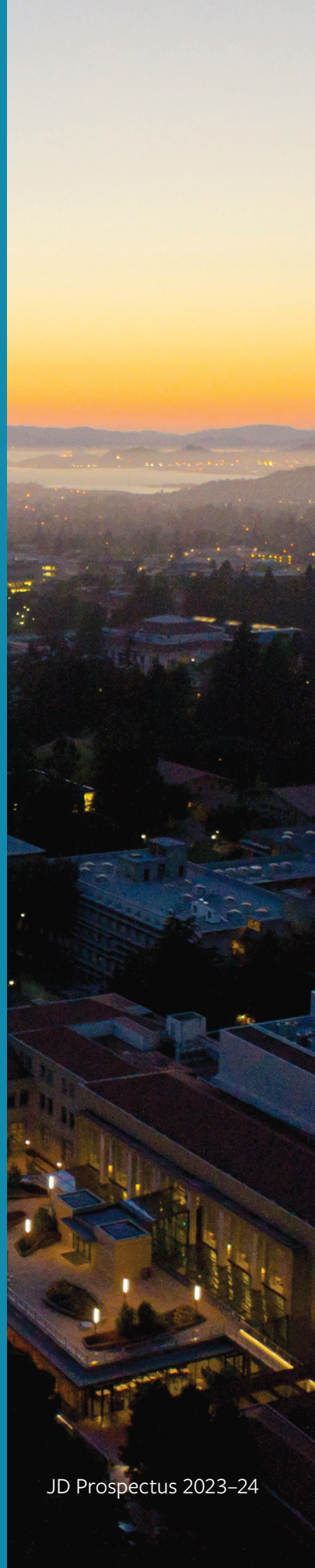


# WHERE WILL YOU GO?

Berkeley  
Law

JD Prospectus 2023–24



# OUR MISSION

## 1

Through teaching, Berkeley Law provides students with first-class training in legal theory, doctrine and practice, exposure to the political, social, and economic forces that shape the law, and the opportunity for community service.

## 2

Through research, Berkeley Law supports faculty members who are leaders in their fields of scholarly inquiry, striving to expand and deepen legal and interdisciplinary thought while engaging students in rigorous academic and intellectual work.

## 3

Through service, Berkeley Law tackles some of the most important, challenging, and timely problems facing the state, nation, and world, harnessing our excellence in teaching and research to improve government, business, and society.

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**Land Acknowledgment**

UC Berkeley sits on the territory of xučyun, the ancestral & unceded land of the Chochenyo-speaking Ohlone people, successors of the sovereign Verona Band of Alameda County.

**Nondiscrimination**

The University of California, in accordance with applicable federal and state law and University policy, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, medical condition (cancer related or genetic characteristics), ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship, or service in the uniformed services.









# WHAT SETS US APART

*Dean Erwin Chemerinsky  
welcomes students  
during orientation.  
Held early in the fall  
semester, the Student  
Activities Fair offers an  
opportunity to connect  
with the school's many  
organizations, including  
Student-Initiated Legal  
Services Projects (SLPS),  
journals, and affinity groups.*

Photo credit (2x): Darius Riley

I am often asked what makes Berkeley Law special. First, it is an excellent law school by every measure. The quality of any educational institution is a product of its faculty, students, and programs. Berkeley Law has a terrific faculty. They are top scholars in their fields; many have written the books used in law school classes across the country. They are also great teachers. Our students are superb and diverse in every way, with over half coming from outside California. And Berkeley Law has centers and programs doing cutting-edge work in every area of law.

Second, there is a deep commitment to public service. Almost 95% of first-year law students do pro bono work. Fellowships are provided to every student doing public service work during the summers of law school so long as they have done pro bono work during law school. There are post-graduate fellowships and a loan forgiveness program. The commitment to using law to improve society and the world animates the work of our clinics and centers and the teaching in our classrooms.

Finally, Berkeley Law is a very special community. It is a warm, collegial environment, not a competitive one. It is the most intellectually exciting law school that I have been part of, with a plethora of speakers and programs and symposia every week. It is part of a superb and beautiful campus in a great location.

I feel very proud to be the dean of Berkeley Law and am excited for you to learn more about it.

Warmly,



Erwin Chemerinsky  
Dean and Jesse H. Choper Distinguished Professor of Law



# EXCELLENCE, PUBLIC MISSION, & COMMUNITY

At Berkeley Law, we admit people, not numbers.

What are we looking at in the admissions process? In short, everything. We employ a holistic review process and we read every application, front to back. We want to know who you are, where you come from, what matters to you, and why. We also want to know that you know what makes Berkeley Law special:

- **You don't need to wait until your second year to make a difference.**

Our 40+ Student-Initiated Legal Services Projects let you dig into legal work in your first year — from the Tenants' Rights Workshop, to the Homelessness Service Project, to the Clean Energy Leaders in Law. You can also join 12 of our 13 journals during your first year, or try out for one of our advocacy competition teams.

- **We were among the very first law schools to recognize the need for a First Generation Professionals student organization.** This group offers community, alumni mentorship, social events, and support from faculty who are first-gen themselves.

- **The Berkeley Law faculty is second to none, and their doors are always open.** “The faculty here are extraordinary — I was not expecting to get lucky with such approachable, down-to-earth professors. There's never been a point at all in my two semesters where I've felt concerned or nervous about going to introduce myself to a professor or to go to their office hours or to ask them a question. They've always been incredibly welcoming.” — Ryan Campbell '24

- **We believe that law school is tough, but it doesn't have to be brutal.**

Our nontraditional grading system means students are focused on doing their best work, not doing better than their classmates.



“

*Coming into law school, I knew that I wanted to do public interest work, and it was important to me to be at a school where there was a strong public interest community of students and faculty, which is exactly what I found at Berkeley. All of the students I met were really thoughtful, passionate, and warm and it seemed like a great, supportive community. It's also hard to beat the Bay Area in terms of places to live, and I was excited about being in a fun urban area that still had great access to nature.*

— Claire Weintraub '23





# WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Our experiential education programs are designed to train effective, ethical, and reflective lawyers.

We offer a wide range of courses explicitly designed to introduce you to the theory and practice of professional lawyering. These include: clinics, practicums (in areas such as mediation, Ninth Circuit litigation, and veterans law), student-initiated pro bono work, and field placements. Our programs offer you the opportunity to roll up your sleeves, work with real clients, and put legal theory into human practice.

## Key skills you will develop

- legal research and professional writing
- counseling
- interviewing
- litigation strategy and casework
- transactional tactics
- negotiation
- mediation
- legal drafting
- legal problem solving
- legislative drafting & lobbying
- other legal practice skills

*Environmental Law Clinic students learn about land use and oil refinery pollution on a field trip to North Richmond, Calif.*

Photo credit: Brittany Hosea-Small





#### Experience Spotlight

## VIDEO STORYTELLING AS NEW DEFENSE STRATEGY

The Death Penalty Clinic continues to represent individuals facing capital punishment in states such as Alabama, Arizona, and California. Recently, the clinic has also written two reports — one of which led to a California law — investigating the history, legacy, and ongoing practice of excluding people of color from state juries through prosecutors’ peremptory challenges.

Instead of writing legal briefs last year some clinic students ended up behind a video camera, teaming up with Supervising Attorney Mridula Raman and Co-Director Ty Alper to produce a video requesting clemency for a longtime clinic client. This was the clinic’s first foray into this growing defense strategy, which gives attorneys a way to be creative outside of the rules and restrictions of formal legal pleadings.

“We have the time and resources to be creative and do things that not every team can do. It’s the benefit of having a clinic involved,” Raman says. “Our client’s story is incredibly distressing, moving, and compelling, and we thought it would be best conveyed visually on film. You can convey a lot more in two minutes on film than in many pages of reading.”

*Death Penalty Clinic students Dan Hilborn ’23, Myka Yamasaki ’23, and Paulina Montez ’23 (left to right) work on a video requesting clemency (a pardon or reduced sentence) for a longtime client facing execution — a new strategy for the clinic.*

“

*There aren’t any rules for where we are in our client’s case so we’ve taken advantage of that by doing this direct, captivating video. We’re able to develop a more robust clemency petition because we have the luxury of time and manpower in the clinic.*

— Leah Roemer ’23



# CLINICAL PROGRAM

We currently have 14 formal clinics designed to provide hands-on experience and first-rate legal services; six are in the law school, eight are in the community. These are directed by faculty members who are highly regarded experts in their fields and taken for course credit.

You'll learn the foundational law in a seminar, while receiving intensive one-on-one supervision throughout your clinic casework and advancing the public good.

**The Death Penalty Clinic** offers students a rich opportunity for meaningful training, seeks justice for individuals facing the death penalty by providing them with high-quality representation, and exposes problems endemic to the administration of capital punishment. *In recent years, students have contributed to the clinic's ongoing advocacy for three clients facing execution on Alabama's death row, investigating potential forensic claims, garnering support from unlikely voices across the political spectrum, and working with mental health experts to develop a clemency petition.*

**The Environmental Law Clinic** bolsters our environmental law program by providing live-client experience to students in litigation, administrative agency practice, legislation, and policy analysis. *Students recently helped draft a complaint to the United Nations about human rights violations from chemical contamination of drinking water in North Carolina's Cape Fear River that is sickening residents, and won a lawsuit against the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that will improve the agency's response to oil spills nationwide.*

**The International Human Rights Law Clinic** designs and implements creative solutions to advance the global struggle to protect human rights. Students work on individual cases and cutting-edge campaigns in California and globally. *Students helped hold U.S. law enforcement accountable for the extrajudicial killing of a migrant before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, investigate repression of human rights defenders, and strengthen the United Nations' response to the adverse human rights impacts of anti-terrorism measures.*

**The New Business Community Law Clinic** connects students with business startups and low-income entrepreneurs who cannot afford legal consultation — 80 percent of whom are people of color — offering students the chance to develop skills in transactional law. *Students helped address poverty in rural communities in California's Central Valley by offering free legal services to new business owners during twice-monthly visits.*

**The Policy Advocacy Clinic** uses teams of law and public policy students to pursue non-litigation strategies to address systemic racial and economic injustice. *As part of the national Debt Free Justice campaign, students supported successful campaigns in more than a dozen states to end regressive and racially discriminatory fees imposed on youth and their families in the juvenile system.*

**The Samuelson Law, Technology & Public Policy Clinic** gives students an opportunity to tackle the complexities of technology-related law. The clinic's mission is to support the public interest in technology law and policy and to teach students through work with real clients. *Students helped produce a report on juvenile electronic monitoring programs across California that impose significant burdens on families.*



“

*Clinics are labs of justice that are sites of innovation, and also places where students are given the building blocks for a career that has meaning, not just to them, but for their communities. There's no better place to learn lawyering skills.*

— Roxanna Altholz,  
Co-Director of the  
Clinical Program and  
the International Human  
Rights Law Clinic

**The East Bay Community Law Center (EBCLC)** is the community-based component of our Clinical Program, and trains students to provide legal services and policy advocacy that are at once innovative and responsive to the needs of low-income communities. As a women of color-led organization, EBCLC affirms that uplifting Black and brown women, who serve as the organization's primary clientele, will lead to more thriving, healthy, and dignified communities. There are eight EBCLC clinics:

**The Clean Slate Clinic** provides legal services at the intersection of criminal and employment law, representing clients on post-conviction record remedies in criminal court and engaging in local and statewide criminal justice reform, particularly as it relates to court debt and the criminalization of homelessness.

**The Community Economic Justice Clinic** provides legal, technical assistance to organizers in building community resources such as land trusts, cooperatives, and credit unions. It also advances community benefits and policies that build long-term solutions to poverty.

**The Consumer Justice Clinic** provides hands-on assistance and representation on a variety of consumer issues, including debt-collection defense, student loans, car fraud, predatory lending, and consumer scams.

**The Education Justice Clinic** and the **Youth Defender Clinic** work together to provide holistic representation to youth ensnared at the intersection of the juvenile legal and education systems, representing clients in delinquency, school expulsion, and special education matters.

**The Health and Welfare Clinic** provides critical legal services to individuals through medical-legal partnerships with local healthcare providers. The team works to provide stability for their clients at risk of poor health outcomes due to poverty, unsafe housing conditions, discrimination, homelessness, and/or inadequate health coverage.

**The Housing Clinic** is a high-volume, fast-paced litigation practice designed to protect and promote safe, healthy, and affordable housing for low-income tenants through eviction defense.

**The Immigration Law Clinic** provides holistic immigration legal services focusing on the most vulnerable populations — people with disabilities and chronic illness, members of the LGBTQ+ community, and youth through its kindergarten-to-college school-based immigration clinics.

**From July 2021-June 2023, EBCLC staff and clinic students helped achieve the following victories:**

250

tenants enabled to fight back against unlawful landlord harassment

\$1,000,000

in public benefits secured for clients and their families

640

applications filed for DACA renewals and other immigration relief

150

clients supported to navigate municipal fines and fees

5,400

critical legal services provided



“

*Black and Brown people are often referred to as ‘system impacted’ when in fact they are ‘system intended.’ Most of EBCLC’s clients are women of color, heads of households, aged 25-44 years old, and women with ambitions to launch their own businesses, organize movements, build homes, and lead full thriving lives. It is our honor to work on their team and, in doing so, work towards our collective liberation.*

— Zoë Polk, Executive Director, East Bay Community Law Center





#### Pro Bono Perspective

## DRAKE GOODSON '24

I chose Berkeley Law because I knew that my interests in law weren't just academic. Growing up in Alaska established the importance of protecting the environment and protecting resources for our communities.

I've seen how litigation from community organizations and tribes are able to halt mining developments in my region. I was able to join a Student-Initiated Legal Services Project and I got to start interfacing with community members in my first year, from helping communities understand how to transfer land to helping groups understand regulatory processes and file complaints with local agencies.

It helped me understand where I wanted to work in the summer and also what classes I wanted to take.

“

*I've seen how litigation from community organizations and tribes are able to halt mining developments in my region.*

# PRO BONO PROGRAM

Some schools have a pro bono requirement. Berkeley Law has a pro bono culture. Case in point: our 40+ Student-Initiated Legal Services Projects that let you gain client experience beginning as early as your first semester.

These projects are launched and led by students who have identified a legal need, secured supervising attorneys, and enlisted classmates to help meet that need in an underserved community. The projects address issues such as human trafficking, reproductive justice, housing and employment law, refugee assistance and other immigration issues, and criminal justice.

Want to pursue pro bono work outside of the Bay Area? Try BLAST! Our Berkeley Law Alternative Service Trips allow students to spend their spring break serving clients in different regions of the country. Past trips include Alaska, Atlanta, California's Central Valley, Hawaii, Kentucky, Mississippi, South Texas, and Tijuana, Mexico. Students engage in an intensive week of service on issues ranging from immigrants rights to environmental justice.

Another way students can engage in pro bono legal services is through Call for Necessary Engagement in Community & Timely Response (CNECT). These projects are initiated by our community partner legal services organizations, which identify legal needs students can respond to as they arise throughout the year.

## Some Recent Projects:

- Animal Law and Advocacy
- Arts and Innovation Representation
- Berkeley Immigration Group
- Berkeley Law Anti-Trafficking Project
- Berkeley Law and Organizing Collective
- California Asylum Representation Clinic
- Clean Energy Leaders in Law
- Consumer Protection Public Policy Order
- Community Defense Project
- Contra Costa Reentry Project
- Defense Project
- Digital Rights Project
- Disability Rights Project
- East Bay Dreamers Project
- Environmental Conservation Outreach
- Food Justice Project
- Foster Education Project
- Family Defense Project
- Gun Violence Prevention Project
- Homelessness Service Project
- International Human Rights Workshop
- International Refugee Assistance Project
- La Alianza Workers' and Tenants' Rights Clinic
- Legal Automation Workshop
- Legal Obstacles Veterans Encounter
- Name and Gender Change Workshop
- Native American Legal Assistance Project
- Palestine Advocacy Legal Assistance Project
- Police Review Project
- Reentry Advocacy Project
- Reproductive Justice Project
- Startup Law Initiative
- Survivor Advocacy Project
- Tenants' Rights Workshop
- Workers' Rights Clinic
- Youth Advocacy Project



“

*I am an East Bay Area native, the daughter of immigrants, and the first person in my family to be born in the U.S. Part of my motivation in attending Berkeley Law was to serve the immigrant community that raised me, and I am so grateful to be able to do that through Berkeley Law's Pro Bono Program. I loved that I got to participate in pro bono work during the first semester of my 1L year because it grounded me in the reasons that I came to law school.*

— Emily Chuah '24



## Alumni Spotlight

When Thelton Eugene Henderson graduated from Berkeley Law in 1962, he was one of just two Black students in his class. It was a launching pad for a legendary career: As the first Black attorney at the U.S. Justice Department's Civil Rights Division in the early 1960s, he routinely faced dangerous, racially charged situations while confronting unjust voting rights practices in the Deep South, alongside everyday citizens and visionaries like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. In 1980, President Jimmy Carter appointed him to the federal bench, where he championed transformative justice for nearly four decades.

Berkeley Law students eager to aid the disadvantaged — and continue his legacy — gravitate toward the Thelton E. Henderson Center for Social Justice, home of the school's active, diverse, and ever-growing social justice community.

“

*From every great struggle great leaders emerge.*

— Honorable Thelton E. Henderson '62

Former Chief Justice of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California





#### Student Perspective

## GABRIELLE CIRELLI '24

From a young age, I witnessed my family's involvement working and volunteering with our tribe. Throughout my childhood, my family would often visit our ancestral homeland of Upper Lake, Calif., to attend tribal meetings, community events, and family gatherings. I have many fond memories of spending summer afternoons on the lake with my cousins and discussing the tribe in the evenings over dinner.

I was always inspired hearing about how my tribe achieved federal recognition, its growth and prosperity, and how my family's continued involvement has assisted the tribe in reaching

new heights. It was from these family trips and dinner conversations that my interest in working with my tribe grew.

Serving on the Constitutional Review Committee (CRC) for three years has been rewarding and challenging. With tribal members being from different generations, each group has varying thoughts on what changes, if any, should be made to the constitution. Incorporating feedback from tribal members and balancing different views, working with attorneys, ensuring tribal members know what the proposed amendments mean for the tribe's future, and ensuring the constitution can support the tribe in the years to come is no small task.

Despite the challenges, I view working with the CRC as my way of ensuring the Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake will continue to exist and prosper for future generations. It is also my small way of honoring those before me. My great-grandmother, great-aunt, grandfather, mother, aunts, uncles, and countless cousins have and continue to support our tribe. Working on the CRC is my way of ensuring their legacy and hard work continues.

“

*I was interested in the legal field but did not think I could work with my tribe in a related capacity. After speaking with one of the tribe's attorneys and my family members, I decided to join the Constitutional Review Committee.*



# FIELD PLACEMENT PROGRAM

## Learning to work and working to learn.

Second- and third-year students gain experience, academic credit, and key connections in our Field Placement Program. Students work with supervising attorneys in public interest organizations, government agencies, and judicial chambers in the San Francisco Bay Area, domestically and internationally.

**Civil Field Placements:** These placements offer experiential learning opportunities in many areas, including civil rights, consumer protection, domestic violence, employment, environmental, health, housing, human rights, immigration, poverty, and transgender rights.

**Judicial Externships:** Students conduct full-time or part-time legal work for local, state, or federal judges, in chambers throughout the San Francisco Bay Area and beyond.

**Criminal Field Placements:** Students engage in criminal legal work for district attorney offices, public defender offices, and criminally related nonprofits and government agencies.

**Away Field Placements:** Students receive up to 12 units of academic credit during a semester for legal work with approved NGOs/nonprofits and government agencies across the country and around the world.

**UCDC Law Program:** This semester externship in Washington, D.C., allows students to gain legal experience in person and remotely (for part-time opportunities) with all three federal government branches, regulatory agencies, and advocacy nonprofits. The externship is in conjunction with a course component composed of guest speakers, readings, and topics relevant to the federal government.



*Jenisha Sabaratnam '23,  
UCDC Law Program  
extern at the U.S.  
Environmental  
Protection Agency,  
spring 2023*



“

*My semester experiences with a federal judge and a U.S. Attorney's Office provided me with some of the most valuable learning experiences of my law school career — cementing prior classroom instruction through practical application, immersing me in the mechanics of litigation, and providing me with the opportunity to do public service while still a law student.*

— Connor Kennedy '23

## Domestic Examples

### Public Interest

- American Civil Liberties Union
- Earthjustice
- Electronic Frontier Foundation
- Legal Aid at Work
- Pac-12 Conference
- Transgender Gender-Variant and Intersex Justice Project

### Government

- California Attorney General's Office
- Federal Trade Commission
- County District Attorney and U.S. Attorney offices
- County, state and federal public defender offices
- San Francisco City Attorney's Office
- Securities and Exchange Commission
- U.S. Department of Justice

### Courts

- California: Supreme Court, Court of Appeal, and Superior Court
- Federal: U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit, and U.S. District Court, Northern District of California
- Administrative Courts: U.S. Department of Justice and Department of Labor

# GO GLOBAL

Berkeley Law students have externed in over 22 states and 30 countries around the world. **They have worked on every continent, except Antarctica.**

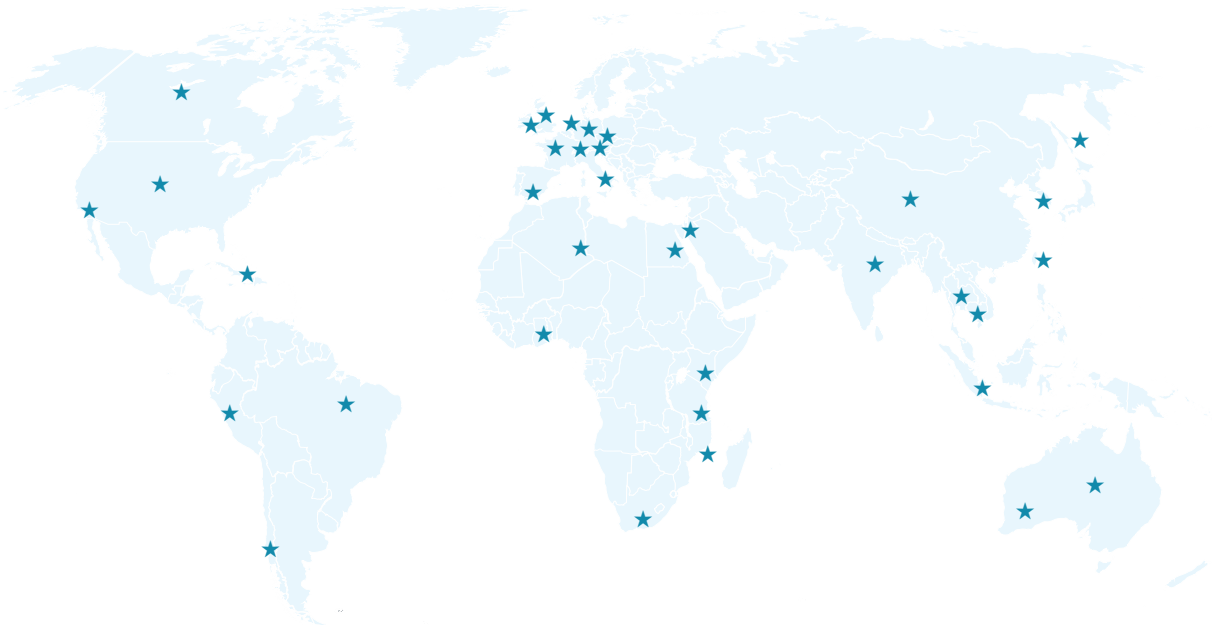
Among several options to work internationally is the INHR Program. This full-year program directed by a former U.S. diplomat includes a fall course followed by a spring semester spent in Geneva working as a student legal advisor to a United Nations delegation from a developing country.



“*Doing a legal services field placement in New York City allowed me to see a new area of law and gain confidence and perspective as I begin my legal career. It was one of the highlights of law school for me and I was especially happy to be doing impactful work back in my home state!*”  
— Mia Collins '23

*2022-2023 INHR Field Placement students Emma Burke, Amanda Colding, Sinead Foley, Alexandra Sasse, Stephanie Spear, class of 2024, at the gate to the U.N.'s Palais des Nations in Geneva (left). Student Amanda Colding with Ambassador Muhammadou M.O. Kah, Permanent Mission of The Gambia (right).*

See the stars below for all of the places our students have traveled for field placements.





# ADVOCACY PRACTICE

Want to build your professional advocacy abilities outside the classroom? Consider our wide variety of advocacy competitions available to students as early as their 1L year. Students develop key skills as they step into the shoes of a lawyer in these hypothetical legal scenarios.

**Internal Competitions**

Introductory and advanced opportunities are available! Designed exclusively for Berkeley Law students, these experiences provide a space to hone your skills in the areas of appellate law, negotiations, and trial advocacy.

**Regularly Offered**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bales Trial Competition: an introductory tournament designed for 1Ls and focused on criminal law</li><li>• Halloum Business Competition: an advanced transactional tournament that pairs Berkeley Law students with Berkeley Haas MBA students</li><li>• Halloum Negotiation Competition: an introductory tournament designed for 1Ls and focused on a complex business deal</li><li>• McBaine Honors Moot Court</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Competition: an advanced appellate tournament designed to test and hone students' written and oral appellate advocacy skills</li><li>• Pahlke Internal Trial Competition: an advanced trial tournament for Trial Team members</li><li>• Pircher, Nichols &amp; Meeks Joint Venture Challenge: a simulated real estate deal negotiation with Berkeley Law, Haas MBA, and Environmental Design students</li></ul> |
|--|---|

**External Competitions**

Students who want to expand on their skills can participate in our external competitions program through the student-run Board of Advocates. These teams travel across the country and receive extensive coaching from professors, practitioners, and fellow students. Our students frequently thrive at regional, national, and international events and consistently out-perform other top law schools.

**Recently Attended**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ABA Representation in Mediation Competition</li><li>• ABA Negotiations Competition</li><li>• National Sports Law Negotiation Competition</li><li>• CLA Environmental Negotiations Competition</li><li>• Jeffrey G. Miller Pace National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition</li><li>• Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ABA National Appellate Advocacy Competition</li><li>• National Moot Court Competition</li><li>• Roger J. Traynor California Appellate Moot Court Competition</li><li>• National Civil Trial Competition</li><li>• TYLA National Trial Competition</li><li>• AAJ National Student Trial Advocacy Competition</li><li>• Top Gun National Mock Trial Competition</li><li>• NBTA Tournament of Champions</li></ul> |
|--|--|

*Miles Jasper '23 (right) makes a point during the Tulane Professional Basketball Negotiation Competition in New Orleans. Jasper (named Best Advocate at the event), Nilam Faqhir '23 (left), and Andrea Zachrich '22 (center) won the team championship.*



#### Advocacy Competitions Spotlight

## SLAM DUNK: BERKELEY LAW STUDENT TEAM BESTS 43 OTHERS TO WIN PRO BASKETBALL NEGOTIATION COMPETITION

The Berkeley Law Advocacy Competitions Program recently took home first-place honors at The Negotiation Challenge (international), Tulane Pro Basketball Negotiation Competition (national), and Traynor California Appellate Moot Court Competition (state).

“

*This competition completely altered my career trajectory as I've been able to break into the basketball operations side. I have a job offer with an NBA team under their salary cap/basketball strategy group next school year, with the potential for a full-time offer. Now the pro sports and big law pathways are both available to me, which I'm truly grateful for.*

— Miles Jasper '23



# COLLABORATION EXAMINES THE PATH TO RESPONSIBLE AI

As the rapid development of AI challenges conventional borders and classifications, hype and fear are competing for the dominant public narrative. But what are the best ways to fight hyperbole and promote responsible innovation?

The Berkeley Center for Law & Technology (BCLT), based at Berkeley Law, and the CITRIS Policy Lab at the Center for Information Technology Research in the Interest of Society and the Banatao Institute (CITRIS), which draws from expertise on the UC campuses at Berkeley, Davis, Merced, and Santa Cruz, are teaming up to help answer that difficult question.

The Artificial Intelligence, Platforms, and Society Project, co-led by CITRIS Policy Lab Director and Goldman School of Public Policy Associate Research Professor Brandie Nonnecke and Berkeley Law Professor Tejas N. Narechania, will also work with researchers from Berkeley's policy, information, and engineering schools.

The project is an independent forum for students, academics, practitioners, and technology companies to explore the best ways to support responsible development

and use of AI, including the role of the private sector as well as potential state, federal, and international regulation. It will also offer a community for practicing attorneys to better understand current issues, as well as support research, training, and a fellowship program — and further plant BCLT at the top of the technology law and policy landscape.

“It’s really important that we get a handle on the governance questions ahead of time, and start to think about how we’re going to answer them,” Narechania says.

The AI project complements and broadens the reach of two other initiatives the center has developed in recent years: The Asia IP & Technology Law Project and the Life Sciences Project. The aim is to go beyond the rhetoric and theory and focus on three main areas: General AI governance, how platforms can and should use the technology, and how these new tools, in concert with public data, can be used to ethically address pressing problems in law.

“It’s a unique opportunity to combine two strengths of the university: Its world-class engineering institution with the best public policy and law schools in the country,” Narechania says. “And the public-oriented mindset of the university is important here, too — we’re really going to focus on the public’s interests, and think through, for example, questions of democratic governance and public accountability for these large-scale systems that have such wide effects.”

“

*This is a major extension of what we’re doing as a law school. These three projects together really lead us to overlapping circles, so you can look at AI and drug development, or what’s happening with AI and China. This combination gives us the ability to find real intersections.*

— BCLT Executive Director  
Wayne Stacy

## **Research Centers & Programs**

Berkeley Law is home to more than two dozen research centers and initiatives where faculty and researchers seek solutions to wide-ranging challenges, from developing business strategies to combating climate change to safeguarding intellectual property in the global economy.

### **Anglo-American Studies Program**

Working to widen and deepen campus interest and knowledge of British affairs and their implications for the United States.

### **Berkeley Center for Consumer Law & Economic Justice**

Advocating to ensure safe, equal, and fair access to the marketplace.

### **Berkeley Center for Law and Business**

The hub of Berkeley Law's cutting-edge research and teaching on the impact of law on business and national and global economies.

### **Berkeley Center for Law & Technology**

Promoting the understanding and guiding the development of intellectual property and related fields of law and policy as they intersect with business, science, and technology.

### **Berkeley Center for Private Law Theory**

Fostering insights into the legal building blocks of our social and economic life, including the laws of property, contracts, and torts as well as central aspects of family law, trust law, and work law.

### **Berkeley Center on Comparative Equality & Anti-Discrimination Law**

A group of scholars, activists, and legal professionals from six continents working together to address the equality issues of the day.

### **Berkeley Judicial Institute**

Building bridges between judges and academics to promote an ethical, resilient, and independent judiciary.

### **Robert D. Burch Center for Tax Policy & Public Finance**

Promoting and disseminating research in tax policy and public finance to help stimulate informed discussion of tax policies of national significance.

### **California Constitution Center**

The first and only center at any law school devoted exclusively to studying the constitution and high court of the state of California.

### **Center for Law, Energy & the Environment**

Fostering environmental law and policy research and translating it into pragmatic solutions.

### **Center for Law and Work**

Promoting cross-disciplinary scholarship to address the pressing employment-related policy concerns of today.

### **Center on Race, Sexuality & Culture**

Examining contemporary questions of identity and discrimination through the lens of intersectionality, considering how race, gender, and sexual orientation overlap to produce distinct experiences of vulnerability and resilience.

### **Center on Reproductive Rights and Justice**

Broadening the conversation on reproductive rights and choices through legal scholarship, teaching, and conferences, and by bolstering law and policy advocacy efforts.

### **Center for the Study of Law and Society**

Fostering empirical research and theoretical analysis concerning legal institutions, legal processes, legal change, and the social consequences of law.

### **Civil Justice Research Initiative**

Using interdisciplinary, academically based, and independent research to explore how the civil justice system can be made more available to everyone seeking relief.

### **Criminal Law & Justice Center**

A research and advocacy hub striving to transform the criminal legal system by centering the lived experience of communities most directly affected, providing support for impactful teaching, empirical analysis, and pragmatic training in criminal legal reform.

### **Helen Diller Institute for Jewish Law and Israel Studies**

Developing opportunities for research, programming, scholars, and classes to strengthen academic inquiry and discourse related to Jewish and Israeli topics across the Berkeley campus.

### **The Election Administration Research Center**

Working to improve the administration of elections, both within the U.S. and internationally, through research, education, training, technical assistance, and public outreach.

### **Thelton E. Henderson Center for Social Justice**

Producing and fostering creative scholarship examining the law through a lens of social justice and working with communities to provide education to the general public.

### **Human Rights Center**

Promoting human rights and international justice worldwide and training the next generation of human rights researchers and advocates.

### **Institute for Legal Research**

Combining research, teaching, and public service in constitutional law and history, criminal justice, and environmental law and policy. Home to the Sho Sato Program in Japanese and U.S. Law and the Constitutional Law and History and Environmental Law and Policy programs.

### **Kadish Center for Morality, Law & Public Affairs**

Promoting research and reflection on moral philosophical issues in law and public life, with special concern for the substantive aspects of criminal law.

### **Korea Law Center**

Addressing the development of the Korean legal, constitutional, and political systems by bringing together scholars, judges, and others to foster a robust exchange of ideas.

### **Law, Economics, and Politics Center**

Advancing interdisciplinary scholarship, ideas, and discussion in law, policy, economics, business, and government.

### **The Honorable G. William and Ariadna Miller Institute for Global Challenges and the Law**

Supporting populations overlooked or unprotected by existing legal infrastructure, with a global focus on climate and energy justice, corruption, the rule of law, and human rights.

### **Public Law and Policy Program**

Highlighting scholarship on issues of constitutional and administrative law and the judicial and legislative process.

### **The Robbins Collection**

Promoting and sponsoring comparative research and study in the fields of religious and civil law, including Jewish and Islamic law and the various Christian traditions.

### **Statewide Database**

The redistricting database for the State of California and a nonpartisan resource on census data, elections and election data, districting on all levels, and voting rights.

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### **Launching soon: Center for Indigenous Law and Justice**









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*Coming in, I knew Berkeley had a strong commitment to pro bono and public interest work. But the extensive opportunities that were available to me as a 1L blew me away. Being able to simultaneously develop national reproductive justice legal strategy while helping local families assert their tenant and employment rights has been one of the most meaningful experiences I have ever had.*

— Jordan Hefcart '25

*Pro Bono Program student leaders gather for an orientation during the 2022-23 school year.*

Photo credit: Darius Riley



# 1L

## First year

- Civil Procedure
- Contracts
- Criminal Law
- Legal Research & Writing
- Torts
- Written & Oral Advocacy
- Electives

We recommend Constitutional Law and one other elective.

# 2L/3L

## Upper Division

The second- and third-year curriculum offers a variety of topics and course styles, including seminars, individual and group research projects, clinical work, and judicial externships. Students construct their upper-level schedules around their own interests and a few fundamental graduation requirements: Constitutional Law (which most upper-level students have completed already as a 1L elective), a course on professional responsibility, six units of experiential coursework, one or more classes to satisfy our writing requirement, and two units of coursework focusing on how laws and legal institutions shape and are shaped by racism and other forms of systemic inequality.

## Academic Skills Program

Berkeley Law is committed to fostering an academic environment where all students can thrive. Our Academic Skills Program (ASP) — offering individual advising, small group workshops led by upperclass fellows, and skills-focused courses — helps students build the skills critical to success in law school and in practice. ASP is open to everyone.

## Curriculum

# WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?

Berkeley Law offers a solid academic foundation, whether you're aiming for corporate litigation, public interest law, criminal prosecution, international law, or any of a dozen other fields. But the foundation is just the base. You can build anything on it.

## Courses by Subject

Our curriculum is rich in traditional subjects as well as innovative and specialized courses like the ones listed here. Course descriptions and requirements may change; not all courses are offered every year.

### Business, Law & Economics

Advanced IT Contracts: Drafting and Negotiating  
Advanced Topics in Corporate Governance: A Comparative Analysis of the U.S. and Asia  
Advanced Topics in Delaware Corporate Law  
An Interdisciplinary Approach to Land Development and Investment  
Antitrust Law  
Antitrust and Innovation  
Antitrust and Technology Platforms  
Bankruptcy Law  
Being General Counsel  
Business Associations  
Business Basics for Lawyers  
Business Strategy in the Global Political Economy  
Business in Society  
Climate Change and Corporate Governance Reform  
Communication Skills for Business Lawyers  
Consumer Financial Regulation  
Contracts and Sales for LL.M. Students  
Corporate Finance  
Disruptive Technologies & Regulation  
Economics of Corporate and Securities Litigation  
Empirical Methods for Lawyers  
Executive Compensation: Legal Fundamentals and Practical Application  
FinTech: Tools for Analyzing New Financial Products  
Financial Management of Nonprofits  
Fundamentals of Leveraged Buyouts

IPOs and Going Public Transactions  
International Antitrust Law  
International Business Transactions  
Introduction to Financial Accounting  
Introduction to the New Financial Regulation  
Law, Accounting, and Business Workshop  
Law, Economics and Accounting Workshop  
Mergers & Acquisitions  
M&A on the Ground: Hostiles, Proxy Fights and the M&A Ecosystem  
Mergers, Market Power and Monopoly in U.S. Antitrust Law  
Negotiating Hollywood Contracts  
Real Estate Transactions and Litigation  
Regulation of Capital Markets and Financial Institutions  
Representing Professional Athletes  
Secured Transactions - Article 9  
Securities Regulation  
Selected Topics in Venture Capital  
Social Enterprise Law  
Sports Law  
Sports Law: Evolving Topics  
Structuring and Negotiating Complex Financial Transactions  
Structuring for Impact: Exploring the Role of Tax Exempt Organizations & Hybrid Structures  
Sustainable Capitalism & ESG  
Taxation of Modern Financial Products  
The Court of Public Opinion: Storytelling for Corporate Lawyers  
Transactional Litigation in Practice  
Transactional Practice for 1Ls  
Venture Capital Deal Bootcamp  
Venture Capital Finance

Venture Funds: Structuring, Advising and Regulating

### **Clinics & Field Placements**

Away Field Placements  
Berkeley Law in The Hague  
Civil Field Placement  
Criminal Field Placements  
Death Penalty Clinic  
Domestic Violence Field Placement  
East Bay Community Law Center  
Environmental Field Placement  
Environmental Law Clinic  
International Human Rights Law Clinic  
Judicial Externships  
New Business Community Law Clinic  
Policy Advocacy Clinic  
Samuelson Law, Technology & Public Policy Clinic  
UCDC Law Field Placements

### **Criminal Law**

California Prisons and Discretionary Parole  
Capital Punishment and the Constitution Seminar  
Criminal Justice Theory  
Criminal Procedure - Adjudication  
Criminal Procedure - Investigations  
Criminal Trial Practice  
Crimmigration  
Dismantling Mass Incarceration  
Police Interrogations: A Comparative Perspective  
Police Use of Force in the 21st Century  
Post-Conviction Remedies  
Where Civil and Criminal Laws Collide  
White Collar Crime  
Youth Justice Law, Practice, and Policy

### **Environmental Law**

A Just Transition to Clean Energy  
Biodiversity Law  
Climate Change and the Law  
Energy Law and Policy  
Energy Project Development & Finance  
Environmental Health Law Through Film  
Environmental Justice in Practice  
Environmental Justice: Race, Class, and the Environment  
Environmental Law & Policy  
Environmental Law Colloquium  
Environmental Law Writing Seminar  
Environmental Law and Policy  
Environmental Transactional Law  
Fire Science, Law, and Policy  
International Environmental Law  
Land-Use Law  
Ocean and Coastal Law  
Pathways to Carbon Neutrality  
Renewable Energy Law and Policy  
Science and Regulatory Policy  
The Supreme Court and Emerging Developments in Environmental Law  
Water Law

### **Family Law**

Domestic Violence Law Seminar  
Domestic Violence Field Placement  
Family Law  
Litigating Children's Civil Rights:  
The Immigration Crisis  
Reproductive Rights and Justice  
Youth Justice Law, Practice, and Policy

### **International & Comparative Legal Studies**

Anti-Corruption Compliance  
Asylum/Refugee Law and Process  
Canon Law  
Colloquium on International Law and Politics  
Comparative Constitutional Law  
Comparative Civil Litigation  
Disputes with Sovereigns  
Forced Migration  
Foreign Investment Arbitration Seminar  
Human Rights and Social Justice Writing Workshop  
Human Rights and War Crimes Investigations  
International & Foreign Legal Research  
International Commercial Arbitration Seminar  
International Human Rights  
INHR: Geneva Advanced Field Placement Seminar  
International Law  
International Litigation and Arbitration  
International Organizations  
International Trade  
International and Foreign Legal Research  
Introduction to Comparative Law  
Introduction to Roman Law  
Introduction to Sub-Saharan African Legal Systems  
Islamic Law  
Self Determination of Peoples in International Law  
Technology and Human Rights

### **Jurisprudence & Social Policy (JSP)**

*\* open only to students accepted as BELS Fellows*

*\*\* open only to first-year JSP Ph.D. students*

Advanced Interdisciplinary Workshop on Law  
Berkeley Empirical Legal Studies Seminar\*  
Citizenship and Immigration  
Criminal Law Theory  
Critical Theory and Social Science Method  
Foundations of Moral Philosophy  
JSP Orientation Seminar\*\*  
Law & Classical Social Theory  
Law & History Foundation Seminar  
Law and Order  
Law and Politics Foundation Seminar  
Teaching Learning in Higher Education

Quantitative Approaches to Law & Social Science  
Workshop in Law, Philosophy & Political Theory

### **Law & Technology and Intellectual Property**

Art and Cultural Property Law  
Berkeley IP Practicum  
Biotechnology Law  
The Business of Intellectual Property  
California Privacy Law  
Computer Crime Law  
Computer Law  
Computer Programming for Lawyers  
Copyright Law  
Copyright, Competition, and Technology  
Cybersecurity Law and Policy  
Entertainment Law in the TV Industry  
Fundamentals of Technology Transactions  
Future of Cybersecurity Workshop  
Hate Speech, Disinformation, and Online Harassment: Regulation of and by Internet Platforms  
Information Privacy Law  
Intellectual Property Law  
IP Remedies  
Law and Technology Writing Workshop  
Life Sciences and Innovation Workshop  
Music Law Practice  
Name, Image & Likeness Practicum and Seminar  
Patent Law  
Patent Litigation  
Patent Litigation II: PTAB and ITC  
Preparing to Practice Patent Law  
Privacy Counseling & Compliance  
Regulated Digital Industries: Telecommunications Law & Policy for a Modern Era  
Secrecy: The Use and Abuse of Information Control in the Courts  
Social Justice Issues in Entertainment and Media  
Space Law  
Technological Disruption and Social Justice for LL.M.s  
Technology for Lawyers  
Technology and Human Rights  
Topics in Pharmaceutical Policy: The Case of Biotherapeutics  
Topics in Privacy and Security Law  
Trade Secret Law  
Trademark Law  
Trademark Practice  
Transnational Intellectual Property Law  
Video Game Law  
Wine Law



## How do grades and exams work at Berkeley Law?

We have anonymous grading at Berkeley Law. Students are assigned a unique exam number for every exam. We grade on a curved, but not an A-F letter grade system. Instead, students receive High Honors (HH), Honors (H), or Pass (P). It is possible to receive a sub-passing grade.

## Does Berkeley Law rank?

Berkeley Law does not rank its students. However, each summer rising 2Ls, rising 3Ls, and recent graduates will be sent an email from the Senior Director of Student Services notifying them that their academic distinctions are available. Information about students' academic honors shall be made available solely for the purpose of aiding students who are applying for judicial clerkships and academic positions. Revealing the distinction in any other context is a violation of the honor code.

Academic distinctions are awarded to the Top 3 students (Berkeley Law Scholars), Top 5%, Top 10%, Top 15%, Top 25%, and Top 33% in each class based upon one academic year of grades.

## Curriculum continued

### Legal Ethics & Professional Responsibility

Legal Profession  
Practical Legal Ethics  
The U.S. Legal Profession: Professional Responsibility in Global Perspective  
Understanding the U.S. Legal Profession

### Litigation & Procedure

Ninth Circuit Practicum  
Advanced Ninth Circuit Practicum  
Advanced Civil Procedure: Complex Litigation  
Civil Procedure for LL.M. Students  
Civil Procedure: Critical and Traditional Perspectives  
Conflict of Laws  
Evidence  
Federal Courts  
Impact Litigation: In California Courts  
Litigating Class Actions Remedies  
Suing Corporations  
Working with Spanish-Speaking Clients

### Public Law & Policy

Administrative Law  
Advanced Constitutional Law: Separation of Powers  
Advanced Constitutional Law: Federalism  
Bioethics: From Nuremberg to Modern Times  
California Constitutional Law  
Civil Rights and Anti-Discrimination Law  
Colloquium on the Court and Judicial Process  
Constitution in the Early Republic  
Constitution in War Time  
Constitutional Law  
Constitutional Litigation  
Current Topics in National Security Law  
Dangers of the Administrative State  
Democracy and the First Amendment  
Education Law and Policy  
Election Law  
Federal Indian Law  
Federal Indian Law: Selected Topics  
The Federalist and Anti-Federalist Papers  
First Amendment  
How to Think and Write Like a Judge  
Immigration Law  
Introduction to Statutory Interpretation in the Regulatory State for 1Ls  
Introduction to the Supreme Court for 1Ls  
Law, Public Health, and Police Use of Force  
Law in Media  
Legislation and Statutory Interpretation  
Local Government Law  
Marijuana Law and Policy  
Media Law and the First Amendment  
National Security Law: A Practitioner's Perspective  
Navigating U.S. Healthcare Law  
Presidents and Policy  
Public Law and Policy Workshop

Statutory Implementation: Agency Policymaking through Regulation  
Strategic Constitutional Litigation in Property Rights and Economic Liberty  
Statutory Interpretation and Legislation Workshop  
Strategy: Theory, Law, and Policy  
Supreme Court Seminar  
The Legacy of Ruth Bader Ginsburg  
Whistleblower Law: Detering Fraud Against the Government

### Race and Law

Advanced Civil Rights  
Advanced East Bay Community Law Center Clinic  
Advanced Policy Advocacy Clinic  
Angel Island: Legal Histories  
Anti-Blackness and the Law  
Asian Americans and the Law  
Civil Rights and Anti-Discrimination Law  
Comparative Equality Practicum  
Constitutional Law  
Court of Public Opinion: Advocacy Outside the Courtroom  
Criminal Justice Theory  
Criminal Procedure - Adjudication  
Criminal Procedure - Investigations  
Critical Race Theory  
Death Penalty Clinic  
Debt, Discrimination, and Inequality  
Dismantling Mass Incarceration  
Domestic Violence Law Seminar  
East Bay Community Law Center Clinic  
Election Law  
Employment Discrimination  
Employment Law  
Environmental Justice in Practice  
Environmental Justice: Race, Class, and the Environment  
Environmental Law Clinic  
Environmental Law Through Film  
Federal Indian Law  
Forced Migration  
Immigration Law  
International Human Rights Clinic  
Law and History Foundation Seminar  
Litigating Children's Civil Rights:  
The Immigration Crisis  
Movement Lawyering from the Inside Out for 1Ls  
New Business Community Law Clinic  
New Business Legal Bootcamp  
Policy Advocacy Clinic  
Policing Families  
Public Health Law  
Reproductive Rights and Justice  
Social Justice Issues in Entertainment and Media Law  
Student Loan Law  
The Court of Public Opinion:  
Advocacy Outside of the Courtroom  
Transgender Rights & The Law  
Working with Spanish-Speaking Clients  
Youth Justice Law, Practice, and Policy

## Simulation Courses

Advanced Criminal Trial Practice  
Advanced Legal Research  
Advanced Legal Research - Pathfinder  
Advanced Legal Writing  
Advanced Legal Writing: Transnational Litigation  
Appellate Advocacy  
Appellate Competition Intensive  
Business Negotiations  
California Trial Practice  
Civil Trial Practice  
Criminal Trial Practice  
The Court of Public Opinion: Advocacy Outside of the Courtroom  
Depositions  
Drafting and Negotiating Sports Law Contracts  
Economic Expert Witnesses: Depositions and Testimony  
How to Ask a Question  
Hypothetical Test Course  
International Business Negotiations  
Introduction to Trial Practice for 1Ls  
Lawyering as Problem Solving  
Legislative Drafting and Lobbying  
Listening and Communicating: Stagecraft for Lawyers  
Litigation 101  
McBaine Honors Moot Court Competition  
Mediation  
Mediation Advocacy  
Mediation Practicum  
Mindfulness Based Conflict Resolution Negotiations  
Negotiations Competition Intensive  
New Business Legal Bootcamp  
Oral Advocacy for LL.M. Students  
Pretrial Civil Litigation  
Pretrial Civil Written Discovery Theory, Practice, and Procedure  
Structural Change in Public Education Seminar  
Transactional Drafting  
Transactional Drafting for LL.M. Students  
Trial Competition  
Understanding and Drafting Business Documents  
Working with Spanish-Speaking Clients

## Social Justice & Public Interest

Advanced Civil Rights  
Animal Law  
Advanced Veterans Law Practicum  
Angel Island: Legal Histories  
Anti-Blackness and the Law  
Asian Americans and the Law  
Asylum Law Practicum  
Civil Rights and Anti-Discrimination Law  
Comparative Equality Practicum  
Comparative Consumer Law for LL.M.s  
Consumer Law and Economic Justice Workshop

Consumer Litigation: The Course of a Case  
Consumer Protection Law  
Credit Reporting and Economic Justice  
Critical Theories of Law: Race, Gender, and Sexuality for 1Ls  
Debt, Discrimination, and Inequality  
Disability Rights  
Dismantling Mass Incarceration  
Food Justice  
Housing Litigation and Policy  
Illuminating and Dismantling the School to Prison Pipeline in California  
Lawyering in the Public Interest/Public Sector World  
Litigating Children's Rights  
Mental Health and the Law  
Movement Lawyering from the Inside Out for 1Ls  
Negotiating Trauma, Emotions & the Practice of Law  
Organizing for Reproductive Rights and Justice  
Policing Families  
Poverty Law and Policy  
Public Health Law  
Race and American Law  
Race, Sexuality, and the Law  
Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and the Law  
Social Justice Issues in Entertainment and Media Law  
State and Local Impact Litigation Practicum  
Student Loan Law  
Transgender Rights & The Law  
Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Case  
Veterans Law Practicum  
Women's Leadership in the Law  
Working with Spanish-Speaking Clients

## Tax, Estates & Trusts

Corporate Tax  
Estates and Trusts  
Income Tax  
International Tax Law  
Partnership Tax  
Tax Policy and Public Finance  
Taxation of Modern Financial Products

## Work Law

California Wage and Hour Law  
Current Issues in Work Law  
Employee Benefits Law  
Employment Law  
Employment Arbitration  
Employment Discrimination  
Labor and Employment Arbitration  
Labor Law  
Labor and Employment Arbitration  
Representing Low-Wage Workers  
Satisfaction in Law and Life

## Student-Published Journals

California Law Review  
Ecology Law Quarterly  
Berkeley Technology Law Journal  
Berkeley Journal of Employment and Labor Law  
Berkeley Journal of International Law  
Berkeley Journal of Gender, Law & Justice  
Berkeley Journal of African American Law & Policy  
Berkeley La Raza Journal  
Asian American Law Journal  
Berkeley Journal of Criminal Law  
Berkeley Business Law Journal  
Berkeley Journal of Middle Eastern & Islamic Law  
Berkeley Journal of Entertainment & Sports Law



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*Law journals are unique in that they enable students to engage on an equal footing as professors when it comes to determining what legal scholarship to publish. The California Law Review has been cited over 200 times by the U.S. Supreme Court. It's a privilege to be able to contribute to an effort that's having a very tangible impact on the legal landscape for everyone, literally around the world.*

— Tyler Takemoto '22

# WHAT INSPIRES YOU?

The Bay Area is as rich in natural wonders as it is with world-class eateries and cultural history. UC Berkeley's main campus, set on 178 park-like acres, is world renowned as a paragon of learning and research and has been home to 26 Nobel laureates. San Francisco sparkles across the bay with all its diverse offerings, but you can walk, hike, bike, or eat your way to hundreds of spots within a mile of campus — or venture out and discover the magic California has to offer.

Keep up with the latest news from our community and see more of what life is like as a student at #BerkeleyLaw by following us on social media.

f @UCBERKELEYLAW      Other affiliated channels:  
 @BERKELEYLAW      @DEANALVAREZ\_BERKELEYLAW  
 @BERKELEYLAW      @BERKELEYLAWPROBONO  
 @BERKELEYLAW  
 @UCBERKELEYLAW



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*A big differentiator for Berkeley is its exposure to the tech world. People come to Berkeley from all over to do tech law and tech law adjacent work. The access is amazing. You can go drive by Google's, Facebook's, Apple's headquarters — it's not like some figment of your imagination.*

— Alex Wolff '24





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*Being at Berkeley has allowed me to find a healthy balance of caring about my education but also developing really meaningful friendships and community that allow you to have a fully holistic law school experience.*

— Sewit Beraki '24, sitting with Kendrick Peterson '24, 2022–23 Student Association at Berkeley Law (SABL) Co-Presidents

Photo credits: Chiagoziem Mark Aneke, Laurie Frasier, Brittany Hosea-Small, and Anya Ku



# CAREER DEVELOPMENT

The legal job market is complex and ever-changing. Our expert team is here to help demystify the job search process and provide customized counseling and support to students no matter what their career goals may be.

93%

Overall 2022 bar passage for first-time takers

96%

Number of graduates employed nine months after graduation

\$205K

Median Salary (91% of Salaries Reported)

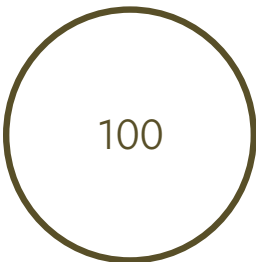
Wherever you go, a Berkeley Law graduate will be nearby. That's because nearly 17,000 alumni live and work in all 50 states and some 107 countries.

## JUDICIAL CLERKSHIPS



States where Berkeley Law grads clerked in the 2022 term

*\*Includes the District of Columbia and Guam*



Berkeley Law grads who landed federal and state clerkships in the 2022 term

## JOB TYPE



## LAW FIRMS BY SIZE



### Career Development Support

**Customized, one-on-one career counseling** from an expert team of former practicing attorneys.

A team of three **Public Interest/Public Sector Attorney Counselors** to help support students who are interested in working for non-profit organizations, government agencies, public defender and district attorney offices,

plaintiff-side law firms, and other social justice oriented legal positions.

A team of **three Private Sector Attorney Counselors** to support students seeking summer and post-graduate positions in law firms of all sizes and in all markets as well as in-house positions with corporate legal departments.

**A dedicated Director of Judicial Clerkships** to help guide students and alumni through each step of the complex process of applying for post-graduate judicial clerkships.

**On-Campus Interview Programs** featuring job opportunities with a host of legal employers across different sectors and geographical markets.

**A robust online database** of current job postings for students and alumni.

Expert advice on job application materials and **extensive preparation for job interviews.**

**Programs, panels, and workshops** to educate students on different career paths and job search techniques.

# RECORD NUMBER OF EQUAL JUSTICE WORKS FELLOWSHIPS HIGHLIGHT STELLAR PLACEMENTS FOR GRADS

Berkeley Law students and recent graduates regularly land top positions for public interest work. But even with the school's high threshold in that area, this year is extraordinary.

Seven members of the 2023 graduating class landed coveted Equal Justice Works fellowships — a school record, says Assistant Dean of Career Development Eric Stern.

The fellows design their own two-year project to address an unmet legal need for an underserved community, find a legal services organization to work for, and pursue sustainable solutions.

Here's a look at one of this year's fellows, Renee Coe '23.

## Support for vulnerable scam victims

Hosted by Bay Area Legal Aid in Oakland and sponsored by the Intel Corporation and Munger, Tolles & Olson, Coe will advocate for immigrants and people with limited English proficiency targeted by fraud and scams, which spiked during the pandemic and disproportionately affected those communities. Many institutions' reporting procedures are accessible only in English, and contacting law enforcement raises the risk of immigration consequences.

"This was a chance to create a role I wanted at the intersection of immigration law and consumer law and meet a need that wasn't being served," Coe says. "I talked to more than a dozen people — mentors, current and former fellows, immigration lawyers, housing lawyers, and consumer lawyers — about what needs they were seeing and what kinds of legal theories could support those needs. My goal was to use California's robust consumer laws to support the rights of immigrants."

Pursuing liability for financial institutions that neither prevent nor adequately investigate fraudulent activity, she will connect with targeted communities and illuminate how to spot, avoid, and recover from scams. Coe, who did extensive immigration-related volunteer work before and during law school, will operate community-based legal clinics to help victims pursue consumer law remedies and work with immigration lawyers to aid her clients.



“

*I hope to force financial institutions — including banks but also payment apps like Zelle and Venmo — to make their reporting process accessible in languages other than English, take reports of scams and fraudulent activity seriously, and take responsibility for blocking obviously fraudulent transactions.*



# HOW WILL YOU FUND YOUR LEGAL EDUCATION?

**Berkeley Law Opportunity Scholarships (BLOS)** are awarded to select students who are the first in their families to earn a B.A. or the equivalent. It provides recipients with full tuition and fees for three years. Deadline to apply is December 15, and you must have taken the LSAT or other accepted standardized tests by the end of November. Additional essay and interview may be required.

**Binding Early Decision Awards** are for applicants admitted through BED. Recipients are guaranteed gift aid in the amount of \$90,000 (\$30,000 per year for three years). Terms and conditions apply, and the deadline to apply is November 15.

**Center Scholars** will receive at least \$10,000 per year in gift aid, be recognized as Center Scholars, and be provided faculty and alumni mentorship, support, and programming. There is no separate application for the Center Scholars programs; recipients are selected based on their original application for admission.

**Continuing Student Scholarships** provide several supplemental scholarships for current JD students. Application timelines are announced to all current students. Award amounts vary.

**Gift Aid** is non-loan aid administered by Berkeley Law. To help students plan financially, the majority of gift aid offers are made as three-year awards. Awards are based on a comprehensive review of financial need, merit, or a combination. All students are automatically considered for gift aid based on a holistic review of materials in the original application for admission, but financial need consideration requires supplemental gift aid application after admission.

**Hyundai-Kia Scholarships** are awarded to select students demonstrating academic merit, leadership experience, and an interest in and commitment to the field of law and technology. Additional essay required.

**Native American Opportunity Plan** ensures that in-state systemwide tuition and student services fees are fully covered for students who are both California residents and enrolled members in a federally recognized Native American, American Indian, or Alaska Native tribe. At Berkeley Law, we provide additional funding for eligible Native American Opportunity Plan students by covering the Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition, making law school fees nearly fully funded.

**Outside Scholarships** are available for law students, with more than 40 private scholarships available for students who qualify.

**Public Interest Scholarships** are awarded to select students demonstrating a commitment to public interest work, and who join Berkeley Law's diverse, interdisciplinary, engaged, and impactful public interest community. Awards cover full tuition and fees for three years. "Why Berkeley Law" statement required; additional application materials may be required for finalists. Review will begin December 15, and as such, we strongly recommend submitting your application and required essay early.

**UC Scholarships** are offered by the UC Berkeley Graduate Fellowships Office, which provides several scholarships for graduate students.

**Veterans Educational Benefits** Veterans and their dependents may qualify for tuition waivers. We participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program, and offer a veterans-specific scholarship. We also provide personalized support through our Military Promise Program.

## Loans

Federal Unsubsidized Loans, Federal Graduate PLUS Loans, Private Loans, UC Emergency Loans. Students eligible to file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) are encouraged to do so.

## Other Support

We are always innovating in an attempt to identify and support outstanding students and those with financial need. New programs may be announced at any time.

## RESOURCES SUPPORTING PUBLIC INTEREST CAREERS

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### Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP)

LRAP provides eligible graduates working in public interest careers with assistance repaying their loans. LRAP is integrated with the federal Public Service Loan Forgiveness program (PSLF) and Income-Driven Repayment. Through LRAP, public interest graduates earning less than \$80,000 per year could have no out-of-pocket loan payments, and after 10 years, can apply to have their remaining loan balance fully forgiven through PSLF.

### Summer Fellowships

**UC President's Public Service Summer Fellowships** provide a stipend in the amount of \$5,000 to \$6,000 to all JD students who are employed in a qualifying position during the summer after their first or second year. Students must complete 25 hours of pro bono work to be eligible to apply.

### Post-Graduate Public Interest Fellowships

**Bridge Fellowship Program** provides short-term financial support while the graduate is searching for permanent public interest positions after taking the bar exam.

### Public Interest Fellowship Program

Participants work in an apprentice role for a full year, during which they are committed to staying in their placement.

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*I'm closing in on 12 years of challenging human rights abuses in the Deep South's sprawling carceral system because of Berkeley's sustaining LRAP program.*

— 2010 grad working at a legal nonprofit who received PSLF

# TUITION, FEES + EXPENSES

## 2023–24 ESTIMATED TUITION AND FEES

California Resident	\$62,432
Nonresident	\$74,825*

## 2023–24 ESTIMATED NINE-MONTH ACADEMIC YEAR LIVING EXPENSES

Food & Housing	\$28,284
Books & Supplies	\$1,738
Personal	\$3,152
Transportation	\$3,660
Health Insurance	\$6,156**
Instructional Resilience and Enhancement Fee	\$234

## ESTIMATED TOTAL

CA Resident	\$105,422
Nonresident	\$117,815

Fees are set by the UC Regents. Published fees are subject to change at any time and without notice.

\* For students who establish California residency during their first year of law school, UC Berkeley offers a notable advantage during years two and three: fees drop from the nonresident rate to the California rate.

\*\* Fee may be waived with proof of existing comparable insurance.

Professor Tejas N. Narechania teaching his Digital Industries class.

Photo credit: Rachel DeLetto



# APPLYING

## Juris Doctor (JD) Program

### First-Year Applicants

The application for each fall term is available online via the LSAC website ([www.lsac.org](http://www.lsac.org)) from September 1 – February 15. As we employ a rolling review process, you are strongly encouraged to submit a completed application as early as possible, so long as it represents you accurately and fully.

### Binding Early Decision Program (BED)

If you have determined that Berkeley Law is your first-choice law school, you may apply through the Binding Early Decision Program. A different application timeline and deadline apply for those applying to our BED program, and a signed BED Agreement acknowledging all terms and conditions is required with your application for admission. An interview may also be required. If you are admitted, you must enroll at Berkeley Law the following fall. No deposit will be required, but you must withdraw all other law school applications and may not initiate any new applications. There is no application fee to apply to BED. If you are not admitted through BED, your application will be rolled over into Regular Decision. All BED applicants will receive a decision in early December, and if admitted, are automatically awarded \$90,000 in gift aid (distributed as \$30,000 per year for three years).

### Transfer Students

Transfer students come from law schools across the country and make a substantial and welcome contribution to the Berkeley Law community. Applicants are considered for the fall term only.

### Visiting Students

The law school admits a few visiting students who study here for a year but receive their law degrees from their schools of origin. Visiting students admission is available to approximately five students who have completed two years of high-quality work at another law school and have demonstrated a compelling need to spend their third year at Berkeley Law.

### Concurrent Degrees/Combined Degrees

An applicant interested in earning concurrent degrees must gain separate admission to Berkeley Law (using the JD application) and the other participating Berkeley school or department. The latter is accomplished by filing a separate application with the Berkeley Graduate Division. *Examples: JD/MPP at Goldman, JD/MBA at Haas*

An applicant interested in earning combined degrees must gain separate admission to Berkeley Law and the other participating school. *Example: JD/MPP at Harvard Kennedy School*

### Jurisprudence and Social Policy Program

Although it is a part of the law school's academic program, the Jurisprudence and Social Policy (JSP) Program is a separate graduate program with its own admission criteria and procedures. Admissions information is available online.

### 1L APPLICATION CHECKLIST

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- ☐ Application submitted online via [lsac.org](http://lsac.org)
- ☐ \$75 non-refundable application fee or receipt of an application fee waiver
- ☐ 2–4 letters of recommendation submitted through LSAC
- ☐ Personal statement (2–4 double-spaced pages)
- ☐ Resume (no page limit)
- ☐ Diversity statement (optional)
- ☐ “Why Berkeley Law” essay (optional)
- ☐ Other addenda as required (e.g. character & fitness explanation, BLOS essay)
- ☐ A copy of your SAT or ACT score report if writing an addendum regarding standardized test scores
- ☐ LSAT or GRE score (with supplemental form) taken within the last 5 years and no later than the January 2024 test
- ☐ A GMAT (if you meet the criteria to apply without an LSAT or GRE score) and supplemental form
- ☐ Credential Assembly Service (CAS) report (i.e., your transcript summary) from LSAC
- ☐ If applying Binding Early Decision, a signed BED agreement

### TRANSFER APPLICATION CHECKLIST

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- ☐ Application submitted online via [lsac.org](http://lsac.org) (fee waived)
- ☐ Two letters of recommendation from law professors
- ☐ Personal statement (2–4 double-spaced pages)
- ☐ Resume (no page limit)
- ☐ Letter of good standing from your home law school
- ☐ First-year law school transcript with both fall and spring grades
- ☐ Credential Assembly Service (CAS) report (i.e., your transcript summary) from LSAC
- ☐ Other addenda as required (e.g. character & fitness explanation)

**These requirements and recommendations could change. Please check our website for the most up-to-date information.**



# APPLICATION CALENDAR

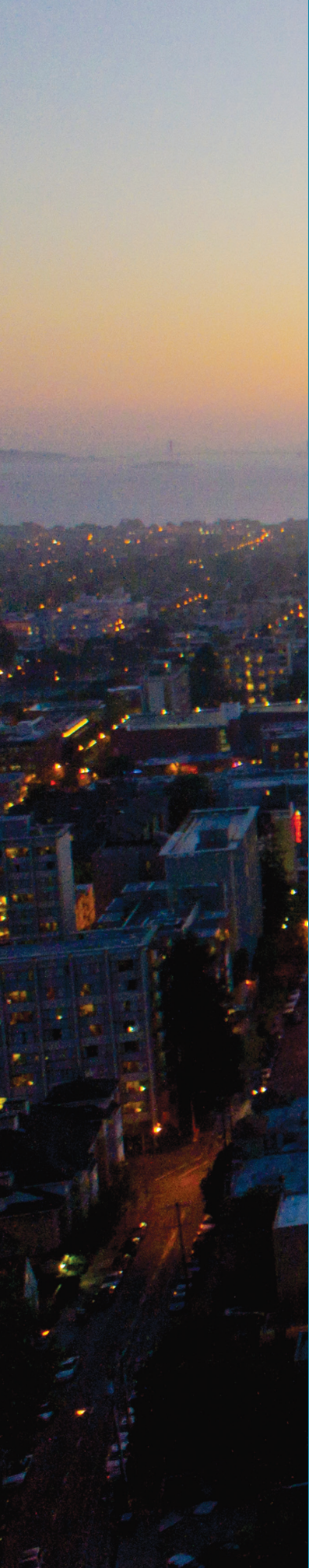
2023

<b>September</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>November</b>	<b>December</b>
01 Binding Early & Regular Decision Applications Open	01 FAFSA Opens	15 Binding Early Decision Application Deadline	05 Binding Early Decision Notification
	31 LSAT, GRE, GMAT (Last score accepted for Early Decision Applicants) Writing Sample (Due for Early Decision Application)	30 LSAT, GRE, GMAT (Last score accepted for BLOS applicants) Writing Sample (Due for BLOS Applicants)	15 Deadline to apply for BLOS Recommended Deadline to Apply for Public Interest Scholars

2024

<b>January</b>	<b>February</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>April</b>
01 Application Fee Waiver Request Deadline	15 Regular Application Deadline	01 FAFSA Priority Deadline	15 Admissions Response First Deadline (5 p.m. PDT)
31 LSAT, GRE, GMAT (Last score accepted for regular decision applications) Writing Sample (Due for regular application)	TBA Alumni & Admitted Student Events	TBA Admitted Students Weekend	Transfer Application Opens 2L Transfer and 3L Visiting Status Application Opens
		TBA Alumni & Admitted Students Events	TBA Alumni & Admitted Students Events

<b>May</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>July</b>
15 Admissions Response Final Deadline (5 p.m. PDT)	15 Transfer and Visiting Status Deadline	1 Get settled, Course Registration



# Berkeley Law

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