaining entry into the course.

Nonetheless, it is important for students to have a backup option in case they are not enrolled from the waitlist. Students on a waitlist should check their email daily. The system is automated and may send seat notifications at any time, including weekends and holidays.

Once a seat is offered, the student has **24 hours** to register for the course. Failure to do so will result in removal from the waitlist. The student may rejoin the waitlist, but will be placed at the end of the queue.

Classes with Insufficient Registration

Classes with insufficient registration may be cancelled at the discretion of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

Course Time Conflicts

Students may not register for courses if meeting times overlap in whole or in part. Not even a one-minute overlap will be allowed. This includes exam dates and times.

Prerequisite and Concurrent Enrollment Requirements

To determine whether a course has a prerequisite or concurrent enrollment requirement, please read its course description, which is available online at [Law Courses](#).

Holds

You will not be able to register for classes if you have an outstanding balance unless you have made satisfactory payment arrangements with Student Accounts. Prior to your registration window, you should check MyPacific to confirm that there are no holds on your account. If there is a hold on your account, you cannot register for classes, and you should contact [Student Business Services/Student Accounts](#) right away.

Registration Issues

If you encounter any problems while trying to register, immediately email the Office of the Registrar at sacregistrar@pacific.edu. The Registrar's Office staff will be available via email during Registration to assist students with troubleshooting registration issues on a first-come-first-served basis.

Bar-Tested Courses

Although not required for everyone, all students are strongly encouraged to take Business Associations, Community Property, Criminal Procedure, Remedies & Principles of Law, and Wills & Trusts as these subjects are tested on the California bar exam. Because of their importance, these courses are regularly offered several times each year in both day and evening time slots. Additionally, PASS I and PASS II, which help students prepare to be successful on the bar exam, are highly encouraged for all students.

Intercession

McGeorge offers one-unit classes which start the week prior to the Spring semester. Students utilize Spring tuition units to enroll in these Intercession courses.

Assessment & Review Sessions

Faculty believe that regular assessment and feedback about academic progress is key to student success and therefore schedule assessments throughout the semester, particularly in bar-tested courses. Blocks of time have been designated for this purpose for first year students and are labeled on your schedule as "Assessment & Review Sessions." These sessions will be held on an as-needed basis; students should plan their schedules accordingly by reserving these blocks in their individual calendars.

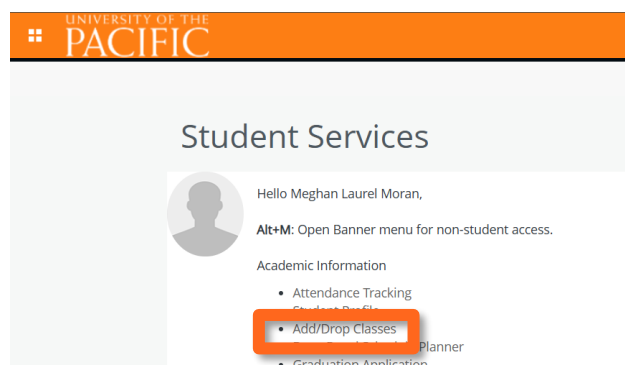
Distance Learning Policy in Non-Extraordinary Times

Consistent with ABA Standard 306, McGeorge has a policy that permits students to enroll in online courses up to 15 units out of the 88 units required for graduation. Not more than 10 of these units may be taken during the first one-third of a student's program of legal education.

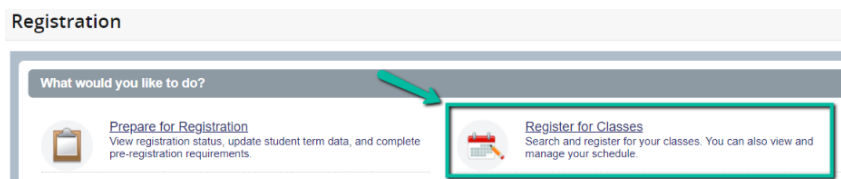
Banner 9 Registration Instructions through MyPacific

You'll begin by logging into <https://my.pacific.edu>

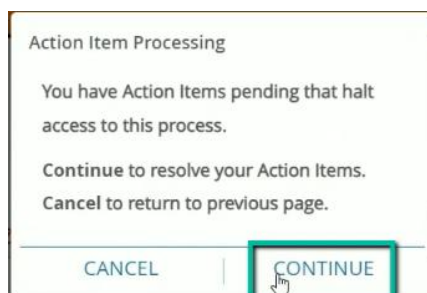
1. Under "Tools" select "Student Support Services"
2. Select Student Services
3. Select Add/Drop Classes



4. This will be the start of the new menu. Navigate to the "Register for Courses" link on the right:



5. Select the term (please check to see if you are on the trimester or semester system) and click Continue
6. A pop up window should indicate you have an Action Item to complete prior to registration. Click "Continue"



7. You'll click the link indicating "Financial Acceptance 2025-2026" to open the action item on the right
8. Click the "I Accept" check box and then SAVE at the bottom of the financial acceptance memo
9. Click the "Continue" button in the top right continue
10. Select the term for registration again, if needed

11. You'll be directed to search function to search by subject code, etc.

12. You can also select the “Enter CRNs” tab to find a course by its CRN

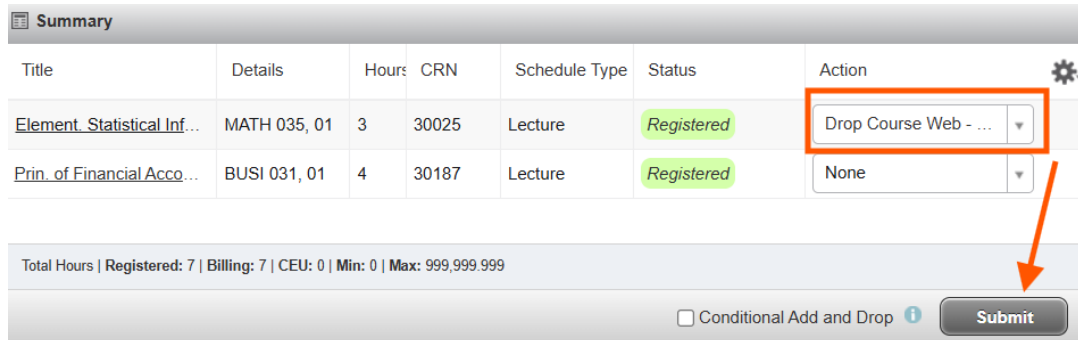
13. When you find a course you want to add, select the “add” button on the right hand side, then click “Submit” below

14. The status column will show the courses as **Registered**, confirming the courses appear on your schedule. If no other courses are needed, you're done!

Summary						
Title	Details	Hours	CRN	Schedule Type	Status	Action
Element. Statistical Inf...	MATH 035, 01	3	30025	Lecture	Registered	None
Prin. of Financial Acco...	BUSI 031, 01	4	30187	Lecture	Registered	None
Total Hours Registered: 7 Billing: 7 CEU: 0 Min: 0 Max: 999,999.999						

Dropping a Course

1. Under the “Action” column in your summary, select the pull-down menu and choose the drop option. Click SUBMIT to complete the drop



Title	Details	Hours	CRN	Schedule Type	Status	Action
Element. Statistical Inf...	MATH 035, 01	3	30025	Lecture	Registered	Drop Course Web - ...
Prin. of Financial Acco...	BUSI 031, 01	4	30187	Lecture	Registered	None

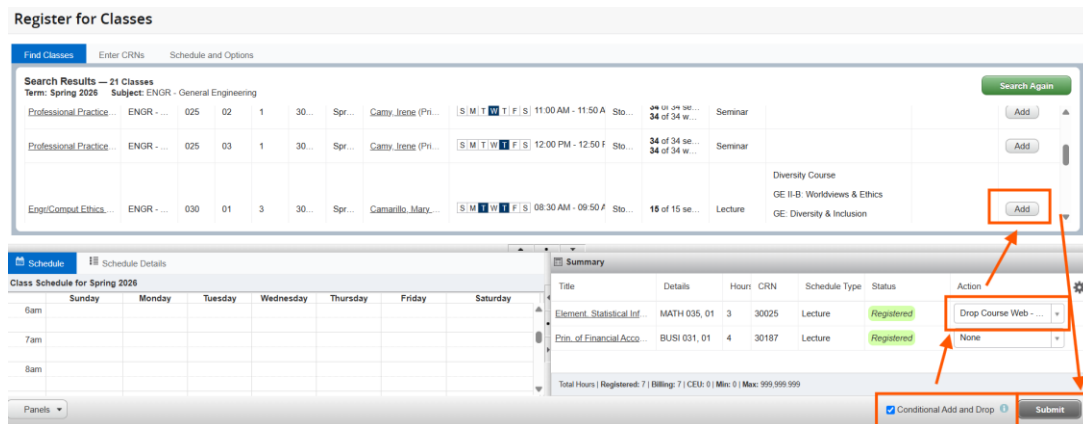
Total Hours | Registered: 7 | Billing: 7 | CEU: 0 | Min: 0 | Max: 999,999.999

☐ Conditional Add and Drop

Conditional Add and Drop

This function will allow you to add a new course while simultaneously dropping a course from your schedule **as long as** the addition does not result in an error. If an error occurs, you will retain your seat in the course you had planned to drop.

1. Select the “Conditional Add and Drop” button next to the Submit button
2. Indicate which course you would like to drop by choosing the option in the pull down menu
3. Click the “Add” button next to the course you would like to add
4. Click the Submit button



Register for Classes

Find Classes | Enter CRNs | Schedule and Options

Search Results — 21 Classes
Term: Spring 2026 | Subject: ENGR - General Engineering

Title	Details	Hours	CRN	Schedule Type	Status	Action
Professional Practice...	ENGR - ... 025 02 1 30...	Spr...	Gamy, Irene (Ph...	[S] M T [W] F S 11:00 AM - 11:50 A	34 of 34 se...	Seminar
Professional Practice...	ENGR - ... 025 03 1 30...	Spr...	Gamy, Irene (Ph...	[S] M T W [F] S 12:00 PM - 12:50 F	34 of 34 se...	Seminar
Engn/Comput Ethics...	ENGR - ... 030 01 3 30...	Spr...	Camarillo, Mary...	[S] M [W] F S 09:30 AM - 09:50 F	15 of 15 se...	Lecture

Class Schedule for Spring 2026

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6am							
7am							
8am							

Summary

Title	Details	Hours	CRN	Schedule Type	Status	Action
Element. Statistical Inf...	MATH 035, 01	3	30025	Lecture	Registered	Drop Course Web - ...
Prin. of Financial Acco...	BUSI 031, 01	4	30187	Lecture	Registered	None

Total Hours | Registered: 7 | Billing: 7 | CEU: 0 | Min: 0 | Max: 999,999.999

☒ Conditional Add and Drop

5. If the course to be added is successful, the course intended to be dropped will process as well

Summary						
Title	Details	Hour	CRN	Schedule Type	Status	Action
Engr/Comput Ethics S...	ENGR 030, 01	3	30304	Lecture	Registered	None
Element Statistical Inf...	MATH 035, 01	0	30025	Lecture	Deleted	None
Prin of Financial Acco...	BUSI 031, 01	4	30187	Lecture	Registered	None
Total Hours Registered: 7 Billing: 7 CEU: 0 Min: 0 Max: 999,999.999						
☒ Conditional Add and Drop ⓘ						Submit

6. If adding the course results in an error, your schedule will not change and you can try again with another course

Career
Services

The Career Services Office

Why Visit the CSO?

The Career Services Office (CSO) will give you the tools you need to build your individual career plan and to take charge of your professional future. We provide a modernized approach to individualized career advising including interactive programs, speakers, digital resources, and collaboration with our extensive network of alumni and employers.

What Do We Do?

Career planning starts during your first year at McGeorge. The CSO serves as your bridge between law school and the legal community with lifetime career assistance. We provide you the tools and resources you will need for lifelong professional development. We are committed to helping you (1) develop your career skills, (2) grow professionally, and (3) discover and expand opportunities for practical legal experience.

Advising

In working with you to create your individual career plan, we will look at your previous experience, where you want to live after graduation, what practice areas interest you, and what motivates you.

The CSO is constantly working to provide you with the right job connection. We do this in multiple ways, including our Virtual Interview Program (VIP), job-postings on 12twenty, job fairs, and networking programs.

Events

Our events and activities are designed to focus on the needs specific to your class year. These programs will provide you with the tools you need to direct your career path.

Alumni Network

One of McGeorge School of Law's greatest assets is our vast alumni network. We have a network of more than 13,000 alumni across the United States, in all areas of practice. Through our connections, you have access to alumni who can be invaluable in helping you navigate law school and your career.

Career Connections - Follow us on:



@McGeorgeSACS



Isabella Hannon
Candra Jackson
Crystal Hamacher
Liam Gravvat

Come See Us!

The CSO is located in Northwest Hall, on the first floor. You can reach us by phone at 916.739.7011 or email at lawcareers@pacific.edu **Monday through Friday during regular business hours.** We are available to meet via Zoom, phone, or in-person.

Career Planning

One-on-One Career Advising

Throughout your time at McGeorge, and after graduation, we are available to meet with you to help update and modify your career plan, discuss your specific plans or concerns, review your application materials, practice interviewing skills, or practically anything else we can do to give you the tools to succeed.

Review of Your Professional Materials

You may submit your resume and/or cover letter(s) to be reviewed at any time. Your materials can be submitted via email to lawcareers@pacific.edu

Mock Interview Programs and Interview Coaching

Every mock interview is conducted as if it was the real thing and is followed by immediate feedback. Students who participate in mock interviews invariably feel better prepared and perform better when they enter a real job interview.

Job Opportunities

12twenty: Job Postings and More!

12twenty is our career management program. You will be given access after your 1L CSO Orientation with the CSO in August/September. By registering online with 12twenty, you will have access to job listings for immediate and future employment, now and throughout your career.

Virtual Interview Program

Each fall and spring, we invite legal employers to the McGeorge campus to interview JD students for summer and post-graduate positions. Our VIP program is a unique hybrid of private and public employers of all sizes, and our VIP employers have a wide variety of GPA and class rank requirements, thereby allowing all of our students the opportunity to participate.

Diversity Fellowships

Sacramento County Bar Association (SCBA)

1L Summer Diversity Fellowship: The SCBA sponsors a Diversity Fellowship for paid summer employment with top Sacramento law firms after your 1D or 2E year in law school.

Bay Area Summer Clerkship Program: Several law firms in the San Francisco bay area participate in this program that places 1D and 2E students with different or unique backgrounds in paid positions with some of the area's most prestigious law firms and companies.

Other Diversity Fellowships: Many law firms throughout California and the country offer diversity fellowship programs for law students the summer after their 1L year. Watch your email for more information.

Fellowships

Typically, a fellowship is a term-limited opportunity in a public interest practice. Fellowships can either be summer opportunities during law school (e.g. Peggy Browning Fellowship, Equal Justice Works Summer Corps), or post-graduate opportunities. Fellows are able to use their legal skills to affect positive change for disadvantaged populations while receiving top-rate training and supervision. The CSO works with a number of organizations, and has contacts all across the United States, to provide our students with as many fellowship opportunities as possible.

Job Fairs

Sacramento Regional Diversity Career Fair:

This annual Career Fair is one of the largest of its kind in Northern California. It is hosted on the McGeorge campus each fall, and invites students from McGeorge, Davis, and Lincoln Law Schools to meet and interact with employers across all sectors who have a particular interest in diversity and equity in the legal profession.

Diversity Mixer and Resume Collect: This annual event held during Diversity Week in the Spring is an opportunity for students to meet with employers who have expressed a dedication to increasing diversity in the legal profession.

Equal Justice Works Conference and Career Fair: This year the virtual conference and career fair will take place in October. This is the largest public interest legal career fair in the country, bringing together hundreds of law students, recent grads, and employers from across the country.

Annual Small and Medium-Sized Law Firm Career Fair: Attend this on-campus career fair with regional law firms who come to campus to meet you and share information about their law firm.

Annual Public Interest & Government Job Fair: Attend this on-campus job fair in early February with more than 25 local government and public interest employers who come to campus to meet you.

Public Interest / Public Sector Day: PI/PS Day is a virtual job fair with almost 100 government and non-profit employers attending, co-hosted by McGeorge and other Northern California law schools.

Post-Graduate Judicial Clerkships

A judicial clerkship is a full-time position working for a federal or state judge usually right after finishing law school. Clerkships may be with any level of court and offer graduates the opportunity to work closely with a judge, gaining insight into the judicial process and broad exposure to various areas of the law.

PSJD

Register with psjd.org to gain access to the largest database of public interest and public sector jobs and organizations. [We have already paid your registration fees!](#)

Pro Bono, Public Service & Volunteer Opportunities

Through the Workers' Rights Summer Volunteer Program, Day of Service, and other programs sponsored by the CSO and other campus groups, you can participate in short-term or long-term volunteer projects and work for legal aid agencies, court-based programs, and social services providers. Even a short-term legal project can increase your marketability and improve your resume. Review the **Pro Bono, Public Service & Volunteer Opportunities** section of this Handbook for more information.

Professional Development

Marketing Yourself and Your Online Presence

Social networking and your online presence can be one of the easiest ways to network and market yourself, but it can also expose you to unintended risks and consequences. The CSO will work with you individually, as well as provide you with resources and programs, to ensure that your online persona reflects who you are and where you want to be professionally.

“Day in the Life” Programs

The CSO will partner with student organizations to bring you a series of programs and panels that will give you a glimpse into a “day-in-the-life” of attorneys from many different practice areas and with different backgrounds and life experiences.

Networking

Networking is one of the best ways to make professional contacts, learn about practice areas and career opportunities, promote yourself and your law firm, obtain new clients, establish new relationships, and increase your own self-confidence. Throughout the year, the CSO will provide you with tips to improve your networking skills, and opportunities to practice.

Dine with Alumni

Dine with Alumni is an exclusive reception and dinner for McGeorge students, alumni, and Alumni Board members. The event is organized with an eye towards different legal specializations and geographic locations. This event is open to all class years and is a great opportunity to meet with alumni who practice in various areas.

Professional Clothing Closet

The CSO oversees a Clothing Closet stocked with gently worn professional clothes and accessories that have been donated by alumni and others in the legal community. If you need an entire outfit, or just one or two pieces for an interview, mock trial or other competition, or to start your summer job or externship, please schedule an appointment to check out what’s currently in stock. We also accept donations throughout the year. This is available to all members of the Sacramento Campus.

Professionalism in a Digital Age

Professional Email Address

Your email address may be the first impression that many potential employers or network connections will get of you. Make sure that it reflects an appropriate level of professionalism. You now have a McGeorge email address – use it! If you choose to use a different account, make sure that it does not contain any nicknames, silly spellings, quotes, or quirks.

Check Your Email

Set up a regular routine of checking (and responding to) your email. Consider this preparation for your legal career (where a huge percentage of your communication with clients, co-workers, and opposing counsel will be via email). It is important that you read your email and don't just delete emails that appear uninteresting – you might miss something important!

Professional Email Signature

As a law student, your automatic email signature should reflect this. It should include your full name, that you are a JD candidate at McGeorge, and your contact information. Please avoid the use of quotes, emoticons, or other add-ons.

Respond to Your Email

Always respond to your email in a timely manner. You don't want to miss out on an important opportunity because you failed to RSVP or accept an offer before the deadline!

Professional Email Tone

In our digital age, we have become increasingly informal. Even when you are friendly with the person with whom you are emailing, always remember to maintain professionalism and formality.

Clean Up Social Media

According to a recent survey, an increasing number of employers who researched applicants on social media said they found things that resulted in negative hiring decisions. These things include inappropriate photographs or information, information about drinking or using drugs, bad-mouthing another employer or co-worker, and poor communication skills.

Correct Spelling

You must ensure that you use correct spelling in all of your communication. This includes verifying that your message has not been "autocorrected" into something embarrassing, unprofessional, or inaccurate.

Professional LinkedIn Photo

A polished LinkedIn page can positively impact your job search. This starts with a professional LinkedIn Photo.

CSO Resources

Practice Area Preferences

The CSO has e-mail group lists tailored to your practice and geographic areas of interest. We'll let you know about jobs, events, and networking opportunities in these areas. You can sign up for these in the profile section of 12twenty. Filling out your profile automatically signs you up.

CSO on Social Media

Follow the CSO on social media for current information on job postings, events, legal news, and helpful tips. Follow us on Instagram and connect with each of our team members on LinkedIn. For more information on how to establish your own professional online presence, contact the CSO.

Need Something Else? Just Ask!

If you need other types of support and services in your career search, please let us know. From specialized training for career fairs and conferences to long-distance job search resources to networking events (even with free tickets!) to interview attire, we're here to help!

Admission To Practice

Bar Admission

Each state has its own moral character and other qualifications for admission to the bar.

California requires that you (1) register as a law student, (2) take and pass the Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam (MPRE), (3) complete the Moral Character Application, including obtaining Live Scan Fingerprinting, and (4) take and pass the California Bar Examination. More information about each requirement is included below; however, the definitive source of information about admission to the California State Bar is always the California Bar's website (calbar.ca.gov).

Nevada requires applicants to (1) take and pass the Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam (MPRE), (2) complete the application to take the bar exam, which includes a character and fitness portion requiring supporting documents such as a driving record and fingerprints, and (3) take and pass the Nevada Bar exam. More information about admission to the State Bar of Nevada can be found on the State Bar of Nevada's website: nvbar.org/for-lawyers/admissions. Like California, the definitive source of information about admission to the State Bar of Nevada is always the State Bar itself.

If you are planning to practice in another state, you should contact that state's bar as soon as possible to determine their admission requirements. A comprehensive list of the admission requirements for each state is available on the National Conference of Bar Examiners website at www.ncbex.org.

First-Year Checklist

- ☐ **Register as a law student** with the California State Bar (see below) if you plan to take the CA Bar Exam someday.
- ☐ **Review the admission requirements** for the state(s) where you wish to eventually practice law and familiarize yourself with the subjects tested on that state's bar exam.

How to Register as a Law Student with the California Bar

The California State Bar requires that you register as a law student before you submit anything else (such as the Moral Character Application or application to take the California Bar Exam). There is no deadline or late registration fee, but the fee generally increases annually, so it is best to register early. **Take note of and save your registration number**, as you must use your registration number on all subsequent correspondence with the bar, including your application to take the exam after graduation.

To register as a Law Student with the California Bar: go to calbar.ca.gov, click on "Admissions" > "Requirements." You will create a new account within the Admissions Applicant Portal.

About the MPRE

The MPRE is a two-hour multiple-choice exam offered three times each year (usually March, August, and November). The MPRE is required for admission to the bars of almost every jurisdiction. In California, applicants must have a minimum score of 86. Most students take the MPRE during their second or third year, and we highly recommend completing it prior to graduation and bar exam preparation. You do not have to complete the Professional Responsibility course prior to taking the MPRE, but we recommend that you do so if possible. Commercial bar review courses like Barbri, Helix, and Themis usually offer free MPRE review materials; see their websites for more information. When the time comes, you will sign up for the MPRE online at ncbex.org/multistate-tests/mpre.

About the Moral Character Application

Prior to admission to the bar, an applicant must complete the Moral Character Application (essentially a very thorough background check). The California State Bar states that it takes a minimum of six to eight months to process and approve Moral Character applications. Since it can take longer than this estimated timeframe, the State Bar recommends that applicants file between eight and ten months ahead of time. It is recommended that you start this process before your final semesters in law school and before graduation. If you do not have a positive Moral Character determination, you cannot be sworn in to practice law, even if you pass the bar exam.

The application involves extensive preparation and time, as the instructions are lengthy, and usually applicants must provide information regarding school, employment, and residence going back to high school. Familiarize yourself with the application process and requirements early by visiting [Moral Character | The State Bar of California](#). If you have questions regarding your specific circumstances, please contact the Office of Student Services.

About Live Scan Fingerprinting

A Moral Character Application also requires Live Scan Fingerprinting. Fingerprints are used to determine whether the applicant has a prior criminal record. Your fingerprints must be submitted within 90 days of when you file your Moral Character Application. A list of Live Scan service providers can be found on the CA Attorney General, Department of Justice website at <https://oag.ca.gov/fingerprints/locations>.

Apply to Take the Bar Exam

California bar exam application materials are available at calbar.ca.gov usually starting on October 1 for the February exam and starting on March 1 for the July exam. Some locations do fill up (especially those in southern CA), so file your application early. Note that registering as a law student (see above) is different from applying to take the bar exam. Both steps are required before you may sit for the bar.

McGeorge Bar Preparation & Support

Sign up for a Commercial Bar Review Course.

There are several from which to choose, but it is vital to enroll in a commercial course. This is where you will get the substantive law you need to pass the exam, along with a study schedule, practice exams, and feedback on your work.

Visit the major vendors' websites and tables throughout the semester on campus and know that you do not have to make a decision right away, even if the representatives pressure you to take advantage of special discounts and sales. Take your time and choose the program that feels like the best fit for you.

A good way to "test drive" a commercial course is by using its free MPRE preparation materials. If you would like to discuss which commercial review course might be the best fit for you, contact Professor Lindsay Harrington at lharrington@pacific.edu.

Nurture and Cultivate Your "PASS" Attitude!

McGeorge encourages all students to start early to nurture and cultivate their positive mindset for success on the bar exam and beyond. It is important for students to develop self-care habits during their study of law that will continue to support their wellness in their future law careers. Create an effective plan to tackle the challenge of preparation for the bar exam, whether it's running, yoga, meditation, cooking, playing music, creating art, or whatever mindfulness activities you choose will help you stay healthy and focused during your bar study preparation and beyond.

Make a Plan for Bar Success

It's never too early to develop a plan to ensure that you can spend the bulk of your post-graduation time focusing on preparing for the bar exam. Start creating your plan of action by saving money and vacation time, arranging for childcare, and talking to family and friends to establish your support system. McGeorge strongly recommends that students do not work during their bar preparation.

If you would like to discuss your individual situation and options, contact Professor Lindsay Harrington at lharrington@pacific.edu.

If you would like to discuss financial support like loans and scholarships, contact Joe Pinkas at jpinkas@pacific.edu.

Follow "McGeorge Bar Prep" on Social Media

Facebook and Instagram are the primary platforms used to communicate with you during bar preparation. McGeorge Bar Prep shares information about updates from the State Bar, study tips, and more.

Enroll in PASS I & PASS II during your final year.

PASS I is a pass/fail three-unit course that introduces students to the bar exam: how it's graded, what it covers, and what applicants need to do to pass the first time. Students in PASS I write multiple practice essays covering Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, and Professional Responsibility, as well as performance tests, receiving extensive personalized feedback on their work. Students also use Adaptibar MBE review software to work with the seven subjects tested on the Multistate Bar Exam. PASS I may be taken during either Fall or Spring of your final year of law school.

PASS II is a graded, three-unit, asynchronous course that focuses on the substantive law of Civil Procedure, Contracts, and Property. In this fast-paced course, students use commercial bar review program materials to review the law and complete exam simulations to give them a head start in reviewing these challenging bar subjects. PASS II may be taken during either Fall or Spring of your final year, though we recommend taking it in the semester closest to your graduation date (and bar exam), if possible.

BEAT (Bar Exam Advantage Training)

Bar Exam Advantage Training (BEAT) is a free and effective supplemental, post-graduation support program for McGeorge alums taking the bar exam for the first time. BEAT provides structure and accountability for bar applicants through regular individual conferences and required assignments. All graduates are automatically enrolled in the BEAT program and are required to participate in advance of their bar exam unless permission is given from the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs or the Dean of Students to opt-out of the program (BEAT is offered in the winter and summer bar exams).

If you are taking the bar exam in another state, you may still participate in BEAT programming. Please contact Professor Harrington with any questions

California's Certified Law Students Program (CLS)

The State Bar of California certifies law students to provide legal services under the supervision of an attorney. Students interested in the CLS program should read the Rules Governing Certified Law Students and all instructions for certification, which are available on the State Bar of California website.

You must first register as a law student with the State Bar's Office of Admissions. The registration application is available in the [Applicant Portal](#).

To be eligible for the CLS Program, you must:

- Be a law student currently enrolled in a JD program:
 - At a law school accredited by the American Bar Association, or accredited by or registered with the Committee of Bar Examiners; and
 - Have successfully completed one full year of studies, a minimum of 270 hours; passed the First-Year Law Students' Exam, if required; and be enrolled in a second, third, or fourth year of law school in good academic standing.
- Be a law student currently enrolled in an LLM program:
 - At a law school accredited by the American Bar Association, or accredited by or registered with the Committee of Bar Examiners;
 - Have a degree from a law school in a foreign jurisdiction that authorizes the applicant to practice law in that jurisdiction and is acceptable to the State Bar under the State Bar's [Guidelines for Foreign-Educated General Applicants with a First Degree in Law](#); and
 - Have successfully completed one semester or two quarters in an LLM program; and be enrolled in a second or subsequent semester, or third or subsequent quarter, in good academic standing.
- Be a law student in the [Law Office Study Program](#):
 - Have successfully completed one full year of studies in a law school or in the Law Office Study Program; passed the First-Year Law Students' Exam, if required; and be actively continuing the study of law through the Law Office Study Program.

Applicants who graduate from a JD program, complete one year in an LLM program, or complete their law study through the Law Office Study Program can apply for the CLS Program up to 30 days after graduation or completion of their studies.

You are ineligible for the program if:

- You are licensed to practice law in any U.S. jurisdiction;
- You did not take the first administration of the California Bar Exam for which you were eligible, as determined by the State Bar; or
- You took and received results for your first eligible California Bar Exam.

Applying for the program

If it is your first time participating in the program, complete and submit the Application for the Certified Law Student Program with the fee in the [Applicant Portal](#). You must also upload the following documents with the online application:

- A [declaration](#) from each Supervising Attorney, and
- A declaration from an [official at your law school](#), or the [attorney or judge supervising you](#) in the Law Office Study Program.

Please see the [Schedule of Charges and Deadlines](#) for the current application fee.

Adding or changing Supervising Attorney

If you are adding or changing a Supervising Attorney at your current employer or agency, you must submit a CLS Extension–Supervising Attorney Change application in the [Applicant Portal](#). You must include a [declaration](#) from each new Supervising Attorney and the required fee.

If you are adding or changing to a new employer or agency, you must submit a new Application for the Certified Law Student Program in the [Applicant Portal](#). In addition, a separate declaration must be submitted for each Supervising Attorney, along with the required fee.

Application processing

All items must be submitted before an application will be considered complete. Applications are typically processed within one month of the date the State Bar receives a complete and accurate application. If the application is not completed accurately, it will delay your certification to participate in the program. If you fail to complete the application, submit all required documentation, or pay the required fee within 60 days of the incomplete notice, your application will be deemed abandoned without a refund of any fees paid. A new application will be required if you wish to participate in the program.

Once your CLS application has been approved, the Office of Admissions will email the Notice of Student Certification to you, your law school, and your Supervising Attorney(s). You are not permitted to engage in activities under the Certified Law Student Program until the State Bar has approved your application and sent the Notice of Student Certification.

Questions?

For questions related to the CLS Program, please contact the Office of Admissions at admissions@calbar.ca.gov or 800-843-9053. For information about becoming a certified law student in another state, please check that state's website.

Student Life

Pro Bono & Community Service

McGeorge provides robust opportunities for students to engage in the community, including the Oak Park neighborhood surrounding the campus and in the broader Sacramento region. Students come to McGeorge to make a difference, and these activities allow you to achieve personal and professional fulfillment by helping others. Through these activities you will gain professional experience, enhance your resume, and build relationships with other professionals. Opportunities fall into two related groupings: pro bono and community service. The Student Services Office recognizes McGeorge students with a Public Service Commendation at different levels depending on the number of hours provided.

Pro Bono

Pro bono comes from *pro bono publico*, which means “for the public good.” JD students use their growing legal skills under the supervision of a practicing attorney to help provide free legal services on campus at one-day clinics sponsored by McGeorge, and on behalf of a variety of government, nonprofit, educational, and civil programs. Students do not receive compensation or academic credit for doing pro bono work. These programs are often coordinated by the McGeorge Legal Clinics, the Career Services Office (CSO), or by faculty and student organizations, and many involve invaluable cross-cultural experience.

Immigration Fair

Law students team up with local immigration attorneys and McGeorge law professors to offer assistance at this one-day clinic on our campus. In past fairs, students have provided assistance in preparing applications for citizenship, DACA asylum, and temporary protected status. Most of the direct service opportunities are for students enrolled in the Immigration Law Clinic and the Immigration Law and Policy course, but limited opportunities are available for other students (including non-JD students) who attend a training session.

Elder Abuse Prevention Events for Seniors

Law students from the Elder & Health Law Clinic and the Elder & Social Policy course provide seniors with legal check-ups and education about financial safety and protection at a one-day clinic on campus. There are some opportunities for other students who attend a training session to participate in the event. The Elder & Health Law Clinic students also sponsor a World Elder Abuse Awareness Day event, in cooperation with actors from Capital State Company, entitled “No.’ is a complete sentence” on elder abuse prevention.

Pro Se Help Day

Law students, law professors, and volunteer attorneys from the Federal Bar Association and the Sacramento County Bar Association, together with UC Davis students and professors, help litigants who are representing themselves in cases pending in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California. Without forming an attorney-client relationship, law students and volunteer lawyers provide procedural guidance, read orders from the court, and help litigants understand the next steps they need to take in their litigation. Pro Se Help days are scheduled four times a year. Students interested in participating should contact Professor Moylan, mmoylan@pacific.edu.

More Pro Bono

The Career Services Office regularly posts other pro bono volunteer opportunities for students from a single-day to semester-long from a variety of agencies and organizations.

Community Service

Volunteer opportunities include community-based activities that support the Oak Park neighborhood or the broader community but do not involve the use of legal skills.

Registered Student Organizations

Many of our RSOs engage in a variety of volunteer activities. Keep an eye on The Docket and The WRIT for events and attend club general meetings to get involved.

Public Service Career Resources

There are a number of resources available to students who wish to pursue careers in public service:

Public Legal Services Society (PLSS) Summer Stipends

JD students who work in public service or public interest positions for up to 40 hours a week and for up to 13 weeks during the summer may be selected by a PLSS committee to receive a stipend of up to \$3,500. The stipends are funded by the PLSS Annual Auction (held in the Spring) and by public interest endowments.

McGeorge Public Interest Job Fair

This event is held each Spring at the student center on campus. More than 25 government and public interest employers will be on campus to table and meet students about internships, externships, and post-graduate employment.

Public Interest/Public Sector Legal Careers Day (PIPS Day)

The Northern California PIPS Day provides students with a unique opportunity to meet and interview with more than 150+ public interest and public sector legal organizations. It is an annual event sponsored by the Consortium of Northern California Law School Career Offices.

Public Service Jobs Directory

The CSO pays for a subscription for each student to **psjd.org**, which allows you to access information on volunteer opportunities, post-graduate fellowships, and other information about public service opportunities and loan forgiveness.

Peggy Browning Fund Workers' Rights Conference

Each year, one McGeorge JD student is selected by the CSO to receive a full scholarship to attend this annual conference in Maryland, whose mission is to educate and inspire the next generation of legal advocates for workplace justice.

Equal Justice Works Career Fair

This event is held virtually in the fall and is the largest public interest career fair for JD students in the US, with more than 150 employers from across the country. Students apply for pre-scheduled interviews and attend table talks as well as multiple workshops. For more information, please visit their website:

<https://www.equaljusticeworks.org/conference-and-career-fair/about/>.

McGeorge Post-Graduate Fellowship Program

A limited number of recent JD graduates are awarded Post-Graduate Fellowships (including a small stipend) by the CSO for volunteer work at a nonprofit organization, government agency, or a small private or lobbying firm. Students are selected based on an application, resume, one-page statement of interest including explanation of the connection between the placement and long-term career goals, and host verification form. A number of these fellowships lead to permanent employment upon bar passage.

JD Admissions Student Ambassador Program

Student Ambassadors are the face of McGeorge School of Law and potentially the official tour guides for the Pacific Sacramento Campus.

Why Be a Student Ambassador?

- Be the face of the law school for prospective applicants, families and admitted students.
- Show that you are #McGeorgeProud. Share with others why you are proud to say #ichosemcgeorge and help them #experiencemcgeorge firsthand.
- Show potential employers that you are well-rounded and committed to your law school in the same way you'll be committed to them.
- An opportunity to network with McGeorge alumni at on-campus events.
- Student Ambassadors will receive a unique McGeorge piece of apparel to be worn during tours and other promotional materials.
- Utilize federal work study to be compensated for one-hour tours.

Responsibilities:

- **Fall:** Guide at least two tours.
- **Spring:** Guide at least two tours, one Open House or Admitted Student Day. Please note: we may inquire about additional items each semester but these would be mutually agreed upon and not required.

How to Apply

The Student Ambassador Application Process is ongoing and will require a resume, a statement of interest in participating as an ambassador, and any other relevant information requested.

Questions:

Please contact the JD Admissions Office with any questions at 916.739.7105 or mcgeorge@pacific.edu.

SBA Peer Mentor Program

The upper-division students on campus want to help you. To help facilitate that process, the McGeorge SBA has created a mentorship program, pairing incoming students with an upper-division student that focuses on helping incoming students integrate with the McGeorge Community. The senior students who volunteer for the program have traditionally been involved with various student clubs, student organizations on campus, and other activities in the legal community.

How do I sign up?

During the fall semester, SBA will provide more information regarding the mentor-mentee process. Check your email and the SBA Canvas page to sign up.

McGeorge Commendation for Public Service

McGeorge law students are encouraged to register for the Public Service Commendation award by pursuing experiences that emulate pro bono legal experiences during their legal career and recognizes students who practice leadership through giving their time to others through

- Pro bono legal services
- Unpaid community service
- Excess hours from paid or unpaid internships, externships, or McGeorge clinics **do not qualify**

Examples of activities that count towards the Commendation include:

- Service events sponsored or promoted by the law school, such as the Citizenship Fair, Reading Partners or Pro Se Help Day at the US District Court.
- Student group events to provide service or raise funds to support service, such as the Public Legal Services Society (PLSS) fundraising efforts. Providing personal service to the efforts is required. Donating money is not sufficient.
- Other non-legal community service like neighborhood cleanup events, service nights,

volunteering at libraries or animal shelters, and volunteer mentoring outside of the McGeorge Community, and volunteering at the CID.

At graduation, Public Service Commendation students will receive a certificate and medal for their achievement, along with special notation in the commencement program. Students may earn the Public Service Commendation at the following levels, based on total hours devoted to service during law school:

- Bronze (50 hours)
- Silver (100 hours)
- Gold (150 hours)

Ready to be recognized? **Register no later than January of your final year at McGeorge and log your public service hours by April 30 of your final year.** You must be registered to receive the award. Any hours submitted after April 30 will not be counted. Here is the link to register: <https://mcgeorge.wufoo.com/forms/z189i7ue1ppb4qb/>

Questions

Contact Leah Adams, Assistant Dean of Students, Community, and Belonging, at ladams@pacific.edu.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging

McGeorge believes diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging are essential to the fulfillment of our institutional mission. We value inclusiveness in learning, curricular, and co-curricular programming, campus climate, recruitment, admissions, hiring, and retention. McGeorge fosters a vibrant, supportive and welcoming community on the University of the Pacific Sacramento Campus that celebrates the many expressions of diversity in our students, staff, faculty, and administration.

Non-Discrimination Policy

McGeorge, in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 (45 CFR 86), and Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, does not discriminate in the administration of any of its educational programs, admissions, scholarships, loans, or other activities or programs on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender (including identity and expression), sexual orientation, age, or disability.

Statement of Diversity and Inclusion

McGeorge strives to enhance the personal and professional experiences of our community by promoting: (1) Respect and Awareness of individuals and diverse communities and groups; (2) Education inclusive of a variety of different perspectives, experiences, intellectual interests, and worldviews; (3) A Commitment to increasing diversity in the legal profession; (4) The Value of Collective Action to challenge prejudice, stereotyping, and harassment.

McGeorge's commitment to diversity is an essential part of providing a high-quality education that prepares graduates for the administration of justice in a multicultural world and for professional participation in a legal community that represents the interests of a diverse society. (Statement adopted by the Faculty/Staff/Student Minority Affairs Committee, '08-09)

In August 2020, the faculty unanimously passed a resolution declaring "unequivocally" that "Black Lives Matter" and the law school will actively work "to become and remain an antiracist institution". The resolution can be read in its entirety here: <https://law.pacific.edu/law/anti-racist-resolution>.

Undocumented/DACA Admissions Policy

Pacific welcomes applications for its JD program from qualified applicants who are undocumented, including those who have DACA immigration status or who are DACA-eligible. For DACA related information, please visit:

<https://law.pacific.edu/law/undocumented-DACA%20Admissions%20Policy>.

Pipeline Programming

As a law school we participate in Discover Law Programming (discoverlaw.org), Council on Legal Education, Inc. (CLEO) (cleoinc.org), California LAW pathways (calawpathways.org), and other pipeline programs. For more information please contact our Admissions team at McGeorge@pacific.edu

Diversity Initiatives

Associate Dean and Professor Larry Levine and Dean Adams oversee the leadership of the law school's diversity initiatives. In that capacity Dean Levine and Dean Adams are available for students who are looking for resources, wanting to get involved, or who have concerns. Dean Levine can be reached at llevine@pacific.edu and Dean Adams can be reached at ladams@pacific.edu.

Center for Inclusion & Diversity

The Sacramento Campus Center for Inclusion and Diversity (CID) is located upstairs in the Student Center. The CID, directed by Dean Adams, is open to all students on the Sacramento Campus and is staffed by peer, staff, and faculty volunteers. Students are encouraged to explore the center for kinship and support. Programming from the CID seeks to build community, foster understanding on issues of diversity, and promote an atmosphere of inclusion for all members of the Sacramento campus. This is a brave and safe space for students. Please contact Dean Adams at ladams@pacific.edu with any questions or concerns.

Bias Response Teams

To ensure all University of the Pacific schools, including McGeorge, most effectively comply with the commitment to Diversity and Inclusion, the university operates a Bias Response. Any member of the community who experienced an incident of bias, discrimination, or harassment may make a report through this form:

https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?UnivofthePacific&layout_id=40.

If you feel comfortable doing so, you can also reach out to Dean Jeff Proske at jproske@pacific.edu or Dean Adams at ladams@pacific.edu.

Pronoun and Name Changes

A student may change their pronouns and/or chosen name on MyPacific in the Student Services Menu/Student Record/My Profile. Legal change of name requires submission of official documentation and Change of Personal Data Form available through the Registrar's Office online forms found here law.pacific.edu/law/registrar.

Diversity Week

Diversity Week is an annual Diversity Initiatives program that takes place on campus each year during the first week in April and includes a broad array of programs, activities and events aimed at both raising awareness and cultivating community. This event includes participation by McGeorge School of Law, School of Health Sciences, and Benerd School of Education located on the Sacramento Campus. Contact Dean Adams, if you'd like to get involved with serving on the committee planning Diversity Week 2025 and look for information in The Docket highlighting engaging events to attend.

Diversity Affairs Committee

McGeorge's Diversity Affairs Faculty Committee addresses issues relating to diversity such as scholarships for minority students, outreach to diverse applicants, and campus climate. Several student representatives sit on this committee and provide input as well as inspiration (and often hard work!). In the past, this Committee has spearheaded fundraising for scholarships for minority students, planned Diversity Week mixers for current students to mingle with faculty and practicing attorneys, and offered an implicit bias training for faculty and staff.

University Committee for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The University Committee for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (UCDEI) is a collaborative partner in creating and sustaining a culture that consistently reflects DEI as a core value that informs how we work, interact and support one another and those we serve. Our work is ongoing and requires commitment, education, humility, innovation and accountability. We are dedicated to helping Pacificans on our three campuses build and strengthen the capacity to incorporate DEI principles into their roles at the university. We are mindful of the incredibly rich diversity of identities represented at Pacific and strive to achieve the powerful and attainable goal expressed by our university president: to become the leading anti-racist institution in the nation.

Student Organizations

McGeorge has roughly 40 registered student organizations, which you can learn about in the last section of this Handbook or at this link:

<https://law.pacific.edu/law/student-organizations>. Several of our student organizations have a diversity and inclusion focus including, but not limited to:

- Asian/Pacific American Law Students Association
- Black Law Students Association
- Christian Law Student Society
- Disability Alliance Law Students Association
- Filipino American Law Students Association
- First Generation Law Student Assoc.
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Lambda Law Students Association
- Latinx Law Students Association
- Middle Eastern & South Asian Law Students Association
- Muslim Student Association
- Native American Law Student Association
- Unity Caucus
- Women's Caucus
- Womxn of Color Collective

Pacific's Diversity Listserv

The **pacificdiversity@lists.pacific.edu** listserv provides a central location for members of the Pacific community to share event announcements, speakers, professional development opportunities, etc., relating to diversity and inclusion. To subscribe to this list, follow these instructions:

1. Send a message to **sympa@lists.pacific.edu** from the address you want to subscribe to the list.
2. In the subject line of your message, type in: "subscribe pacificdiversity First name Last Name" (indicate your own first name and last name).
3. Leave the message body blank.

Outstanding Student Leadership in Diversity Award

This award is described in more detail in the award section and honors a student who has shown outstanding leadership and commitment to diversity.

Policy Prohibiting Sexual Misconduct, Harassment, Discrimination, & Retaliation

McGeorge is committed to the personal safety of its students and other members of its campus community and to maintaining a safe and respectful environment, free from sexual misconduct or gender-based discrimination. McGeorge provides education and prevention programs, including awareness campaigns, prevention strategies, bystander intervention, and risk reduction. McGeorge also provides outreach programs to make students, faculty, and staff aware of all aspects of this Policy, including the practical implications of an affirmative consent standard, resources available for victims, and right and responsibilities of Students, Faculty, and Staff.

A detailed explanation of the support and services available to assault victims may be found at <https://www.pacific.edu/student-life/student-conduct/title-ix-sexual-misconduct-procedures>.

How to Report

To report student, staff, or faculty sexual misconduct, a victim or witness may contact Leah Adams, Dean of Student Services, at **ladams@pacific.edu**, in addition to any campus Security Authority, such as Public Safety.

The University Title IX Office may be contacted at **titleix@pacific.edu** or 209-946-7770 or Toll-Free at 888-383-2765..

Additionally, any member of the McGeorge community may make a report online using this form:

cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?UnivofthePacific&layout_id=15

A confidential report may be made by calling the Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) office, using 209-946-2315.

All other members of the campus community must forward any report of sexual misconduct to the Title IX Office.

Retaliation

Retaliation, in any form, for reporting sexual misconduct, harassment, or discrimination is strictly prohibited.

Wellness and Campus Resources

McGeorge strives to be a campus where students can balance work and leisure, but there is no avoiding the fact that law students will work hard during law school. Developing healthy habits to manage day-to-day stress and maintaining a healthy and well-rounded lifestyle is key to a balanced and happy work life. Law school is the perfect time to practice fostering healthy habits, so we offer an array of programs and resources to address students' intellectual, physical, spiritual, social, and emotional needs. We want to create an environment that gives students the tools, resources, and support they need to lead a healthy lifestyle

Student Health Insurance

To ensure your academic success, Pacific mandates that you maintain comprehensive health insurance if you are enrolled in 6 or more units per semester. Each academic year you are required to complete an insurance waiver if you have your own insurance that meets university requirements. If a waiver is not completed by the posted deadline date, you will be enrolled in the annual student plan at a cost of \$2,524 per semester. Students will have no option to terminate or waive out in the Spring semester unless they graduate or enter the armed forces. For more information and instructions, please visit <https://www.pacific.edu/student-life/health-and-wellness/health-insurance> or contact us at insuranceoffice@pacific.edu or 209.946.2027.

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

Students experience a variety of emotional challenges and experiences while in school that can get in the way of academic success. Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) provides a broad range of therapeutic services including one-time solution sessions, informal "Let's Talk" consultations, group therapy, couples sessions, brief individual therapy, and online assisted therapy for students experiencing emotional distress, anxiety, depression, and/or more serious mental health concerns. CAPS therapists are experienced working with graduate students and provide a confidential, nonjudgmental environment in which to work on your issues. CAPS does not bill your health insurance and all services are funded in part by the Wellness Fee. To request an appointment or to learn more about our services please see <https://www.pacific.edu/student-life/safety-wellness/counseling-and-psychological-services/appointment> or call 209.946.2315 x2.

Student Health Services

Student Health Services is an on-campus health clinic available to all students at the McGeorge School of Law at a cost of \$300 per semester (fall/spring) if you are enrolled in 9+ units and \$150 per semester (fall/spring) if enrolled in less than 8.5 units. Students enrolled in 1 or more units for summer have a reduced fee. Regardless of whether students have the Student Health Insurance, they will have this Wellness Fee charge. Services include treatment for acute injuries or illness, physicals, immunizations, women's care, medication management and referrals.

Location:

3333 3rd Avenue Sacramento, CA 95817
209-946-2315 option 1 for appointment

Hours:

Monday – Friday : 8am-5pm

24/7 Advice Nurse:

209.946.2315 option 4

Telemedicine

University of the Pacific contracts with Anthem Blue Cross and LiveHealth to provide 24/7 telehealth services, including doctors, psychiatrists, and therapists. This is one of the most convenient ways to get healthcare, especially for busy law students.

For students with the Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) the telehealth option is free. For those with another plan, there is a fee per visit.

Additional Mental Health or Substance Abuse Resources

In addition to CAPS and the mental health benefits covered under the Student Health Insurance Plan, please note the following resources:

- **California Lawyer Assistance Program** – helps lawyers and law students who are grappling with stress, anxiety, depression, substance use or concerns about their career. Free professional mental health assessment available to those who have registered with the California State Bar
- **ABA Commission on Lawyer Assistance Programs** – committed to promoting both the physical and mental wellness of legal professionals and disseminating information about resources available to help lawyers and law students in need.
- **The Other Bar** – a network of recovering law students, lawyers, and judges throughout the state, dedicated to confidentially assisting others within the profession who are suffering from alcohol and substance abuse problems.
- **Lawyers with Depression** – the first website and blog of its kind in the country, created to help law students, lawyers and judges cope with and heal from depression.

Religious and Spiritual Life

University of the Pacific fosters a supportive and welcoming community for all students, no matter what your religious tradition or whether or not you consider yourself religious or spiritual. To help facilitate religious and spiritual life in all its many forms, Pacific has an Office of Religious and Spiritual Life on the main campus in Stockton. The McGeorge students are encouraged to contact them for advice, guidance, and/or spiritual care and support (religiouslife@pacific.edu). McGeorge has several active faith-based student organizations on the Sacramento Campus.

The Sacramento Campus Multifaith Mediation and Prayer Room can be found in room 204 of the Library.

Sacramento Campus Library and Law Library

The library serves all students and faculty members on the Sacramento Campus. A school ID is needed to gain entry. A variety of study spaces are available, including study rooms that can be booked online up to two weeks in advance. The law library team offers law students resources to assist with both courses and research, including West Academic, CALI, Lexis Digital Study Aids, Westlaw, Bloomberg Law, Lexis, HeinOnline, EBSCO and a variety of other databases. Student support for TWEN, Canvas and ExamSoft is available. Students can borrow material from other libraries via interlibrary loan. Reference librarians are available throughout the day and by appointment for assistance with research questions. If you have any library related questions or concerns, please speak to a library staff member at the circulation desk. For legal reference questions, please speak to a legal reference librarian.

Library Hours:

Monday – Thursday 7:30 a.m. – 12 midnight

Friday 7:30 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Saturday 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – 12 midnight

Exceptions to regular hours are noted on the library's webpage. **Hours are subject to change.**

Library Stress Relief

The library has hula hoops, horseshoes, frisbees, board and card games, and hacky sacks available for check out at the Circulation Desk.

Additionally, the library has chairs, whiteboards, and book stands students may borrow. Enjoy!

Wellness Week

Hosted annually by the SBA Wellness Committee the Office of Student Services, other Sacramento Campus community members, Wellness Week provides a forum to inspire the McGeorge Community to think about the different dimensions of wellness and take small steps towards healthy choices. Contact the SBA Vice Presidents to get involved in the Wellness Committee.

Mothering Room

The Sacramento Campus has a Mothering (Nursing) Room in the Admin Building, Room 108, which offers mothers a quiet, private area for breastfeeding or pumping while on campus. The room also includes a Medela's Symphony hospital-grade pump (mothers will need to bring their own kit to operate the pump). The Mothering Room was made possible thanks to the donations and leadership of our wonderful alumni, including Rebecca A. Dietzen '04, who was the driving force behind the project. The Mothering Room is available whenever the Admin Building is open, or by request to Public Safety.

California Victims Resource Center

Since 1984, McGeorge has housed the state-funded California Victims Resource Center (CVRC). Through the CVRC's confidential, anonymous, and toll-free number, (1.800.VICTIMS) and website chat (1800victims.org), crime victims across California can obtain information directly from McGeorge law students and staff about victim compensation, restitution, a victim's role and rights in the criminal justice system, and referrals to local assistance providers. The CVRC also provides a 24/7 public resource directory, free educational publications, the *Knowledge Is Power: Victim to Survivor* podcast, the *Great Notes* safety app, informational presentations, and research/technical assistance for service providers. The CVRC offers employment and volunteer opportunities to McGeorge law students. Please contact the CVRC at 916-739-7055 or via email vlrc@pacific.edu if interested.

Community Garden

Behind the Recreation Center sits the Community Garden. This space offers the Pacific Community an opportunity to slow down and connect with the natural environment as well as each other. Students, staff and faculty can tend plots of vegetables, fruits, herbs, and flowers or attend

garden events. Food growing is a part of the history and culture of the California Central Valley and our campus garden provides a connection to the land, to our community heritage, and to the food systems that sustain us.

Recreation Center

Campus has a Recreation Center for use by students, faculty, staff, and their accompanied guests. A school ID card is needed to gain entry and a release form is required prior to use of the facility. Along with a swimming pool and ping pong table outside, there are weight machines, free weights, treadmills, and bicycle machines. Towels are provided and there are showers. *Please note that the swimming pool may be temporarily closed for repairs during the 2026-2027 academic year.*

Dining Services Bon Appetit Café

The Gary V. Schaber Memorial Student Center provides a setting for breakfast, lunch, snacks, special events, speakers, student meetings, social gatherings or simply hanging out. Here you'll find Café Bon Appétit, which features food services with a sustainable focus. Bon Appetit chefs cook from scratch using fresh, authentic ingredients, making food that is alive with flavor and nutrition. Their culinary team is led by Chef Mark Penticostes, who can be reached regarding dietary needs and menu questions at mark.penticostes@cafebonappetit.com.

Wondering what is on the menu today?

Visit pacific.cafebonappetit.com/catering/ for this week's menu. At the top of the page, click on the arrow icon at the left and then click on UOP-Sacramento Campus.

Veteran Resource Center

Pacific's **Military and Veteran Student Center** is dedicated to ensuring that veteran, military, and eligible family member students are fully integrated into campus life and are able to take full advantage of the broad range of intellectual and cultural activities offered at Pacific. Our primary missions are your smooth transition on to our campus, your academic success, and ultimately employment after graduation.

Veteran Resource Center: 209.932.3237

The V.A. Certifying Official for the University of the Pacific is housed with the Office of the Registrar registrar@pacific.edu.

Zoom Accounts

In an effort to support the Pacific Community, Zoom accounts are available to all Faculty, Staff and Students. Zoom is a cloud-based video communications app that allows users to set up virtual video and audio conferencing, live chats, screen-sharing, and other collaborative capabilities. Users will be able to host up to 300 participants in meetings capable of lasting up to 24 hours.

Zoom Login: Pacific Technology has enabled an SSO (single sign on) feature to access Zoom using your PacificNet ID and Password. You do not need to contact anyone to set up your account – simply follow the link below to activate.

- To create your Zoom account go to (<https://pacific.zoom.us>)
- Click on “Sign In” and sign in through OKTA authentication.

For additional assistance or questions please contact Sacramento Helpdesk at sachelpdesk@pacific.edu or 916.739.7325.

Financial Wellness

Financial wellness encompasses how you handle your finances, how you feel about your finances, and all the ways your finances impact every aspect of your life. To help you get on – and stay on – the path to financial wellness, we've partnered with nonprofit AccessLex Institute® to bring you MAX by AccessLex® at no cost. Used by over 80% of the ABA-accredited law schools in the country, MAX is the personal finance program designed exclusively for law students!

MAX combines online personal finance lessons, in-person and virtual events, and one-on-one financial counseling with Accredited Financial Counselors® to get you the financial knowledge and skills you need for life as a student and beyond. Additionally, activities you complete gain you entries into MAX scholarship drawings throughout the year – so the more you do, the higher your chances of winning!

Register for your free account now at accesslex.org/maxonline.

Leadership & Engagement Opportunities

Not all learning takes place in the classroom! Valuable opportunities to build connections in the legal community abound – everywhere you look, there is another event or activity you could attend or another leadership opportunity you could pursue. Although your time is limited, getting involved is important and tremendously improves the law school experience.

Some of the key leadership opportunities you might consider pursuing include:

- Student Government (The Student Bar Association, or SBA for short)
- SBA Student Committees
- McGeorge Faculty Committees with Student Representation
- American Bar Association Law Student Division Representative
- Registered Student Organizations

Student Bar Association

All McGeorge students hold membership in its Student Bar Association. The SBA serves as a forum for student interests and concerns, and it sponsors school-wide events throughout the year including the Barrister's Ball. The SBA also organizes and oversees several student committees, and provides funding for the Registered Student Organizations.

The SBA is administered by a student-elected Board of Governors comprised of the SBA President, JD Full-Time and Part-Time Division Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, a Representative for each JD class year (1D, 2D, etc.), and a Masters Representative, a Diversity Chair, and a Community Outreach Chair.

In consultation with the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, the SBA President appoints student representatives to several of McGeorge's standing committees to insure student input to faculty and administrative policy decisions. The SBA President is also invited to attend and participate in faculty meetings.

Each Spring, SBA elections are held for the following year. First-year classes elect their representatives shortly after the Fall semester begins.

Contact your Board of Governors for more information.

Email:
sbamcgeorgelaw@gmail.com
Instagram: sbamcgeorge

SBA 2026-2027 Board of Governors

President	Madison Kiefer-Green
Vice President (PT)	Rachel Buller
Vice President (FT)	Rachel Yoas
Treasurer	Ida Shamsaasef
Secretary	Jasmin Boparai
Diversity Chair	Elijah Torres
Community Outreach Chair	Vasanti Raman
Masters Representative	Zahra Alfalak-Porter
4E Representative	Bryan Pritchard
3D Representative	Rose A. Smith
3E Representative	Emma Veizaga
2E Representative	Carlie Haug
2D Representative	Viviana Dhillon
1E Representative	TBD
1D Representative- A	TBD
1D Representative- B	TBD
1D Representative- C	TBD

SBA Student Committees

The SBA organizes and oversees various student committees to focus on student issues and events, such as stress relief activities, networking opportunities, social events, facilitating communication with the student body, and addressing student concerns. Students apply for and are appointed to serve on these committees by the SBA Vice Presidents.

As an SBA committee member, you will play a key role in educating, energizing, and inspiring action among our student body. You will participate in planning and implementing events, programming, and campaigns that will invigorate our campus community. Serving on a committee is also a great way to sharpen your leadership skills, make new friends, and leave your mark at McGeorge. If you would like to get involved with any of the committees, please email sbamcgeorgelaw@gmail.com or contact one of the SBA Vice Presidents.

Alumni Committee

The Alumni Committee seeks to create strong mentor relationships between students and the alumni by creating opportunities for students to network with the alumni face-to-face. The committee shall provide events that cover diverse interests so that students have an opportunity to learn about their perspective fields of interest directly from the people who have experience in those fields.

Wellness Committee

The Wellness Committee helps students achieve optimal wellbeing to enhance their quality of life and succeed in law school. This Committee raises awareness about campus health services and counseling and student health insurance. The committee works with the Office of Student Services to implement wellness initiatives and advocate for student wellness needs. This committee also coordinates wellness and stress relief events including Wellness Week in the Fall.

Events and Coordination Committee (ECC)

The purpose of the ECC is to create and coordinate social activities for students. This committee plans our annual and semi-annual events such as Finals Breakfast, the Welcome Back BBQ, and the community-focused Safe Trick or Treat event. Members can also create new ideas and events for student life on and off campus,

Sustainability Committee

The Sustainability Committee's purpose is to promote environmental awareness and advocate for sustainable practices across our campus and within our community. In addition, this committee helps manage and coordinate the student-run community garden.

Barrister's Ball

The Barrister's Ball is an annual formal dinner and dance event that the SBA hosts for students and their guests in the spring. The Barrister's Ball Committee is responsible for planning and coordinating all the details related to the event.

Diversity Committee

The Diversity Committee's purpose is to advocate for diversity and inclusion by providing programming to aid diverse students in acclimation to law school. This committee is chaired by the SBA Diversity Chair and is responsible for coordinating diversity-related activities such as the annual Diversity Week in the Spring.

Sports and Activities Committee

The Sports and Activities Committee's purpose is to promote health, camaraderie, competition, and community by hosting athletic events that are open to all students at the University of the Pacific's Sacramento campus.

SBA Elections Committee

The SBA Elections Committee is responsible for conducting elections for first-year class representatives in the fall and the campus-wide elections for the entire SBA Board in the spring. Committee members work together to regulate campaign procedures and inform candidates about the election process. Members must keep records of Elections Committee activities, including election results and ballots. The Elections Committee may also review and suggest changes to the Election Code for the SBA Board's approval.

Masters Committee

The Masters Committee will foster a sense of community between all McGeorge students and encourages Masters students to attend and participate in SBA events, addressing matters pertinent to the inclusion of Masters students in campus activities, programs, and resources, and communicating with Masters students on behalf of the SBA.

Publicity Committee

The Publicity Committee is responsible for advertising and promoting SBA's activities, events, and achievements. The committee develops plans to effectively communicate the organization's message to its target audience through the creation of flyers, social media posts, announcements, email blasts, and other communication methods. The committee is responsible, when possible, to develop and maintain an active and engaging social media profiles to connect the SBA with the student body and to amplify its message

Faculty Committees with Student Representation

Each year the SBA President, in consultation with the Office of Student Services and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, appoints student representatives to several of McGeorge's standing committees to insure student input to faculty and administrative policy decisions. Look out for an email with more details about how to apply for one of these positions over the summer.

Code of Student Responsibility

This committee handles any disciplinary matters that occur under the Code of Student Responsibility, and reviews and suggests revisions to the Code of Student Responsibility Rules, as needed. Three students serve on this committee, and five additional students are identified for the disciplinary hearing pool and called upon to serve if needed.

Curriculum

This committee is responsible for approving all new courses, and for promoting improvements in the overall JD curriculum. Two students serve on this committee, generally one Full-Time and one Part-Time law student.

Diversity Affairs

This committee discuss issues relating to diversity with the Associate Dean for Diversity Initiatives and the Senior Assistant Dean for Admissions and Diversity, including scholarships for minority students, outreach to diverse applicants, and campus climate. Several students serve on this committee, generally including a representative

from Unity Caucus, as well as other students. The Diversity Affairs Committee also works with the Center for Inclusion and Diversity on the Sacramento Campus, helping with its implementation, usage, training and programming.

Grading and Advancement

This committee studies, develops, adopts, and applies rules, regulations, and procedures pertaining to examinations, grading, advancement, graduation, and related matters. Major policy considerations are presented by the committee to the entire faculty for debate and vote before official adoption.

G&A consists of five faculty members, and two student members (one Full-Time student and one Part-Time student). The student members participate in policy considerations but are not present when petitions from individual students are being considered.

Honors & Awards

This committee identifies winners of various honors and awards for graduating students. The SBA President serves on this committee.

ABA Law Student Division

2026-2027 ABA Law Student Division Representative: Rachel Yaos

The American Bar Association (ABA) is a national organization providing law school accreditation, continuing legal education, information about the law, programs to assist lawyers and judges, and initiatives to improve the legal system for the public. All students attending ABA-approved law schools are eligible to join.

One student is appointed by the SBA President to serve as McGeorge's ABA Law Student Division Representative (ABA Representative). The ABA

Representative advocates on behalf of ABA Law Student Division members from their school, serves as the school's point person on the ABA and communicates the benefits and value of ABA membership at their school.

The ABA Representative serves as one of their school's two voting delegates to the ABA Law Student Division Assembly (the policy-making body of the Division).

Registered Student Organizations

Practicing your legal skills does not always happen in class or during an externship. **Registered Student Organizations** (or as we call them, "RSOs") play an integral role in the campus environment and educational process for students at McGeorge. The many events and activities hosted annually directly enhance academic and career preparation, cultural awareness, public service, leadership skills and networking opportunities.

So get involved – with your peers, with the McGeorge community, and with the Sacramento community. You will meet people with similar interests, organize meaningful activities, and have plenty of opportunities to network your way into a stellar internship or career and long-lasting friendships.

As of July 1, 2026, the following groups have registered for the 2026-2027 academic year:

American Constitution Society

Contact: Erin Waugh

ACS is the nation's foremost progressive legal organization, with a diverse network that includes nearly 250 student and lawyer chapters. Our mission is to support and advocate for laws and legal systems that redress the founding failures of our Constitution, strengthen our democratic legitimacy, uphold the rule of law, and realize the promise of equality for all, including people of color, women, LGBTQ+ people, people with disabilities, and other historically excluded communities.

Asian Pacific American Law Student Association

Contact: Lily Pei and Jason Tran

Asian Pacific American Law Students Association ("APALSA") exists to promote a greater understanding of Asian Pacific American culture and to serve as a professional network and support for Asian Pacific American students and the McGeorge Law School community.

Black Law Students Association

Contact: Alyssa Brown

The Black Law Students Association (BLSA) at University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law is committed to uplifting and advancing Black and African American law students academically, professionally, socially, and politically. Recognizing the importance of retention and community, BLSA focuses on maintaining a strong educational, social, and political connection among Black students on campus through mentorship, advocacy, professional development, and community-building initiatives.

Business Law Association

Contact: Trevor Leffler Streeter

The purpose of the Business Law Association (BLA) is to provide our members opportunities to interact and build valuable relationships with each other and with professionals within the business community. Please reach out to us at bla.mcgeorge@gmail.com.

Capital Lawyering Association for Students

Contact: Alexandra Tolman

The Capital Lawyering Association for Students collaborates with the Capital Center for Law & Policy. Our mission is to connect students to the Capital Lawyering Concentration and McGeorge's alumni connections in the Capital arena, providing Capital Lawyering students with an unsurpassed opportunity to become involved in policy, advocacy, and government at the state, local, and regional levels.

Christian Law Student Society

Contact: R.J. Aitken

CLSS exists to promote fellowship, community, and encouragement among Christian and non-Christian students, faculty, and staff on the University of Pacific, Sacramento Campus. Our goal is to show Christ's love to the McGeorge community in its entirety and to honor and glorify God's kingdom.

Club Volleyball

Contact: Angelica Alcantar

Want to play some volleyball or just get active? Come out to the quad for our weekly practices, casual scrimmages, and fun group games. Never played before? No problem—all skill levels are welcome! Join the GroupMe to stay updated on our activities: <https://tinyurl.com/mcgvolleyball>. Questions? Please contact Angel Alcantar at a_alcantar1@u.pacific.edu. Hope to see you out there!

Contemporary Law Initiative

Contact: Trevor Leffler Streeter

Contemporary Law Initiative is an organization that provide opportunities for members to learn and gather resources on various areas of law and ways to use a JD degree, provide networking experiences, and enhance the experience at McGeorge. This organization is open to anyone whether they have decided their career path or not. Please feel free to reach out to us at cli.mcgeorge@gmail.com.

Craft Beer Law Society

Contact: Nico Carpignano

Love a good craft brew? Interested in the legislative factors that control craft beer law industry? Craft Beer Law Society is for you! CBLs is a unique club that caters to the craft beer community here at McGeorge. We often host social hours at local breweries and coordinate events that are specific to the laws and regulations that govern craft brewers. Dues are \$15 a year and we have a lot cool merchandise!

Criminal Law Society

Contact: Alyssa Evans

The Criminal Law Society is a student-run organization seeking to connect students who have an interest in working in all areas of Criminal Law. The Criminal Law Society hosts an array of panels and events to engage students in criminal law by connecting them with other students and practicing attorneys who can provide wisdom and guidance about how to get involved in a career and what to expect.

Disability Alliance Law Students Association

Contact: Brandi Waschau and Sadie Whitney

DALSA is an organization for people with disabilities and their allies. The focus of our group is on all disabilities that may limit major life activities. Our approach is intersectional and inclusive of the varied experiences that people with disabilities have. DALSA works independently and with other student groups to provide programming to educate the law school community about how disability is experienced by different groups of people and how that experience is shaped by the law.

Environmental Law Society

Contact: Paul Joignant

Are you interested in environmental law, passionate about protecting the planet, or simply a lover of nature? The Environmental Law Society is the perfect place for you! We'll help you connect with both nature, on our annual hikes, and current environmental advocates, through our informational sessions. Dues are \$10 per year for current McGeorge students. Look for our events advertised in The Docket or contact Paul Joignant, ELS Club President, at r_joignant@u.pacific.edu to join us!

Family Law Student Association

Contact: Taya Falcone

The Family Law Student Association is dedicated to fostering student interest in family law through professional development, mentorship, networking, and community engagement. The organization provides students with opportunities to connect with practitioners, explore careers in family law, and discuss issues impacting families and children while building a supportive community for future advocates.

Federalist Society- McGeorge Chapter

Contact: Natalie Mendes

The Federalist Society is a non-partisan organization dedicated to fostering discussion on the current state of the legal order, constitutional structure, and the role of the judiciary. Founded on principles of limited government, separation of powers, and judicial duty to interpret the law as written. We provide a forum to engage across ideological perspectives, and connect members through a national network to support professional development, dialogue, and understanding of the law.

Filipino American Law Students Association

Contact: Elijah Torres

Our goal is simple: to create community. FALSA gives students a space to celebrate Filipino culture, connect with mentors and attorneys, and support each other while navigating law school and the legal profession. We hope to host professional panels, mentorship programs, networking events, cultural celebrations, and community outreach initiatives that strengthen representation in the legal field.

Film Club at McGeorge (Tigerboxd)

Contact: Victoria Martinez

Tired of going to movies alone or wishing you had people to discuss films with afterward? Then join Tigerboxd, the new Film Club at McGeorge! Tigerboxd is a social club that connects McGeorge students through a shared love of movies. Whether it's a blockbuster, comedy, indie film, or something so bad it's good, Tigerboxd brings students together for monthly movie outings. See The Docket for announcements or contact Victoria, Tigerboxd President, at v_martinez20@u.pacific.edu to join!

First Generation Association

Contact: Ash De La Rosa

The purpose of this organization is to provide a community where first-generation law students can be seen, heard, and supported throughout their academic career at the McGeorge School of Law. The definition First-Gen is the First in their family to attend law school, navigating their professional identity, academic success, mental health, and financial complexities of legal education without familial and/or mentor in the legal field.

Golf Club at McGeorge

Contact: Elijah Torres

The Golf Club at McGeorge aspires to give our community a space to step away from the stress that comes with the study of law. It is our belief that Golf can be a great vehicle to connect our students with legal professionals and hope to leverage our love for the game to foster relationships between students and professionals alike.

If/When/How: Lawyering for Reproductive Justice

Contact: Isabella Valdivieso

If/When/How trains, networks and mobilizes law students and legal professionals to work within and beyond the legal system to champion reproductive justice. In collaboration with communities, organizations, and movements, we transform the law and policy landscape through advocacy, support, and organizing so that all people – especially those most likely to face reproductive injustice – have the power to determine if, when, and how to define, create, and sustain families.

Intellectual Property Student Association

Contact: Sana Rahbari

Interested in a career focused on intellectual property? Intellectual Property Law is one of the most dynamic fields in the legal profession for lawyers with and without undergraduate degrees in STEP. IPSA at McGeorge connects students to the world of IP Law by providing opportunities to interact with and learn from practicing attorneys and other professionals in the field. IPSA offers professional events including IP Week and field trips each semester to companies such as Netflix and Intel.

International Law Society

Contact: Ninel Petrosyan

The McGeorge International Law Society (MILS) connects students interested in international law with attorneys and professionals across diverse practice areas. Through speaker events and discussions, students gain insight into fields such as international business law, humanitarian law, immigration law, and more, while building knowledge and professional connections within the global legal community.

Lambda Law Students Association

Contact: Norah Ruvalcaba and Will Leszinske

Founded in 1983, the Lambda Law Students Association is composed of LGBTQIA+ and allied students, faculty and staff at McGeorge. We are dedicated to building awareness about LGBTQIA+ legal issues, eliminating stereotypes about LGBTQIA+ individuals, and fostering a supportive LGBTQIA+ and ally community throughout the law school. All are welcome, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.

Latinx Law Student Association

Contacts: Alexis Mata

The purpose of this organization shall be to promote the professional advancement and academic success of its members and to promote awareness of issues affecting the Latinx community through community service, symposia and other methods. LLSA strives to promote cooperation with other affinity student organizations through the exchange of information and materials in order to create public awareness and involvement from the legal community concerning issues affecting all minority populations.

Law & Civi Engagement Initiative

Contact: Madison Kiefer-Green

LCEI is a student-led organization dedicated to advancing access to legal education, civic participation, and community empowerment. The purpose of the organization are to (1) support underserved high school students through mentorship, legal education, and exposure to the legal profession and (2) develop community-facing programming, including voting rights education, know-your-rights workshops, civic literacy programming, and public service initiatives.

Lifting and Fitness Club

Contact: Viviana Dhillon and David Veske

The purpose of this organization shall be to encourage students to participate in weight-lifting, pilates, yoga, etc.. We will focus on the importance of fitness for overall health, but especially mental health. Events will involve organized workouts in the school gym, off-campus fitness classes, and visits to local gyms.

Middle Eastern South Asian Association

Contact: Tala Arslan

MESAA is where Middle Eastern and South Asian law students find community, celebrate culture, and build the future of law. We uplift underrepresented voices, foster cross-cultural dialogue, and connect future attorneys with mentors who share their journey. Representation matters in the courtroom and beyond. Your culture is your power. Join MESAA at McGeorge School of Law.

Military Law Society

Contact: Rebecca Storer

MLS is for Military Veterans, Service Members, their families, and anyone interested in military law. Throughout the year, we will connect students with a community that shares similar cultural values and serves as a source of support on their legal journey. From supportive Alumni to JAG recruiters to other students willing to lend a hand, our network is strong and growing every year. MLS is committed to fostering a diverse and inclusive environment, where all are welcome.

Moot Court Society

Contact: Grace Telford

Are you ready to leave your legacy at McGeorge as a competitor in one of the country's top-ranked oral advocacy programs? The Moot Court program offers students the opportunity to compete in prestigious appellate advocacy competitions regionally and nationally. The program focuses on legal writing and oral advocacy skills. Students going into their third year are eligible to apply, but we strongly encourage all first-year students to compete in our annual 1L Moot Court Competition.

Muslim Student Association

Contact: Ali Alfatlawi

Looking for community and connection? The Muslim Student Association at McGeorge brings students together through faith, fellowship, and service. We host social gatherings, discussions, community service events, and opportunities to learn more about Islamic traditions and culture while fostering an inclusive and supportive environment for all students from all backgrounds. Look for our events advertised in The Docket or contact Ali Alfatlawi, MSA President, at a_alfatlawi@u.pacific.edu to join!

Native American Law Student Association

Contact: Rachel Blackburn and Kathleen Moreno

NALSA is open to all individuals! NALSA aims to promote unity and cooperation among Native American and Indigenous law students, provide a basis to work for the advancement of Native American and Indigenous Peoples, and promote learning and knowledge by encouraging students to develop legal scholarship in Native American legal issues.

Public Legal Services Society

Contact: Hana Glenn

PLSS provides GRANT MONEY for unpaid summer public interest work! We offer a wide range of networking and career building events throughout the year. We also provide volunteer opportunities to connect students to their community. If you have an interest in giving back, and getting money, you'll find your place with PLSS! Meetings will be held once a month with events to be announced. Check The Docket or contact Hana Glenn, PLSS President at h_glenn@u.pacific.edu with any questions!

Public Policy and Administration Society

Contact: Andres Mayorga

The Public Policy and Administration Society (PPAS) at McGeorge fosters student success and community engagement through inclusive collaboration. Open to all students, faculty, and staff, PPAS promotes professional growth, leadership, and meaningful connections within and beyond campus. Members participate in enriching activities aimed at making a positive impact in public policy and administration.

Rugby Football Club

Contact: Aengus Nelson

It shall be the purpose of McGeorge Rugby to provide the McGeorge Student Body with the opportunity to learn and play rugby by offering a sportsmanlike and competitive atmosphere while maintaining the principles and ethics expected of rugby players and lawyers alike.

Running Club at McGeorge

Contact: Monique Magdaleno

The Running Club at McGeorge exists to promote a healthy lifestyle, stress relief, inclusivity, and overall well-being for students and the McGeorge Law. All levels are welcome. Contact Monique Magdaleno at m_magdaleno@u.pacific.edu if you'd like to join us.

Securities and Artificial Intelligence at McGeorge

Contact: Ashlyn Espinosa

SAM is for curious students who want to explore various technological tools that will impact the legal field. Our goal is to give law students practical guidance on how to incorporate technology into their practices in a safe and ethical manner. We also hope to remove some of the mysticism that surrounds the use of artificial intelligence, cryptocurrencies, and digital technologies.

Semi Pros Basketball Club

Contact: Ivan Seyller

Interested in Basketball? Come join the McGeorge Semi-Pros. The McGeorge Semi-Pros is a basketball club that provides a recreational basketball community for the University of the Pacific Sacramento Campus. Everyone is welcome to join! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ivan Seyller at i_seyller@u.pacific.edu.

Soccer Group at McGeorge

Contact: Crystal Lopez

Soccer Club at McGeorge promotes teamwork, physical health, and mental well-being. People from all backgrounds and skill levels can enjoy the company of one another on the field and decompress from the stress of school, work, and life. All are welcome and encouraged to join us every Saturday morning for some fun in the sun kicking the ball around and working towards that GOAL!

Sports and Entertainment Law Society

Contact: Mitch Probst

The Sports and Entertainment Law Society (SELS) is committed to fostering student engagement and professional growth in sports and entertainment law. Our mission is to provide opportunities for students to connect with legal professionals, attend networking events, and join sessions that deepen understanding of legal issues facing athletes, artists, and the broader entertainment industry. SELS also promotes ethical practices, inclusivity, and innovation in these evolving fields.

Tennis Club

Contact: Jasmine Garza

Tennis Club at McGeorge is a student organization dedicated to promoting the sport of tennis as a fun and competitive way to stay active, network, and build community. Open to all skill levels, we will host casual matches, and social events throughout the year. Whether you're looking to improve your game or just have fun on the court, join us to connect with fellow students and enjoy the sport!

Trial Advocacy Association

Contact: Kathryn Kane

The Trial Advocacy Association is committed to developing confident and prepared student advocates. TAA provides students with hands-on advocacy experience in trial skills such as opening statements, witness examinations, and closing arguments. Students learn directly from practicing attorneys with many years of trial experience. If you are interested in becoming a trial lawyer, our program is a fantastic way to grow as an advocate and find your voice in the courtroom.

Unity Caucus (UC)

Contact: Danielle Torres Werra

Unity Caucus is a student-led coalition that amplifies the voices of underrepresented students at McGeorge School of Law. We're more than a representative body—we're a movement for equity, inclusion, and student empowerment. Whether you're raising a concern or looking to get involved, UC is here to make sure every voice is heard and every student feels seen.

Video Game Law Society

Contact: Victoria Hypolite and Seraephina Tarriela

Level up your legal career with the Video Game Law Society (VGLS)! Explore the intersection of law and video games through topics like intellectual property, esports, licensing, privacy, employment, and emerging technology while connecting with attorneys and industry professionals through events and networking opportunities. Dues are \$10 per year. If you have any questions, please contact Co-Presidents Victoria Hypolite (v_hypolite@u.pacific.edu) & Seraephina Tarriela (n_tarriela@u.pacific.edu).

Water Law Society

Contact: Jessica Friley

Interested in water law? Join WLS to meet learn more about the endless opportunities in water law. WLS gives students the opportunity to meet water law attorneys in private, public, and environmental sectors. Students also have opportunities to attend the annual Water Law Symposium, Water 101, and trivia nights!

Wine Law Society

Contact: Brianna Holder

Interested in wine and the law? The Wine Law Society hosts educational events, guest speakers, tasting experiences, and networking opportunities designed to discuss topics such as wine production, distribution, ABC regulations, marketing, water law, and agriculture law. Dues are \$15 per year for current McGeorge students. Look for our events advertised in The Docket or contact Brianna Holder, Wine Law Society President, at b_holder@u.pacific.edu to become a member today.

Women's Caucus

Contact: Morgan Greenhalgh and Mahtab Jafary

The purpose of the Women's Caucus is to promote the interests of women engaged in the study of law and to encourage the entry of women into the profession. The Caucus shall function as a collective such that all members have an equal opportunity to participate, assume responsibility, and develop their leadership potential. Annual dues are \$5. Look for our upcoming events in The Docket or email our Co-Presidents at m_greenhalgh@u.pacific.edu or m_moghaddamjafary@u.pacific.edu!

Womxn of Color Collective (WOCC)

Contact: Ashley Rehal and Karina Cardenas

WOCC is dedicated to creating spaces where womxn and non-binary people of color can connect, lead, and thrive in the legal profession. Through mentorship, professional development, and community-building programs, WOCC works to address the persistent gaps in representation and access within the legal field.