



Advantages of the Accelerated JD

It's Economical

Students in this program benefit financially from the reduced opportunity cost associated with re-entering the workforce a year sooner and by foregoing one semester of education-related living expenses.

It Accelerates Your Career

By completing the full JD program in two calendar years, graduates embark on their legal careers a year sooner than in a traditional three-year program. As a result, they accelerate their post-law school career progression and success.

It's What Employers Want

Extensive research conducted by Northwestern Law uncovered the foundational core competencies that legal professionals in the United States and London say they want in an employee, including project management, teamwork, strategic understanding, communications, negotiation, cross-cultural work, basic quantitative skills, and leadership. The Accelerated JD program attracts students who already have many of these abilities, and uses innovative programs to further develop them. It also provides the same core classes and background in legal analysis as a traditional three-year program.

Our graduates have gone on to work at several major law firms including Kirkland Ellis, Chicago; Simpson Thacher, New York; Mayer Brown, Chicago; Sullivan and Cromwell, New York; Cleary Gottlieb, New York; and have secured clerkships with federal judges.

Visit the Accelerated JD website at:

www.law.northwestern.edu/academics/ajd



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Accelerated JD (AJD)

The Accelerated JD

Through Northwestern Law's Accelerated JD program—the first of its kind for a top tier law school—a limited number of highly motivated students earn a Juris Doctor (JD) degree in just two calendar years.

Students enrolled in the Accelerated JD program complete the same number of credit hours as traditional, three-year JD students in five semesters instead of six. While this faster pace means students have a more set schedule of classes, they also have the opportunity to select from the full range of electives offered by the Law School, as well as participate in all extracurricular and co-curricular activities, including journals. Accelerated JD students also receive the same summer employment and permanent employment opportunities and benefits as three-year JD students, including participation in fall on-campus interviewing.

Now in its third year, the Accelerated JD program is part of the Law School's strategic plan, which focuses on maximizing the long-term career success of its graduates and preparing them for multi-job careers.





Curriculum

Enrolled Accelerated JD students begin their coursework on campus in May. During their first semester, students enroll in four traditional first-year doctrinal courses, a professional skills course, and Communication and Legal Reasoning I.

During the first fall and spring semesters, students complete the remaining first-year courses and take Business Associations.

During the four semesters following the first summer, students are able to take electives and must complete the remainder of their graduation requirements. The remaining graduation requirements are a perspective elective, a legal ethics elective, the writing requirement, and any other required courses as may be determined by the faculty from time to time.

Following the first semester, AJD students are invited by the journal editors to participate in the journal competition and are treated as write-on candidates.



Application Deadline
for Summer 2012 is
January 13, 2012.

Admissions

Applicants to the Accelerated JD program must have at least two years of substantive post-undergraduate work experience, and ideally have demonstrated managerial and leadership experience to qualify for the program.

Prospective students may take either the LSAT or the GMAT for consideration, as an experiment aimed at providing the Admissions Committee with additional information regarding applicants' quantitative and writing abilities. Both tests receive equal weight. While not recommended or required, Northwestern Law will consider both tests in the case of applicants who wish to submit both results.

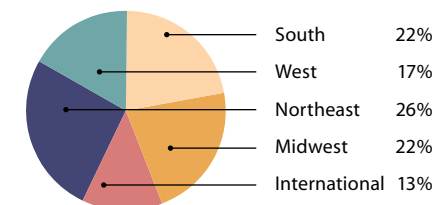
Applicants are required to complete an interview as part of the application process. They must submit a completed online application as well as an updated resume and official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended. They are also required to write three essays.

In lieu of a general letter of recommendation, the online Career Progress Evaluation (CPE) form serves as a recommendation letter for the program. One completed CPE form is required for admission and should be completed by someone who can evaluate an applicant's professional, work-related performance (current or former supervisor, client, or co-worker).

ENTERING CLASS GENERAL STATISTICS AJD PROGRAM

ENTERING YEAR	2011
Enrolls	23
Middle 50% GMAT	680-740
Middle 50% LSAT	163-170
Middle 50% GPA	3.33-3.83
Graduate Degrees	39%
Number with PhDs	2
Number with MBAs	4
Median Years of Work Experience	6
Students of Color	48%

2011 GEOGRAPHIC DIVERSITY AJD PROGRAM



AJD students typically come to Northwestern Law with several years of full-time, post graduate work experience. The last two years have included students with backgrounds in non-profit/government, finance/banking/real estate, consulting, technology/health/science/manufacturing, and media and entertainment. A sampling includes:

Production Manager, Alley Theater (Houston); Equity Research Analyst, Battle Road Research; Corporal, Reconnaissance Team Leader, U.S. Marines; Manager of Diversity and Inclusion, Home Depot; Senior Oncology Specialist, Johnson & Johnson; Senior Associate, PriceWaterhouseCoopers; Executive Director, ELCA Urban Outreach Center; Founder, Cinderella's Closet (prom dresses for underprivileged); Director, Solomon Smith Barney; Vice President, Deutsche Bank; Associate, Credit Suisse Securities; Land Acquisition Representative, Harbour Homes; Manager, Ernst & Young; Information Systems Manager, Airports Authority of Jamaica; Senior Biometrician, Merck



Tuition and Financial Aid

Northwestern Law prices tuition by the degree pursued rather than the length of enrollment. Therefore, tuition for the Accelerated JD is pro-rated to equal the same total cost as the traditional three-year JD.

Accelerated JD students are eligible for financial aid. Funding is awarded on a combination of merit and need-based factors and individuals will be notified of scholarships and grants after an admission offer has been extended.

Northwestern University School of Law | Accelerated JD Program
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