Thomas R. Kline School of Law of Duquesne University 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 seven law clinics include live client experiences and court appearances. Whatever your goals are, they are attainable from here.
Founded in 1911, the Thomas R. Kline School of Law of Duquesne University 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 Kline School of 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
Teaching, research, scholarship, and service are at the heart of what our faculty do. Our faculty also care—about their community and their students.

**Scholarship and Service**

**FACULTY**

Teaching, research, scholarship, and service are at the heart of what our faculty do. Our faculty also care—about their community and their students.

“Salus populi suprema lex”—“The welfare of the people is the highest law.”

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Princeton Review rates*  
Duquesne Kline School of Law among Best Law Schools

- **PROFESSORS: TEACHING** 95
- **PROFESSORS: ACCESSIBLE** 95
- **CAREER RATING** 94

The Princeton Review surveyed 15,000 students and administrators at 168 law schools to determine which schools have the best career prospects, the best quality of life, and more.  

*The rating is on a scale of low 60 to high 99.
Legal Research and Writing
As a first-year student, you will gain fundamental hands-on training through our nationally recognized Legal Research and Writing Program. In class sections smaller than at most other law schools, you will learn essential techniques for legal analysis, research, objective writing, persuasive writing, and oral advocacy techniques.
duq.edu/law/legalwriting

Academic Excellence Program
Beginning with the JD Jumpstart program in the summer prior to the first year, our Academic Excellence Program is available to help you during all your years of law school. Workshops, peer tutors, and additional materials will guide you on areas such as rule synthesis, legal application, and time management.
duq.edu/law/academicexcellence

6th Nationally for Bar Passage
preLaw Magazine

92.31% Ultimate Bar Pass Rate
2019 two-year rate

JD Jumpstart
Incoming 1L’s will have free access to our JD Jumpstart summer program to help with the transition to law school. The asynchronous online sessions were developed by our full-time faculty on topics ranging from critical reading skills to rule based reasoning.
duq.edu/jdjumpstart

Comprehensive Bar Studies
In 2021 preLaw Magazine named our Bar Passage program 6th in the nation. We received this recognition 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, experienced mentor throughout the process. 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.
Clinical education is one of Duquesne Kline School of Law’s instructional cornerstones. The Tribone Center, which houses our Clinical programs, Practicums, Externships, Fellowships and Pro Bono Programs is just a short walk from the state and federal courts, public agencies and law firms located in downtown Pittsburgh.

duq.edu/law/clinics

**Clinics and Practicum:**
- Family Law Clinic
- Federal Litigation Clinic
- Re-Entry Legal Services Clinic
- Unemployment Compensation Clinic
- Urban Development Practicum
- Veterans Clinic
- Wills and Healthcare Decisions Clinic
- Youth Advocacy Clinic

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

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

**Fellowships**
The McGinley Public Service Fellowship and the Public Interest Law Association Fellowships (PILA) provide support for students and graduates who work in public service.

1st
Duquesne Kline School of Law launched the first veterans clinic in the country

26,000 hours of service in one year through clinics, externships, and pro bono programs.
Launch Your Legal Career

CAREER SERVICES

In our Career Services Office current students will find career counseling and new opportunities to gain practical experience, while graduating students receive assistance in securing employment.

- Alumni Mentors
- Resume Reviews
- Mock Interviews
- On-campus Recruiting
- Employment Portal
- Lawyers on Location
- Judicial Clerkship Presentations
- Practice-area Events
- Solo and Small Firm Seminars
- Nontraditional Legal Career Workshops
- Job Search Workshops
- Networking Events

duq.edu/law/career-services

A ranking
Employment of Graduates
preLaw magazine, 2018

of the 2021 graduating class was employed within 10 months of graduation.

Employment Type
(2021 graduates)

- Law Firms: 62%
- Business & Industry: 14%
- Judicial Clerkships: 11%
- Government: 7%
- Public Interest: 5%
- Education: 1%

Employment Locations
(Recent Graduates)

Our recent law grads are employed in 27 states.

Alabama  Kansas  Ohio
Arizona  Maryland  Oklahoma
California  Minnesota  Oregon
Colorado  Missouri  Pennsylvania
Connecticut  Nevada  South Carolina
Delaware  New Hampshire  Tennessee
Florida  New Jersey  Virginia
Georgia  New Mexico  Washington, D.C.
Illinois  New York  West Virginia
Student-run organizations include:

- 1st Generation Society
- American Constitution Society for Law and Policy
- Black Law Students Association
- Corporate Law Society
- 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

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

We have four student publications including,

- Law Review,
- Business Law Journal,
- Joule: Energy & Environmental Law Journal,
- and Juris.

Summer Study of Law and Externships Abroad

A three-week, ABA-approved summer study abroad experience is available in Europe or Ireland each summer. In addition to coursework, a number of professional and cultural excursions are included in the Study Abroad program. Students may also participate in optional internships in a number of countries.
City of Bridges and Neighborhoods

PITTSBURGH

Our city receives outstanding rankings for livability, welcoming atmosphere, and professional opportunities. Duquesne’s bucolic 50-acre campus is centered on the “Bluff”, in the heart of Pittsburgh. Our campus offers breathtaking views of the downtown skyline and the three rivers.

Neighborhoods

Bloomberg recently named Pittsburgh the most affordable city for housing. The 90 neighborhoods that comprise Pittsburgh offer those new to the area the chance to explore the cultural district, sports venues, museums, music venues, and food scene that make Pittsburgh a vibrant place to live.

#1 Best City in Pennsylvania to live in and #26 best city in the U.S. CNBC.com, 2018

Get to Know Pittsburgh’s

Diverse Neighborhoods
Walkable Cultural District
Miles of Bike Trails
River Sports
Regional Parks
Must-see Museums
Foodie Destinations

11 Best U.S. Cities for Young Professionals
Spacewise, 2022
Academic Offerings

PROGRAMS

Juris Doctor Degree
- Full-Time Day
- Part-Time Day
- Part-Time Evening
- LL.M. for Foreign Lawyers

Joint Degrees
- Juris Doctor/Master of Business Administration
  Duquesne Kline School of Law/John F. Donahue Graduate School of Business
- Juris Doctor/Master of Science in Environmental Science and Management
  Duquesne Kline School of Law/Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences
- Juris Doctor/Master of Arts in Healthcare Ethics
  Duquesne Kline School of Law/McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts
- Juris Doctor/Master of Arts in Philosophy
  Duquesne Kline School of Law/McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts
- Juris Doctor/Master of Divinity
  Duquesne Kline School of Law/Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

Business Essentials for Lawyers Micro-Credential
Student who are interested in expanding their business perspective and knowledge may take courses with the Duquesne University Palumbo-Donahue Graduate School of Business to complete the Business Essentials for Lawyers Micro-Credential.

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

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.
Candidates should apply online at lsac.org.
Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis after September 1st for full-time and part-time programs. It is in your best interest to apply early. A holistic review of the application will be completed with consideration given to academic background, standardized test scores, extracurricular activities, leadership, and work experience. We seek to create a community of students who will excel academically, participate in the law school community and adhere to the mission of the law school. Diversity, equity and inclusion are guiding principles that help us to create a welcoming environment where students can thrive.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Merit Scholarship Awards
Applications received by the Priority deadline will automatically be considered for Merit scholarship awards, a separate application is not required. A small number of full tuition Dean’s Scholarships are awarded each year.

There are several additional private scholarships that students may apply for after admission. These scholarships and the application information can be found on our website, duq.edu/law/admissions.
SOUTH SIDE
A NATIONAL HISTORIC DISTRICT WITH LIVELY ENTERTAINMENT
The South Side boasts 15 blocks of Victorian architecture, as well as boutiques, restaurants, galleries, theaters and live music venues all in a neighborhood that’s just a single staircase from campus.

THE POINT
THREE RIVERS AND A GIANT FOUNTAIN
Point State Park or “the Point” is where Pittsburgh’s three rivers meet, and is home to a giant fountain, biking and walking trails, the Three Rivers Arts Festival and the Fort Pitt Museum.

CAREER CONNECTIONS
COURTHOUSES, LAW FIRMS, CORPORATE OFFICES, NONPROFIT INSTITUTIONS, GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, TECHNOLOGY HEADQUARTERS
Law students have easy access to various internships and job interviews that are within walking distance of their dorms and apartments.

CULTURAL DISTRICT
WORLD-CLASS THEATER AND DELICIOUS DINING
The 14-square-block Cultural District encompasses more than 90 retail stores, approximately 50 dining establishments, seven world-class theaters, eight public parks and art installations and a dozen art galleries.

MARKET SQUARE
CAFES, ICE SKATING AND YOGA
Greek, Mexican, Italian and American cafes and restaurants are located in pedestrian-friendly Market Square, and depending on the season, students can also enjoy a Christmas village and ice skating or a farmers’ market and Yoga in the Square.

THE HILL DISTRICT
PITTSBURGH’S JAZZ AND PLAYWRIGHT SCENE
Nationally known jazz artists like Louis Armstrong and Duke Ellington made the Hill District a regular stop on national tours. Students can also visit the birthplace of famed playwright August Wilson and celebrate his legacy at the annual block party with food, games and outdoor performances.

PPG PAINTS ARENA
PROFESSIONAL ICE HOCKEY AND MAJOR CONCERTS
Located across the street from campus, the PPG Paints Arena is home to the Pittsburgh Penguins and features performers of all genres, including most recently, Billie Eilish, Harry Styles, Journey, Justin Bieber, Simone Biles and Shawn Mendes.

THOMAS R. KLINE SCHOOL OF LAW
OF DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY
You are encouraged to visit the Thomas R. Kline School of Law of Duquesne University year-round. Student-guided tours and class visits are available from September to April when classes are in session.

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.