





Wesleyan University

Gordon Career Center

Law

Handbook

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Deciding on Law School

The decision to attend law school is one of the most important of your life. A legal education demands time, effort, and financial investment. As you consider law school, research its curriculum and process, the work and life-style of a lawyer, and your personality fit with the profession. Your decision to enter law should be informed and grounded.

This decision is best made by being proactive, rather than reactive.

Proactive Reasons for Attending Law School sound like:

- "After researching what lawyers actually do (and why and how they do it), I can see that law is a good fit with my abilities and personality."
- "I not only am passionate about the challenges and issues lawyers address, but find myself continually thinking about and discussing them with my peers, professors, and family."
- "I have a natural tendency to pursue a high level of competence in all that I do; I am detail-oriented; I like to know, analyze and follow rules; and have an aptitude for argumentation, critical thinking, and logical reasoning."
- "I enjoy dissecting issues to either prove a point, or to illuminate faulty or erroneous thinking."
- "I enjoy, and excel in, research, writing, and oral communication."
- "One of my professors knows me well and has encouraged me to consider a career in law."

In contrast, Reactive Reasons for Attending Law School sound like:

- "I can't decide what else I'll do after college. It seems like my only (or the safest) option." You might feel this way because you are intimidated by the thought of conducting a job search during senior year. Law school should not be a next-step "safety net".
- "My parent/guardian/relative/friend strongly recommends the legal profession. They say it will give me job security/prestige/a high income/numerous options because I'll have a JD ('you can do anything with a law degree')."
- "All of my relatives/friends are 'professionals'."
- "I struggled with Organic Chemistry, and so decided to drop my plans to attend medical school, but still want to enter a respected profession."

Recommended Resources for Career Exploration:

- [Discover Law](#), LSAC (Law School Admission Council)
- [NAPLA](#), Northeast Association of Pre-Law Advisors – Excellent selection of useful resources
- [Firsthand](#) – Search Handshake in the Resources section for [Firsthand](#) for Law, and [Career Advice](#) for a Career Q&A Video to hear attorneys discuss their work
- [NALP](#) – Advice for law students and lawyers (good for prelaw students!)
- Lawyer Salaries: National Association of Law Placement ([NALP](#)).

Recommended Podcasts:

- [Law School Toolbox](#)
- [I am the Law](#)
- [Women in the Law](#)
- [ABA \(American Bar Association\) Law Student Podcast](#)
- [Above the Law - Thinking Like a Lawyer](#)
- [Thinking LSAT](#)

Recommended Books:

- 1L of a Ride, Andrew J. McClurg
- Law School Confidential, A Complete Guide to the Law School Experience - By Students, for Students
- **The Legal Analyst: A Toolkit for Thinking About the Law, Ward Farnsworth, Wesleyan 1989**
- Getting to Maybe: How to Excel on Law School Exams, Richard Michael Fischl & Jeremy Paul
- 24 hours with 24 Lawyers: Profiles of Traditional and Non-traditional Careers, Jasper Kim
- [Legal Writing in Plain English](#) by Bryan Garner
- [A Short & Happy Guide to Legal Writing](#) by Debbie Borman
- [What Every Law Student Really Needs to Know](#), Tracey E. George and Suzanna Sherry
- [Thinking Like a Lawyer](#), Kenneth J. Vandeveld
- The American Legal Profession: The Myths and Realities of Practicing Law, Christopher P. Banks, J.D., Ph.D.
- [Point Made](#) and [Point Taken](#), Ross Guberman
- [How to Be \(Sort of\) Happy in Law School](#), Kathryne Young
- Real Law Stories, Richard Brisbin and John Kilwien
- The Truth About Law School: What You Need to Know Before You Commit, Rachel B. Wickenheiser
 - This is a “counter-perspective” and does not reflect the view of Wesleyan’s Pre-Law Advisor.

Networking with Wesleyan Alumni Lawyers and Law School Students for Career Guidance

After you have considered and explored the possibility of law school, or when ready to apply, you may find it helpful to speak with Wesleyan graduates currently attending law school or who have recently entered the legal profession. Contact Jim Kubat, your Pre-Law Advisor for details.

Wesleyan's Pre-Law Advisor, Jim Kubat, supports both students and alumni at any point in their decision-making process, in any class year. Individual appointments may be scheduled with Jim on [Handshake](#) throughout the calendar year.

Preparing for Law School

At Wesleyan, "pre-law" is not an official status, designation, or course of study. It is a self-selected descriptive that describes a student's potential career plan. Law schools have no preference for applicants coming from a formal undergraduate pre-law program.

Competitive candidates for law school apply with:

- A college transcript demonstrating strong academic performance
- An LSAT or GRE score compatible with the school's preferred range
- Enthusiastic letters of recommendation from professors and/or employers
- A resume highlighting experiences and accomplishments that demonstrate pro-active engagement through campus activities, leadership positions, internships, and personal interests
- A well-written personal statement profiling a three-dimensional person of character and creativity

First Year in College

Preparation for law school begins in the first semester. Establishing a solid foothold in college-level academic work, meeting new peers, and identifying potential opportunities for campus activities should all be on your agenda. Utilize the resources available to you, such as meeting with Wesleyan's Pre-Law Advisor, [Jim Kubat](#), attending the Career Center's specialized pre-law programs, getting career advice from Wesleyan alumni who are practicing lawyers, and using the University's support services (e.g., tutoring, WESWELL).

Choice of Academic Major

Law schools look favorably upon students who have developed and acquired skills relevant to legal work, including analytical and problem solving, critical reasoning, writing, oral communication, and research. They do not prefer a law-related curriculum, favor one academic major over another, or prefer to see law-related courses on your transcript. Courses related to law may be helpful in your preparation for law school, but do not give you a competitive advantage for admission. See below for a sampling of these courses.

Extracurricular Activities and Internships

Law schools do not favor particular campus activities or internships over others when reviewing applications. They seek applicants with a breadth of experience and intellectual inquiry, and who show strength of character. Feel free to select campus activities and internships that interest you and express your values; that enable you to explore and stretch your comfort zone. Use your activities to develop your leadership, collaboration, persuasion and public-speaking skills.

Wesleyan Student Pre-Law Organizations – check [WesNest](#) for current contact information:

- POC Pre-Law Society - The purpose of the Pre- Law Society for People of Color is to increase student access and opportunity in the field of law by creating a network of alumni-student mentorship, conference opportunities, LSAT prep financial support, and more.
- Wesleyan Mock Trial - An organization that prepares for and participates in mock trials in competition with teams from other schools under the guidelines of the American Mock Trial Association. Highly recommended for training and relationship building!

Additional Suggestions for developing oral communication and public speaking skills:

- Wesleyan Speech & Debate Society – Great opportunity to develop oral speaking and argumentation (important for lawyers!).

Presentation Studio, Center for Pedagogical Innovation – Strong oral communication and presentation design skills can help build self-confidence toward being a capable and engaging public speaker, which will serve you well in law school and your career. Make an appointment with a student mentor at the Studio to get started.

Relationships with Professors

Over the years, Wesleyan faculty have enthusiastically supported their students' decisions to pursue a career in law. Nurturing relationships with faculty, seeking their advice and getting to know them outside the classroom, enhances your Wesleyan experience. Later on, these same professors may offer to write your letters of recommendation.

If you spend your time wisely at Wesleyan, achieving a high level of academic achievement, engaging with the campus community, exemplifying high standards of character amongst your peers, and maintaining good conduct, you increase your chances of attending an excellent law school.

Wesleyan Courses Relevant to Law/Law School

The value of these courses is to explore and test your interest in law, and to develop the analytical and critical reading, thinking and writing skills called upon in law school. It is not to increase your chances of gaining admission. Law schools do not require, or prefer to see, courses such as the ones below, or any other form of undergraduate academic study, for admission to their JD programs.

These courses should not be viewed as recommendations by your Pre-Law Advisor. And note that this is only a partial list. You should fully explore the rich variety of Wesleyan's curriculum to suit your own interests. Finally, some of these courses may be cross listed with other academic departments and **may not be offered each semester or each year.**

African American Studies

- The Law, the Citizen, and the Literary and Cinematic Imaginations

Center for the Humanities

- Performing Property: Legal Experimentation and Activism in Contemporary Art

Civic Engagement

- The Moral Basis of Politics
- Erosion of Democracy

Classical Studies

- Law, Politics, and Order in the Ancient World

College of the Environment

- Introduction to Ethics
- Environmental Law and Policy
- Public Policy
- Animal Law and Policy
- Environmental Justice and Sustainability

Economics – several courses, including:

- Economic Analysis and the Law
- Economics of Wealth and Poverty
- Political Economy

English

- The Law, the Citizen, and the Literary and Cinematic Imaginations

Government

- Access to Civil Justice
- American Constitutional Law
- Calderwood Seminar in Public Writing: Law, Courts, and Policymaking in the US
- Citizens, Judges, Juries: Who Decides in Democracy?
- Civil Rights and Liberties
- Judicial Process and Politics
- Judicial Decision-making
- National Security Law

History

- Introduction to History: History of U.S. Social Movements

Philosophy – see especially the Social Justice track.

- Animal Law and Policy
- Calderwood Seminar in Public Writing: Writing for Social Justice
- Social Justice track: for students focusing on social justice.

Psychology

- Psychology and the Law

Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies

- "If there is no God, then everything is permitted?" Moral Life in a Secular World

Science in Society

- What is Rationality?

Undergraduate Law Journals

Some colleges and universities publish undergraduate law journals and invite submissions from students at other colleges. Excellent for experience and your application.

- [Columbia Undergraduate Law Review](#), a journal of undergraduate legal scholarship based at Columbia University in the City of New York.
- [Texas Undergraduate Law Review](#), a biannual law journal written, edited, published, and distributed entirely by undergraduate students at the University of Texas at Austin.

Applying to Law School

Applying to law school requires familiarity with [LSAC](#), which compiles and sends out your application, advance preparation, and meticulous attention to detail.

To apply, you will need:

- The LSAT or GRE entrance exam
- Transcripts from all colleges attended in the US and abroad
- Letters of recommendation
- Detailed resume
- Personal statement
- If relevant, a diversity statement, and/or addendum(s)
- The Dean's Certification Letter, if required by the school

Wesleyan's Pre-Law Advisor, Jim Kubat, provides individual strategic guidance to seniors and alumni throughout the application process. This includes help with the selection of target schools once your LSAT score is received, review of your personal statement, diversity statement and addendums, and a critique of your resume.

Dean's Certification Letter

When needed, email the required form for each law school to Wesleyan's Office of the Dean of Students, Karen Siciliano, ksiciliano@wesleyan.edu

Karen will process the letter and forward it to your designated law schools. Be sure you provide her the necessary contact and address.

Joint-Degree Programs

Some law schools offer joint-degree programs, which allow students to obtain a Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree in law and a graduate degree in another field, such as business, public policy, foreign policy, or environmental studies. The standard J.D. program is three years of study while a joint-degree program usually requires additional time. Some law schools allow students to create their own joint-

degree program. For more details, check the individual school websites. Many joint-degree programs require that students apply separately and be accepted by both schools. Each school will independently review applications and grant admission.

Law School Locators and Information

- [ABA \(American Bar Association\) Legal Education](#) – applicant stats, class size, percentile scores, employment data and bar passage data.
- LSAC, [Choosing the Right School](#)
- [Law School Transparency](#) (LST) – "Nonprofit that does consumer advocacy and public education about the legal profession." Now a part of LSAC/LawHub.
- [Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools](#)
- [US News Law School Rankings](#) – Be aware that you can get an outstanding legal education and enjoy a successful career without attending a Top 14 law school.

The Law School Application

Entrance Exams: The LSAT and GRE

The [LSAT](#) is administered by [LSAC](#), and is accepted by all ABA-Approved law schools, while the [GRE](#) is administered by the [ETS](#) (Educational Testing Service), and is accepted by many, but not all, [law schools](#). It is not possible to say if schools that accept both exam scores still favor the LSAT (thereby giving you a competitive edge). You should look at both exams and decide which one will best reflect your ability. Wesleyan candidates for law school still choose the LSAT over the GRE.

Registration for the exams is through their respective websites, with many convenient test dates. The LSAT is administered in locations throughout the United States (digital format only) and other countries. The writing section is taken online, apart from the digital multiple-choice sections. The GRE is also available at multiple locations throughout the year.

Fees for the exams are explained on the respective sites, including information on fee waivers and reduction programs: [LSAT](#) and [GRE Fee Reduction Program](#).

LSAT or GRE?

The GRE exam has only recently been accepted for entrance into law school. There is no data yet to suggest that applicants taking the GRE score better on the exam or have a higher chance of being accepted into the schools of their choice. To date, Wesleyan students and alumni are still choosing the LSAT over the GRE. See Jim Kubat, the Pre-Law Advisor, if you are considering the GRE.

Exam Preparation

Thorough and focused preparation is mandatory for both exams, for anywhere from three months to a year, depending on the time you can commit per week. Do not allow your preparation to compete with your coursework. Although you can take each exam more than once, it is not recommended that you take an actual exam as part of your preparation. While you can cancel scores, and law schools will not count a second attempt against you, a second-round score can be lower as well as higher than your first attempt. There is more flexibility with the GRE's [ScoreSelect](#) program than with the LSAT.

The LSAT – Administered by LSAC (Law School Admission Council)

Preparation for the LSAT includes a variety of methods. No one method is right for everyone; explore and decide on the best fit for you. Wesleyan graduates admitted to top law schools have recommended the resources below, based on their individual study style and needs:

- **Prep courses or materials*** for the LSAT, including (but not endorsed by the Career Center): 7sage, Blueprint, Kaplan, LSAT Hacks, LSATMax, LSAT Trainer, PowerScore, Princeton Review, and TestMasters. Check their websites for costs and details.
- **Advice/information:** [Lawschooli](#)
- One-on-one tutoring (either alone, or to supplement a prep course)
- Self-study (many prep programs, such as the ones above, publish guides for LSAT prep. Many Wes grads have utilized this approach, with the LSAT Trainer, PowerScore and others)
- *Note: many of the prep courses, including 7Sage, provide an annual discount or scholarship.

No-cost preparation resources (often used along with a study guide):

- [LawHub and Khan Academy](#) – provided by LSAC.
- [LSAT Scholarship](#), Connecticut Bar Association – For members of a “diverse demographic”

The GRE – Administered by ETS (Educational Testing Service)

Many US law schools now accept the GRE. Visit [ETS's site](#) for a list of the schools and details. While the number of admitted applicants applying with the GRE has grown, some people in the Pre-Law Advising field still view the LSAT as carrying more weight in the admissions decision.

Preparation for the GRE also includes a variety of methods. Again, no particular method is right, or best. Explore the options and decide which approach may fit your style and preferences. The following resources have been recommended by several pre-law advisors:

- [GRE Prep Club](#) – free resources
- [ETS's GRE Prep Resources](#) – including free and fee-based resources

Law School Personal Statement and Essays

Law schools typically do not interview applicants and so rely on the personal statement to get an impression of you as a three-dimensional, distinctive person, who can contribute to the law school community. At the same time, the statement is an important writing sample! Review the attached document, Writing the Law School Personal Statement, write a first draft, and then schedule a critique with Pre-Law Advisor, Jim Kubat on [Handshake](#). Some applicants outline two or three topics before they settle on the final topic.

Resume

Your resume should be a detailed record of your experience, activity and accomplishments from your first year in college to the present, presented in one of the sample formats found in the Gordon Career

Center's [Resume Guide](#). Two pages is acceptable. Error on the side of detail, and the Pre-Law Advisor can help you edit. Athletes, for example, should include the number of hours spent devoted to their teams, during both on- and off-season. If you're considering including information dating from before college, check with the Pre-Law Advisor. Generally, omit high school information.

Letters of Recommendation

Most schools require at least two letters of recommendation, preferably from a professor. Your recommenders should be able to present an informed assessment of your academic abilities and character. Approach your selected recommenders the spring or summer before you plan to apply. Meet with each one to discuss your application, either in the spring (if on sabbatical, email is acceptable).

Provide your recommenders with:

- A cover letter explaining your reasons for attending law school
- Your list of target law schools
- A draft of your personal statement
- Resume
- Assignments completed for the professor
- LSAC instructions for posting recommendations

Addendum

You may choose to attach an addendum to clarify or explain relevant factors on your application, such as a low grade, gap in your education, or a conduct infraction. It is important that the addendum is succinct and factual.

Application Timeline (may vary per individual circumstances)

This timeline is a general guide targeted to Wesleyan students, and to supplement the [Application Overview](#) provided by LSAC. Your own timeline may differ. You are encouraged to schedule an appointment with the Gordon Career Center's Pre-Law Advisor, Jim Kubat, on [Handshake](#) to discuss the application process as soon as you feel law school is your logical next step.

Junior Year or Two Years Prior to Law School Entry

Fall Semester

- Attend campus pre-law events sponsored by the Gordon Career Center, student organizations, or related events on Homecoming/Family Weekend
- Meet with your Pre-Law Advisor to discuss the law school application process
- Consider attending an [LSAC Law School Forum](#)
- Become familiar with LSAC and its resources, including the [Credential Assembly Service \(CAS\)](#)
- Consider your approach to LSAT prep and research possible prep programs (see above)
- Determine when to take the LSAT. If early summer, check to see when registration opens

Spring Semester

- Prepare for the LSAT if taking the exam over the summer or early fall
- Continue the application activity from the fall semester
- Identify your preferred recommenders (professors who know you well should be your first choice), and meet with them to ask for a letter and when you should send them your materials (outlined above)
- Confirm when you are taking the LSAT and register

Summer

- Take the LSAT, or continue preparing for the fall LSAT
- Select possible topics for your personal statement and outline your thoughts
- Research, and if possible, visit law schools (many students visit schools only after admission)
- Pay the [fee](#) for the LSAC Credential Assembly Service (CAS)
- Have your transcript(s) sent to CAS

Senior Year or One Year Prior to Law School Entry

September

- Develop a preliminary list of target schools based on your research
- Reach out to alumni attending your schools of interest
- Polish your personal statement and have it reviewed by the Pre-Law Advisor
- Check in with your recommenders to see if they're on track
- Submit your application (only if complete and fully ready)
- Apply if ready

October

- Take or retake your LSAT (only if fully prepared)
- Consider attending an [LSAC Law School Forum](#) if you did not attend in the spring
- Review all your application materials for readiness
- Finalize target school list after receiving your LSAT score
- Submit your application (only if complete and fully ready)
- Apply if ready

November - December

- Apply by early to mid-November
- Research sources of Financial Aid and complete the application for [Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#)
- Check with law schools to make sure your applications have been received

January

- Have an updated transcript sent to LSAC; confirm receipt with your law schools
- Reach out to alumni in attendance at your target schools (if you haven't already)

February - April

- Evaluate your offers – visit the schools, research the curriculum, clinics, and practical training

- Reach out to alumni in attendance at your target schools
- Update the schools where you have been waitlisted with your GPA, new honors, and additional activities or accomplishments

Deferral/Alternative Programs

Non-traditional types of approaches to law school fall under this category.

- Columbia Law School - Deferral Program: [LEAD](#), Leadership Experience Admission Deferral
- Harvard Law School – [Junior Deferral Program](#). Apply to HLS during your junior year and then begin your legal education two years after graduation from Wesleyan.

Gap Year/Time-off Before Law School

Many Wesleyan graduates delay entrance to law school and instead do various things during their gap time. These include working in a variety of fields and industries (e.g., banking, consulting, education, film/TV, and more), working as a paralegal in a private or nonprofit legal environment, or even personal travel. Some win a competitive fellowship, such as the Fulbright or Princeton in Asia (to name just two) and spend time abroad. Fellowships (see below) can be an excellent addition to your law school application. The decision to gain additional experience after college can benefit both the applicant personally, providing time to confirm interest in the law, and also an applicant's competitive standing within a law school's applicant pool. If undecided, contact Jim Kubat.

Fellowships Relevant to Law School

Fellowships can be great for personal growth and skill development prior to law school, as well as a way to elevate your competitive profile to the law school admissions committee. Here are a few to consider, with more on the [Fries Center for Global Studies](#) homepage. Be aware of deadlines!

- [James C. Gaither Junior Fellow Program](#) at The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace – overseen by Wesleyan
- [Mortimer Hays-Brandeis Traveling Fellowship](#) – overseen by Wesleyan
- [Mickey Leland International Hunger Fellowship](#)
- [Herbert Scoville Jr. Peace Fellowship](#)
- [Thomas J. Watson Fellowship](#) – overseen by Wesleyan
- And don't forget the [Fulbright](#) (both research and teaching)!

Horace Reed Baldwin Fellowship, Wesleyan

Each year* Wesleyan awards the Horace Reed Baldwin Fellowship to a senior admitted to law school. Seniors who intend to matriculate into law school the fall following their senior year at Wesleyan, or who plan to defer admission for one year, are eligible to apply. The award is typically in the amount of \$4,000 - \$5,000. Grants are potentially taxable. For specific guidelines, students should consult with an accountant or tax consultant.

Selection Criteria

The Baldwin is awarded on a need-aware basis, taking into consideration academic achievement and LSAT or GRE score.

Application Process & Materials

The application process opens each April and is through Handshake. Required materials are:

- A copy of your official law school admission offer letter, proof of your acceptance and year of intended matriculation, and annual cost of attendance
- A brief statement (can be in the form of a cover letter; 300 words maximum) explaining your need for this financial award
- LSAT score
- Unofficial transcript

Questions may be directed to [Jim Kubat](#), Pre-Law Advisor.

Financing Law School

- [AccessLex](#) -- Tools and advice for law school selection and financing.
- National Jurist preLaw Magazine: [How to Negotiate Merit Scholarships](#)
- Admission Dean, [Scholarship Finder](#)
- Mt. Holyoke, [Financing Law School](#)
- [Equal Justice Works](#) – Sections on Student Debt and Public Interest Awards

Diversity & Summer Programs, with Relevant Funding Sources

Overview on Diversity in Law School

- LSAC, [Diversity in Law School](#)

Pre-Law Summer Programs (see Internships, below, for more opportunities)

- [Diversity Pipeline Program Directory](#) – AccessLex, excellent organization providing a database searchable by class year, type of program, term, and geographic location
- CT Bar Assoc, [Future of the Legal Profession Scholarship Program](#) – excellent diversity program, including a scholarship for LSAT and law school preparation
- [Lex Scholars](#) – provided by AccessLex; a diversity pipeline program
- [Chicago-Kent College of Law](#) – PLUS Program
- [King Hall Outreach Program \(KHOP\)](#) - no-cost pre-law program for underrepresented students
- [LEAP, Legal Education Access Summer Program](#) – Touro College, Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center

- [Minority Student Program](#), Rutgers Law School
- [Pre-Law Undergraduate Scholars \(PLUS\) Programs](#) – Multiple programs on LSAC's website
- [Proskauer Prep](#), Proskauer law firm - a week-long program for women who will be attending law school. Check Proskauer's website for updated information
- [SEO Law Fellowship](#)
- [Catalyst by SEO Law](#)
- [Council of Legal Education \(CLEO\)](#) –
 - For First-Years: [The Road To Law School seminar](#)
 - For Sophomores: [The Sophomore Super Saturdays](#)
 - For Juniors/Seniors/Post Graduates: [Juniors Jumpstart the LSAT](#)
- [Law School Access Program](#), Yale Law School – FGLI, under-represented groups
- [Rebellious Lawyering Conference](#), Yale Law School – check website for current information
- [Law School Access Program](#), Yale Law School – must be a resident of New Haven, CT

Funding

- [Dwight L. Greene Memorial Scholarship](#), Hofstra University, Maurice A. Deane School of Law
- [Marshall-Motley Scholars Program](#), NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund
- [Sidley Prelaw Scholars Program](#), Sidley Austin LLC– Financial support for LSAT prep, LSAC application fees, and a summer seminar covering the American legal system and advice on succeeding in law school.
- [LSAT Scholarship](#), Connecticut Bar Association

Public Service Programs

[AmeriCorps Legal Advocates of Massachusetts](#) is accepting applications for the 2022-2023 program year. The mission of ALA-Massachusetts is to open doors to justice for clients, invigorate our partner sites, and cultivate the next generation of public leaders. ALA-Massachusetts advocates serve at organizations throughout Massachusetts which provide legal assistance to low-income individuals and families. It's a great opportunity for recent college graduates to explore a career in poverty law.

The [Weil Legal Innovators Program](#) engages incoming law school students in addressing some of the most pressing social and legal challenges in our communities today. Weil Legal Innovators is comprised of a class of up to 10 incoming law school students who plan to attend one of eight WLI Law School Partners. Innovators defer their first year of law school to work at a WLI partner nonprofit organization for a paid public service fellowship, executing a strategic initiative designed to leverage their business acumen and commitment to public service, while amplifying the impact of the nonprofits and their important missions.

Internships & Entry-level Jobs (legal assistant; paralegal)

These employers have shown interest in Wesleyan applicants in past years.

Internships

Internships may be unpaid and/or discontinued for a particular year.

Boston

- Fogelman Law – private law firm
- Harvard Law School – [Office of Public Interest Advising Summer Intern](#)

New York City, NY

- [Brooklyn Defender Services](#), Brooklyn, NY – Investigative Assistant Intern
- [Center for Appellate Litigation](#) – hosts summer internships, which may include undergraduates. Check their website each September for the following summer.
- Center for Court Innovation*, Brooklyn, NY
- Lambda Legal –
 - [Youth in Out-of-Home Care Undergraduate Intern](#)
 - [Summer Nonprofit Fundraising Internship](#)
- ACLU of New York – many opportunities on [Handshake](#)
- [Legal Aid Society of New York](#), Investigator Internship Program, Criminal Defense Practice, for undergraduates.
- [Lawyers For Children](#), Social Work Internship Program – Legal advocacy and social work services for children in foster care. See Wesleyan's Child Advocacy Endowed Wesleyan Summer Experience Fund in January when the summer grant opportunities are posted.
- Immigration Equality – [Summer Undergraduate Legal Internship](#)
- Children's Rights – [Summer 2020 Paralegal Internship](#)
- Scripps Networks Interactive Internship (Media Law) – [Legal Intern](#)
- Diligent – [Legal Summer Intern](#)
- [The Bronx Defenders](#), Bronx, NY

San Francisco, CA

- [Center of Juvenile and Criminal Justice](#)
- ACLU of New York – opportunities in SF
 - [Legal Intern, Immigrant's Right Project](#)
 - [Legal Intern, Disability Rights](#)
- Outten & Golden – has previously hired undergrads for part-time summer internships.
- SoFi – [Legal Intern](#)

State of CT

- [Carmody Torrance Sandak & Hennessey LLP](#) – Summer Undergraduate Diversity Internship
- [CT Commission on Human Rights & Opportunities*](#), Hartford
- [Lawyers Collaborative for Diversity](#), CT - outstanding paid summer internships in CT law firms, corporate legal departments, and nonprofits.

Washington D.C. and Virginia

- [Virginia Defenders](#) – offices throughout VA
- Ungvarsky Law LLC*, Washington, DC – Ed Ungvarsky '90, Capital Defense Attorney
- ACLU of New York – opportunities in D.C.

- See [Handshake](#)
- Robinson & Yu – [Undergraduate Summer Internship](#)
- U.S. Department of Justice, Environmental & Natural Resources Division, Law & Policy Section – [Summer Internship](#)
- Public Defenders Service for the District of Columbia, [Criminal Law Internship Program](#) (CLIP)

Multiple Offices

- Innocence Project, <https://innocenceproject.org/careers/>
- [Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts](#), Boston and New York. [Directory](#) for related organizations. The VLA occasionally takes on undergraduates for summer work. Inquire directly.

* [Cardinal Internship](#). Watch Handshake and the GCC's bi-weekly Newsletter throughout the year for the Handshake application dates.

Entry-level Jobs – check Handshake for possible active postings

These employers have hired Wesleyan graduates in the past. **Not** a comprehensive list.

Boston

- Donnelly, Conroy, and Delhaar LLP
- McHaffey & Nice LLC
- Mintz Levin, Boston, DC, NY – Project Analyst program in Boston, NY, and DC is an excellent pre-law school two-year program. Great alternative to paralegal jobs, but competitive. Wes alumni have served as attorneys before at Mintz Levin. Emma Nitzberg '12 [?] may be there now. Application is annual, in September.
- Morgan, Lewis & Bockius *, Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia, Washington DC – entry-level position designed for college graduates interested in law. Two-three years. Designed for college grads interested in law school, but not required to attend LS. Gain experience in both paralegal and non-paralegal work.
- Daryanani Law Group – [Entry Level Paralegal](#)

Denver

- Towards Justice

New York, NY

- Cleary Gottlieb*
- Cravath Swaine & Moore*
- Davis Polk & Wardwell
- Greenberg Traurig
- Her Justice
- Kobre & Kim*
- Legal Momentum
- New York City Civilian Review Board – outstanding entry-level experience!
- New York Legal Assistance Group
- Outten & Golden*

- Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison*
- Proskauer Rose*
- Shearman & Sterling
- Sullivan & Cromwell
- The Legal Aid Society
- Violence Intervention Program
- Weil, Gotshal & Manges*

Philadelphia, PA

- Kairys, Rudovsky Messing Feinberg & Lin

Washington, DC

- Cleary Gottlieb*
- Norton Rose Fulbright*
- Roderick & Solange MacArthur Justice Center

Various Locations in the US

- [Partners For Justice](#) * – outstanding entry-level client advocacy program! Co-founded by a Wesleyan graduate.

* Wesleyan Affiliated. A Wesleyan alum or parent is affiliated with the employer and would like to see Wesleyan students apply.

Search for Law Firms

Martindale is a great site to supplement your job search, by city and practice area. You can identify a firm (consider focusing on small and mid-sized firms), then check the Wes Alumni Directory and LinkedIn to see if any Wesleyan alumni work at the firm, and reach out to inquire about the culture, opportunity for undergrad interns or entry-level legal assistants/paralegals, and application advice.

- [Martindale](#) – National database for researching law firms.

If you notice a broken link on this document, please notify Jim Kubat, Pre-Law Advisor, Gordon Career Center, at jkubat@wesleyan.edu

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