Founded in 1911, Duquesne Law is the only Spiritan Catholic Law School in the nation. We are proud of our unique identity, particularly because we have been welcoming of all faiths and backgrounds from the start. Our culture is rooted in creating a sense of belonging, so that you are able to flourish, not just academically, but fully in mind, body, and spirit. We believe that education is a path to empowerment and we believe in cultivating lawyers with a leadership mindset who will impact our society in profound ways. Our intention as faculty is to walk alongside of you as you learn and grow.

Our Law School is part of a 50-acre beautiful and safe University campus. Located in the center of campus surrounded by eight other schools and colleges, our Law School is always bustling with activity. We are located in downtown Pittsburgh, steps away from law firms, courthouses, businesses, and government offices providing a wide variety of externship, clerkship, clinical, and employment opportunities. Pittsburgh is known for its livability, affordability, three rivers and many beautiful bridges (446 to be exact) and boasts a beautiful waterfront, a cultural district, Carnegie museums, and of course, sports teams! It’s a great city and I know whether you are from Pittsburgh or new to the area, that you will love “the Burgh.”

By coming to Duquesne Law, you will be empowered to lead, committed to serve, and prepared for practice so that you can impact the world around us in powerful and positive ways. We are a school with upward momentum and an exciting future. I hope you are inspired to join us in our service to a higher good and our mission to advance justice in our society.

Sincerely,
April Barton
Dean and Professor of Law

View Dean Barton’s “What are we known for at Duquesne Law?”.
duq.edu/WhyDULaw
EMPOWERED TO LEAD.
PREPARED FOR WHAT’S NEXT.

Duquesne School of Law is centered in the heart of Pittsburgh, the second largest city in Pennsylvania. Small size classes shape our campus, which is a short three block walk to downtown and the many prospects it holds—including externships, clerkships, and job opportunities.

Because of our Spiritan tradition, our law students learn equity and opportunity begin at home and receive a law education based on ethical training and justice.

They also are prepared for anything, being involved in our legal research and writing program—a national leader—and gain valuable clinical experience. Our eight law clinics include live client experiences and court appearances. Whatever your goals are, they are attainable from here.
Teaching, research, scholarship, and service are at the heart of what our faculty do. Our faculty also care—about their community and their students. They are inspired by our mission “Salus populi suprema lex”—“The welfare of the people is the highest law.”

“Salus populi suprema lex”—”The welfare of the people is the highest law.”
Small Classes, Individual Attention

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING

Legal Research and Writing
As a first-year student, you will gain fundamental hands-on training through Duquesne Law’s Legal Research and Writing Program. In class sections smaller than at almost any other law school, you will learn essential techniques for legal analysis, research, objective writing, persuasive writing, and oral advocacy techniques.

Oral arguments before a panel of alumni judges, following an appellate advocacy assignment, will be a highlight of your first year of study. duq.edu/law/legalwriting

Academic Excellence Program
Our Academic Excellence Program is available to help you during all of your years of legal education. Attend any Academic Excellence workshop or course, borrow materials from the Study Room, be matched with a peer tutor, or request a one-on-one appointment at any time.

During your first semester, you can participate in Legal Skills I, an optional course that provides a legal system overview and exposes you to case briefing and legal analysis, as well as course outlining and exam prep. Legal Skills II will guide you on rule synthesis, legal application, and time management.

During your second year, we offer you in-depth training in legal reasoning for law school exams, the bar exam, and legal practice.

Finally, you can use peer tutors, who will meet with you regularly, and make individual appointments with the Director of Academic Excellence throughout the academic year and summer. duq.edu/law/academicexcellence

Comprehensive Bar Studies
preLaw Magazine named our Bar Passage program 6th in the nation in 2021. We received that high ranking because we offer you comprehensive instruction, monitoring, and support—even after you graduate—to give you the tools you need to confidently take the Bar exam. Our Director of Bar Studies is a dedicated, helpful mentor throughout the process.

Our faculty ensure from the start of your law education that you are prepared for anything. They are passionate about imparting the knowledge, skills, and confidence you need to achieve your goals. Bar-tested topics, tools to hone your legal reasoning skills, and rigorous training on effective test-taking strategies are all part of our advanced instruction.

Our success in bar passage speaks for itself. duq.edu/law/barservices

- Individual Consultations
- 1L and 2L Course Reviews
- Academic Excellence Programs
- Advanced Legal Reasoning Course
- Core Competencies for Legal Practice I and II
- Applied Competencies I and II
- Personalized Bar Coaches

6th Nationally for Bar Passage
preLaw Magazine

93.33% Ultimate Bar Pass Rate
2018 two-year rate

Small Classes, Individual Attention
Clinical education is one of Duquesne Law’s instructional cornerstones. Our students work with real clients in real cases through:

- Clinics
- Practicums
- Externships
- Fellowships
- Pro Bono Programs

Our clinical building is a short walk to downtown Pittsburgh and to the state and federal courthouses, public agencies, and law firms located there.

Theory into Practice

CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION

Clinics and Practicum:
- Civil Rights Clinic
- Education Law Clinic
- Family Law Clinic
- Federal Litigation Clinic
- Juvenile Defender Clinic
- Unemployment Compensation Clinic
- Urban Development Practicum
- Veterans Clinic

Externship Programs:
- Pennsylvania Innocence Project
- Criminal Prosecution Program
- Public Defender Program

Pro Bono Programs
The Pro Bono Programs feature an attorney/student matching program and direct work with public interest organizations.

A ranking for Criminal Law
preLaw magazine, 2021

A- ranking for Family Law
preLaw magazine, 2021

Duquesne Law launched the first criminal law veterans clinic in the country

26,000+ hours of service in one year through clinics, externships, and pro bono programs.

duq.edu/law/clinics
One-Semester and Summer Externships
Students can also pursue one-semester and summer externship placements in county, state, and federal judicial offices; city, state, and federal government agencies; and legal aid and nonprofit organizations. Placements can be arranged with academic credit or for pro bono recognition.

Duquesne Law has more than 300 externship placement sites in the U.S. and abroad, including:

- U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Division, Commercial Litigation Branch – Washington, D.C.
- U.S. Attorney’s Office, Criminal Division – Atlanta, Ga.
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit – Pittsburgh, Pa.
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio, Magistrate Judge Limbert – Youngstown, Ohio
- Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, Justice Donohue and Justice Wecht – Pittsburgh, Pa.
- Laurel Legal Aid – Greensburg, Pa.
- Cuyahoga County Department of Law – Cleveland, Ohio
- U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Immigration Review – Houston, Texas
- And dozens of other placement locations

Pro Bono Program
Our Pro Bono Program provides a structure through which students serve the public interest while developing new professional skills under the supervision of licensed attorneys.

All placements are based on students’ individual interests and availability and are arranged by Duquesne Law. Current placement sites include Neighborhood Legal Services Association, Disability Rights Network, and Education Law Center. Students are recognized for their service hours.

Pursue Your Service Interests
McGinley Public Service Fellowship
Students can also be considered for McGinley Public Service Fellowships, which support work in executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government or related agencies. McGinley Fellowships are awarded through the generosity of John and Marie McGinley.

Public Interest Law Association Fellowships
Public Interest Law Association (PILA) Fellowships support students working with organizations that provide direct legal services to low-income and underserved clients.
Launch Your Legal Career

CAREER SERVICES

Legal markets continue to evolve, and we offer career services to address those ever-changing needs, making sure our students are prepared for anything as they enter the workforce.

Our Career Services Office is a dynamic place. Here current students find career counseling and new opportunities to gain practical experience, graduating students find assistance securing employment in their chosen areas of practice, and employers find students and alumni prepared to assume professional positions.

- Alumni Mentors
- Resume Reviews
- Mock Interviews
- On-campus Recruiting
- DuqLawConnect Employment Portal
- Lawyers on Location
- Judicial Clerkship Presentations
- Practice-area Events
- Solo and Small Firm Seminars
- Alternative Career Workshops
- Common Plea Career Blog

A ranking
Employment of Graduates
preLaw magazine, 2018

For First-Year Students
Our Career Services Office will help you hit the ground running. Before you even start your studies, you will learn about the comprehensive slate of services for students and young alumni. Orientation will give you a preview of the 1L Job Search Series, which includes sessions on the 1L summer search, crafting a legal resume, preparing a cover letter, fall recruiting, and other topics.

Employment Statistics
Check out Duquesne Law’s profile card for a snapshot of our latest employment statistics. Complete employment report at 10 months after graduation is available via duq.edu/law/career-services.

Our more than 8,000 graduates and our students find satisfying employment in small, mid-size, and large firms; government agencies; corporations; and other entities. Though their paths may differ, our alumni know equity and opportunity begin at home and carry those values with them.

Employment Type
(2020 graduates)

- Law Firms: 58%
- Business & Industry: 14%
- Government: 7%
- Judicial Clerkships: 7%
- Public Interest: 7%
- Education: 2%

Employment Locations
(recent graduating classes)

- Arizona
- California
- Colorado
- Delaware
- Georgia
- Illinois
- Maryland
- Minnesota
- Missouri
- New Mexico
- New York
- Ohio
- Oklahoma
- Oregon
- Pennsylvania
- Tennessee
- Virginia
- Washington, D.C.
- West Virginia

Duquesne Law grads are employed in 19 states.
Duquesne Law students can engage in a wide variety of student organizations.

**Student-run organizations include:**

- 1st Generation Society
- American Constitution Society for Law and Policy
- Black Law Students Association
- Corporate Law Society
- Duquesne Intellectual Property Law Association
- Environmental Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Health Law Society
- Lambda Law Society
- Sports and Entertainment Law Society

**A- ranking for Trial Advocacy and Litigation**

*preLaw magazine, 2019*

**Trial Advocacy Program**

Duquesne Law offers a nationally recognized Trial Advocacy Program. Through comprehensive coursework and competition experience, you can develop skills in case analysis, trial preparation, effective communication, witness preparation, and case presentation.

**Appellate Advocacy Program**

Participate in our Appellate Moot Court Board and you will develop new legal research, writing, and advocacy skills and have opportunities to compete in appellate moot court, arbitration, and negotiation competitions across the country.

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**STUDENT PUBLICATIONS**

**Duquesne Law Review**

The *Duquesne Law Review* is the flagship journal of Duquesne Law. The scholarly journal is entirely student-run and publishes works by legal professionals and academics twice a year.

**Duquesne Business Law Journal**

The *Duquesne Business Law Journal* focuses not only on topics that affect the world of business but also on evolving Supreme Court case law and influential persons in the business community.

**Joule: Duquesne Energy & Environmental Law Journal**

*Joule: Duquesne Energy & Environmental Law Journal* serves as a forum for students and professionals to discuss legal concepts related to energy and environmental law.

**Juris**

*Juris* publishes articles on substantive areas of the law and issues of local and national interest.
Duquesne Law offers ABA-approved summer study abroad to enhance your legal education. The three-week programs vary each year, and all offer ABA-approved credit and unforgettable educational experiences. Optional externships are available in a number of countries.

China Summer Study of Law
European Summer Study of Law
Ireland Summer Study of Law

You cannot really begin to appreciate the law in the United States until you see how other systems of law work. Participating in the study abroad program gave me a new perspective on the U.S. system, while allowing me to experience some fascinating alternatives.”

Grant Olson
Class of 2018
Wexford, Pa.
City of Bridges and Neighborhoods

Duquesne Law is located steps from Pittsburgh’s legal and corporate technology epicenter, so gaining experience in the area’s firms, courts, businesses, and agencies is convenient. And Pittsburgh’s eclectic neighborhoods and competitive cost of living make it an attractive place to study, work, and live.

Major-league sports teams play within a mile of campus at the Pittsburgh Pirates’ PNC Park and the Pittsburgh Steelers’ Heinz Field. PPG Paints Arena — home of the NHL Pittsburgh Penguins, concerts, and shows — is just across the street.

The cultural district, with world-class theater, ballet, symphony performances, and art galleries, is within walking distance.

And Pittsburgh is a major “foodie” destination, with award-winning chefs and numerous new restaurants downtown and in nearby neighborhoods.

Whether you are new to the region or a native, you will find favorite new restaurants every month.

Visit Duquesne Law and we can tell you more about what Pittsburgh has to offer.
Convenient, Affordable Housing

Pittsburgh offers great housing options in vibrant neighborhoods near campus, including Downtown, Uptown, South Side, Oakland, Shadyside, and Squirrel Hill.

Living costs are generally less expensive in Pittsburgh than in other major cities. Recent examples on Zillow.com include a one-bedroom unit in Oakland for $675 per month and a two-bedroom apartment on the South Side for $1,350 per month.

A number of law students take advantage of Duquesne’s affordable shuttle service between the campus and the South Side. duq.edu/off-campus-housing

Porch.com, 2021

Pittsburgh #1 Best places to Move after College

NEIGHBORHOODS

South Side Slopes

North Shore

Strip District

Squirrel Hill
Establish Your Network

ALUMNI

More than 8,000 alumni have walked through our halls and are practicing law in every field. This accomplished group shares their talents with their communities and our law school. They are employed as corporate counsel to Fortune 500 companies and entrepreneurial ventures and are directors of government agencies and public interest organizations and serve as district attorneys and public defenders.

Many of our alumni serve as judges on the local, state, and federal levels. They sit on the highest courts, intermediate appellate courts, and trial courts in more than 20 states.

We are grateful for the warm and generous support of our graduates and their close connection through our Duquesne Law Alumni Association.

duq.edu/law/alumni

Duquesne law alumni:
- Support scholarship funds
- Mentor students
- Sponsor career programs
- Serve as moot court judges
- Serve as externship supervisors
- Serve as adjunct faculty

The Duquesne Law Alumni Association developed endowed funds for:
- Student scholarships
- Excellence in legal writing awards
- Bar preparation programs
- Career programs for students and young alumni

Duquesne Law’s alumni network includes more than 8,000 professionals
Academic Offerings

PROGRAMS

Juris Doctor Degree

Full-Time Day
Part-Time Day
Part-Time Evening

Joint Degrees

- Juris Doctor/Master of Business Administration
  School of Law/John F. Donahue Graduate School of Business

- Juris Doctor/Master of Science in Environmental Science and Management
  School of Law/Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences

- Juris Doctor/Master of Arts in Healthcare Ethics
  School of Law/McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts

- Juris Doctor/Master of Arts in Philosophy
  School of Law/McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts

- Juris Doctor/Master of Divinity
  School of Law/Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

Concentrations

Business Law
- Corporate Governance and Transactions
- Energy and Environmental Law
- Health Care Law
- Intellectual Property Law

General Practice
- Basic
- Estate Planning and Tax
- Family Law
- Real Property

Government
- Basic Government
- Energy and Environment
- Health Law
- Mission and Moral Life
- Public Service and Community Engagement

Litigation
- Civil Litigation
- Criminal Litigation

3/3 Early Admissions Program

Qualified juniors from eligible undergraduate institutions may apply to our accelerated 3/3 program that allows them to earn a bachelor’s degree (B.S. or B.A.) and a Juris Doctor (J.D.) in six years.

Additional requirements vary among the partner schools. For more information, visit duq.edu/law/admissions.

Early Decision Program

Candidates who are certain that Duquesne Law is their first choice can apply to our binding Early Decision Program.
Getting Started

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Candidates should apply online at lsac.org. Before any applicant can be considered, all of the following items must be submitted to the Office of Admissions:

- **Online Application (LSAC)**
- **Law School Admission Test (LSAT)**
- **Law School Admissions Council (LSAC) Credential Assembly Service (CAS)**
- **Letter of Recommendation**
- **Personal Statement**
- **Resume**
- **Character and Fitness Disclosures**
- **Optional Essays**

**Deadlines**

Applications for all three divisions are accepted after September 1 for the following academic year. The priority consideration deadline for all applications is April 1. Prospective students applying through the binding Early Decision Program must apply by December 31.

It is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure that his or her file is complete for Admissions Committee consideration and that all required documents have been received by the Office of Admissions. Applicants can check their status in real time via the online status check.

**Notification of Decision**

An Early Decision Program applicant is guaranteed a decision before January 31. All other applicants are considered on a rolling basis and should allow 6-8 weeks for a decision after the application is complete. The Admissions Committee reviews applications as they become complete and typically begins to notify applicants of acceptance in November. The application review process may take several weeks. The Committee may request supplemental information before making a final decision. Once a decision is made, the applicant is notified via email and online status check.

Applicants who are denied admission in one division are not eligible to be subsequently considered for other divisions.

**Accepted Students**

Accepted applicants are required to pay two non-refundable $500 enrollment deposits within the time designated in the written notice. The deposit will be credited toward the first term tuition if the student registers at the time designated for entering students; otherwise, the deposit is forfeited. Failure to pay the deposit in full by the designated date may result in a forfeiture of a student’s place in the class and any financial awards.
Incoming Student Scholarships
All accepted students are automatically considered for merit-based scholarships awarded by the School of Law. A small number of full-tuition Dean’s scholarships are also awarded.

More Financial Assistance
A number of School of Law work-study grants-in-aid for salary or partial tuition credit are available. Recipients of such grants-in-aid work as School of Law library aides, faculty research assistants, or administration aides for five to 10 hours per week during the academic year.

Accepted students may request a grant-in-aid application from the School of Law’s Dean of Students after matriculation.

Financial Aid Application Procedure
Financial assistance is processed centrally through Duquesne University’s Financial Aid Office. This includes:
• Federal Stafford Unsubsidized Loans
• Federal Graduate PLUS Loans
• Private educational loans
• Veteran’s Yellow Ribbon Program

Tuition
A competitive tuition rate and generous scholarships and financial aid make Duquesne University School of Law an affordable option.

For current fees, estimated costs, and additional information on financial aid opportunities, visit duq.edu/law/admissions.

For financial aid information and forms, contact:
Duquesne University
Office of Financial Aid
600 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15282
Phone: 412.396.6607
email: faoffice@duq.edu
duq.edu/financialaid

FAFSA Code: 003258
Get to know Duquesne Law

ONLINE OR IN-PERSON

Applicants are encouraged to visit Duquesne Law year-round. To attend a class, plan to visit September through April, when student-guided tours are combined with class visits.

To register for an online or on-campus Information Session, schedule a tour, observe a class, or check out our recruitment calendar for events in your area, visit duq.edu/law/admissions.