

## **Application for Admission to the LLM Program, LLM Program in International Human Rights, Graduate Program in Law and Business (LLM/Kellogg)**

**The Degree Programs for International Students** of Northwestern Law offer outstanding graduates of foreign law schools opportunities to expand their knowledge of US law and business, to continue their studies in international law, or to engage in comparative legal research.

*Students in the LLM Program must take at least 20 law credit hours to earn the LLM degree. LLM students are free to design their own program of study from the Law School's many upper-level courses and seminars, including commercial and corporate, international, constitutional, and human rights law. During their first semester in residence, students enroll in two mandatory courses. The Common Law Reasoning course, which focuses on the fundamental research, analysis, and drafting skills expected of U.S.-trained lawyers, and American Legal History course, introducing students to the history and principal characteristics of the American public and private law systems. Students in the LLM/Kellogg Program have the opportunity to study both business law and management techniques at two of America's leading schools in the fields of law and business--the Northwestern University School of Law and the Kellogg School of Management. Graduates of this program are awarded an LLM degree and a certificate in business administration. The intensive curriculum consists of upper-level course work at both schools. The law courses emphasize corporate, commercial, and transactional studies, while the Kellogg courses cover introductory and more advanced principles of management, marketing, and finance.*

*Students in the LLM Program in International Human Rights must take 20 credits related to international human rights. Within these 20 credits, they generally must take four required courses: International Human Rights Law, International Criminal Law, Human Rights Advocacy: Legal Analysis and Writing, and Human Rights Colloquium.*

*Enrollment in these programs is limited. Students have access to two staff advisers as well as to other student services such as career planning and placement. These resources--combined with the small size of the programs--ensure that students receive a high level of individual attention.*

### **English as a Second Language (ESL) Program**

The Law School's English as a Second Language Program helps students improve their English language skills and, more generally, assists students with the challenges of being advanced English language learners at a U.S. law school. Services and programs include but are not limited to discussion groups, listening/pronunciation sessions, writing coaches, essay grammar workshops, and diagnostic writing assessments.

### **LLM Program**

Northwestern's LLM program leads to a general Master of Laws degree, not a specialized one. Degree candidates must complete one academic year of residence at the law school and earn at least 20 semester hours of credit. A cumulative grade-point average of 2.25 or better (F=0, D=1, C=2, C+=2.33, B-=2.67, B=3, B+=3.3, A-=3.67, A=4, A+=4.33) is mandatory.

Students may meet the LLM degree requirements in one of two ways: by earning all 20 semester hours of credit by taking courses, seminars, or other instructional offerings; or in exceptional cases, by earning four to 10 semester hours of credit by completing an approved graduate research project and earning the remaining 10 to 16 hours by taking courses.

An LLM degree candidate who wishes to pursue a graduate research project must propose a subject of significant scholarly merit, and one or more faculty members must agree to act as supervisors. The resulting paper should be suitable for publication and must be approved by the supervising faculty member(s) and an additional faculty reader.

All requirements for the LLM degree must be met to the satisfaction of faculty by August 31 of the second year after the beginning of the candidate's academic year of residence at the law school.

### **LLM Program in International Human Rights (LLM IHR)**

Students with a first degree in law from a foreign country or individuals who have earned a JD from an ABA accredited law school, have the option of pursuing the LLM Program in International Human Rights. In this program, students will undertake in-depth study of the norms and methods of international human rights law and its implementation in domestic legal systems. The program is designed both for students from transitional democracies and for those with career interests in international human rights law. Students electing this program will take courses exclusively in the Program of International Human Rights.

### **LLM/Kellogg Program (LLM/K)**

Designed for business lawyers educated outside the United States, the LLM/Kellogg program offers the opportunity to study both business law and management techniques at the Law School and the Kellogg School of Management. During the intensive 12-month program, which begins in mid-June, students earn 18 to 25 credits (six to eight courses) in law, and take seven courses in business administration. Graduates receive a master of laws (LLM) degree from the Law School and a certificate in business administration from Kellogg.

### **Bar Requirements**

The ALLM, LLM, LLM IHR, and the LLM/Kellogg programs are not intended to qualify foreign lawyers to take the bar examination or to practice law in the United States; in many states, including Illinois, these degrees are NOT sufficient to take the exam. A copy of the *Comprehensive Guide to Bar Admission Requirements* may be obtained from the National Conference of Bar Examiners, ABA Order Fulfillment Department, 321 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois 60610, phone 312.988.5000, or online at [www.abanet.org](http://www.abanet.org).

### **ADMISSION AND APPLICATION INFORMATION**

**Applicants to the Degree Programs for International Students** *must hold a first degree in law from a university or college whose law degree requirements are comparable to Northwestern's. In unusual cases, a vote of the faculty may waive this requirement for LLM applicants. Although there are no rigid standards for class ranking or grade-point average, accepted applicants generally have ranked at or near the top of their law school classes or have otherwise demonstrated exceptional academic promise. Please refer to the previous section for profiles of recent entering classes in the LLM and LLM/Kellogg programs.*

*Applications for admission are considered only for the current year and for full-time registration. There is no part-time or evening program or mid-year entry.*

*A completed application to the Degree Programs for International Students consists of the following:*

- **The Application for Admission form which must include the signed certification statement at the end (or electronic signature if applying electronically).**

- **A nonrefundable \$100 application fee in the form of a check or money order in US dollars, payable to Northwestern University or paid electronically by credit card via LSAC.**
- **Essay Questions (may be electronically attached). Please see the section titled "Essay Questions," for specific instructions.**
- **One letter of recommendation from a member of the applicant's law faculty or from a previous or current employer.**
- **An official copy of the applicant's LLM CAS report which includes official transcripts from all institutions of higher education attended and a valid TOEFL score report (not required for the Two-Year JD Program).**
- **Curriculum vitae/résumé written in English.**
- **Evaluative interview (*encouraged but not required*).**

### ***Application Deadline: January 17***

Deadline for receipt of completed applications for the LLM, LLM IHR, LLM/Kellogg Programs

### **Application Filing Period**

The Admissions Committee may exclude from consideration any application received after the deadline or incomplete at that date. LLM/Kellogg applicants **whose files are complete by the deadline** will be notified of admission decisions by the end of March; LLM and LLM IHR will be notified by the end of May.

All prospective students for the Degree Programs for International Students are encouraged to submit their completed applications before January 1 of the year in which they wish to begin their studies. Early submission of application materials allows time for correspondence between the school and the applicant in case of deficiencies in the application. Applicants should note that the delivery of mail from abroad may be delayed.

### **Online Application**

You may complete your law school application on the web at [www.law.northwestern.edu/admissions](http://www.law.northwestern.edu/admissions) or through the Law School Admission Council's (LSAC) Electronic Applications.

### **Application Updates**

While the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid seeks to keep the applicant informed of progress on the application and the receipt of documents, it is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all parts of the application reach the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid **by the deadline**. Upon submission of an application, applicants will be provided with instructions on how to check the status of their applications via an online tool. Applicants who do not provide an e-mail address will be responsible for tracking their application status by directing inquiries to the Office of Admissions. **The Admissions Committee does not review incomplete applications.**

All correspondence should be addressed to Northwestern Law, Office of Admissions and Financial Aid, Degree Programs for International Students, 375 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611-3069, USA; phone 312.503.8465; fax 312.503.0178; e-mail [admissions@law.northwestern.edu](mailto:admissions@law.northwestern.edu).

### **Personal Statement**

In place of a traditional personal statement you will be asked to answer two questions which can be found within the application under the heading "Essay Questions." Please follow the directions and answer each question separately in a one to two-page double-spaced essay.

### **Letter of Recommendation**

Applicants must submit a confidential letter of recommendation from a previous or current employer or from a member of the applicant's law faculty.

The application contains one form for requesting a letter of recommendation; the form may be copied for additional recommenders, if any. **Please note that the recommender does not need to use the form.** After completing the introductory part of the recommendation form, the applicant should give the form and a self-addressed stamped envelope to the recommender. The recommender should insert the completed form and the letter of recommendation into the envelope, seal it, sign the envelope across the sealed flap to ensure confidentiality, and return the envelope to the applicant. The applicant should mail the *unopened* recommendation envelope(s) with the Application for Admission to Northwestern Law, Office of Admissions and Financial Aid, Degree Programs for International Students, 375 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611-3069, USA.

### **Transcripts**

Applicants with foreign legal education credentials must use the **Law School Admission Council LLM Credential Assembly Service for International Applicants**. Further information regarding the LLM Credential Assembly Service can be found at [LLM.LSAC.org](http://LLM.LSAC.org). There is a \$185 (US) fee for the LLM Credential Assembly Service.

Those applicants with foreign education credentials for whom the LLM CAS fee represents a significant financial burden may submit the transcript form, official transcripts (and translations, if required) and documentation of class rank directly to the Office of Admissions. Applicants submitting their transcripts directly to the law school with their application should provide the identifying information required on the Transcript Request Form included in the supplemental application and send the form to the registrar's office of each college or university. Applicants who have attended more than one college or university should make a copy of the request form for each institution attended. Official academic records should give results for all coursework as well as results of comprehensive or yearly examinations. Transcripts that do not bear the registrar's signature and/or the institution's seal are not official and are unacceptable. All transcripts should be in English translation. The applicant should mail them, *unopened*, to Northwestern.

In instances where a school does not furnish transcripts, school officials should certify courses completed and grades received as well as results of qualifying, comprehensive, or professional examinations where possible. If the applicant's college or university is not able to provide such a certification of academic record due to special circumstances, the applicant should obtain from school officials an explanation of the circumstances and submit it and a self-reported summary of studies, including, where possible, courses or seminars attended at the institution, grades received, examination results, and copies of certificates or instructor's evaluations. The Admissions Committee may request verification of self-reported academic records.

### **English Language Requirements**

Students in the Degree Programs for International Students must have a high level of English proficiency in order to read the large amount of course material, to research and write papers and exams, and to participate in class discussions. Foreign applicants who are not native speakers of English should take the TOEFL examination and have an official copy of the score report sent from ETS directly to LSAC LL.M. Credential Assembly Service (institution code 1565), and it will be reported in your credential evaluation. Since it may take two months or more for the score report to reach the law school, an applicant should take the TOEFL no

later than December of the year prior to enrollment. An application will not be complete and ready for review until the law school receives the official score report. Northwestern looks for a TOEFL score of at least 250 on the computer-based test and 100 on the Internet-based test. The law school will accept scores up to two years after the test date. We no longer accept the paper-based TOEFL (PBT) Examination. We only accept the computer-based (CBT) and the internet-based (IBT) TOEFL Examinations. For further information about the TOEFL examination write to TOEFL Services Educational Testing Service, PO Box 6151, Princeton, NJ 08541-6151, USA or call 1.609.921.9000.

If you have completed a first degree/undergraduate degree in law at an institution where the language of instruction is in English, you must notify the Admissions Committee by requesting a waiver of the TOEFL requirement. Please submit a brief letter, electronic attachment, or e-mail to the committee indicating the institution's name, location, and length of the degree program completed. Waivers are granted on a case by case basis. If you are granted a TOEFL waiver you will be required to participate in an evaluative interview. Our e-mail address is [admissions@law.northwestern.edu](mailto:admissions@law.northwestern.edu).

### **Curriculum Vitae/Résumé**

Applicants to the LLM, LLM IHR and LLM/Kellogg are required to submit a one to two-page curriculum vitae (CV) or résumé written in English. LLM/Kellogg applicants should have a minimum of one year of full-time legal or business-related work experience.

### **Interviews for LLM, LLM/Kellogg, and LLM IHR Applicants**

A small number of interviews will be available within a limited number of major international cities. Conducted by alumni of Northwestern's LLM, LLM IHR, and LLM/Kellogg programs, these evaluative interviews provide the Admissions Committee with additional information about your interpersonal skills, English proficiency, maturity, and motivation. Interviews are also available via phone or on campus in Chicago. These conversations also provide you the opportunity to gain additional insight into the Northwestern Law experience.

Once you have submitted an application to the Degree Programs for International Students, the Office of Admissions will provide you with complete instructions on how to request an interview.

### **Reapplicants**

If you are reapplying to the law school, you must submit a complete application, nothing from a previous application is kept on file. This full application will include the application form, an updated personal statement, a new letter of recommendation, an updated curriculum vitae/résumé, official transcript and an official TOEFL score report sent from ETS. The fee for reapplication is the same as that for first-time applicants: \$100.

### **Tuition and Financial Aid**

Tuition for the ALLM, LLM, LLM IHR and the LLM/Kellogg programs is listed at <http://www.law.northwestern.edu/admissions/tuitionaid/>. Tuition increases should be anticipated each year.

In addition to tuition, the Law School charges the following non-refundable fees:

- Application fee \$100
- Deposit \$750 (required of admitted applicants who accept a space in the entering class)
- Late payment penalty fee \$200

## **Fellowships**

The law school offers several fellowships for LLM + LLM IHR students that typically cover only a portion of the tuition. The fellowships, which are in the form of grants, are awarded based on merit and financial need. There is no teaching requirement or option. Fellowships are for one year only and are not renewable. Any nontuition portion of these fellowships is subject to US taxes. Fellowships do not provide for travel expenses to the United States. Once an applicant is offered admission, he or she will be provided with a fellowship application on the admitted students website and will be asked to provide information about his or her personal financial situation.

Because most applicants to the LLM + LLM IHR program request financial assistance, competition for fellowships is intense. All applicants, therefore, are encouraged to investigate alternative funding sources, including support from employers and government bodies, scholarships, and family and personal funds. Foreign students may wish to contact the US embassy or educational exchange commission in their countries for information on Fulbright Commission travel grants, Rotary Foundation fellowships, and other fellowship opportunities.

No fellowship or grant assistance is available for LLM/Kellogg or Two-Year JD students. Students in these programs may qualify for loans, as discussed below.

## **Loans**

All individuals must complete a *2012-2013 Need Access application* online ([www.needaccess.org](http://www.needaccess.org)) to be considered for all loan programs. The application will become available online after January 2.

Under current federal regulations, only US citizens and permanent residents are eligible for federal student loans. **Applicants who are not eligible for federal student loans may qualify for a university-administered or other private loan program (as outlined at [www.northwestern.edu/sfs/loan\\_instruc\\_info/private\\_loans.html](http://www.northwestern.edu/sfs/loan_instruc_info/private_loans.html))** If there is no cosigner, applicants should investigate loan opportunities in their home countries.

US citizens and permanent residents who wish to apply for a federal student loan should also submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to determine their eligibility for federal loan programs. The FAFSA form is available online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).

Individuals may also need to submit a signed copy of their 2011 federal tax return and W-2s to Northwestern. Individuals will be contacted via email should our Financial Aid Office require these forms.

Instructions on completing the financial aid application can be found at <http://www.law.northwestern.edu/admissions/tuitionaid/>.

## **Employment**

There are no teaching or research fellowships for graduate students at the law school, and Immigration and Naturalization Service regulations may prohibit students from seeking outside employment during their studies. The Degree Programs for International Students demand time-consuming study and research, and experience has shown that it is difficult for students to complete the academic work if they are employed. Students with questions about employment should discuss them with the program director of the Degree Programs for International Students.

The law school's Center for Career Strategy and Advancement employs a full-time counselor who assists students in their postgraduate career planning.

### **Visa Requirements**

To qualify for a visa, foreign students admitted to the Degree Programs for International Students must demonstrate their ability to fund one year of graduate study at the law school. Most students choose to enter the United States under an F-1 student visa or a J-1 exchange visitor visa. For additional information about visa options and regulations and immigration policies, contact a US embassy.

Northwestern University reserves the right to change without notice any statement in this publication concerning, but not limited to, rules, policies, tuition, fees, curricula, and courses.

It is the policy of Northwestern University not to discriminate against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, disability, or veteran status in matters of admissions, employment, housing, or services or in the educational programs or activities it operates, in accordance with civil rights legislation and University commitment. Any alleged violations of this policy or questions regarding the law with respect to nondiscrimination should be directed to Director of Equal Employment Opportunity, Affirmative Action, and Disability Services, 720 University Place, Evanston, Illinois 60208-1147, phone 847-491-7458; Office of the Provost, Rebecca Crown Center, Evanston, Illinois 60208-1101.

It is Northwestern University policy to ensure that no qualified student with a disability is denied the benefits of, excluded from participation in, or otherwise subject to discrimination in any University program or activity. In response to a request made by a qualified student with a documented disability, the University will arrange, at no cost to the student, for the provision of educational auxiliary aids, including sign language interpreters, real-time captioners, note takers, readers, and tutors, determined by the University to be necessary to afford such student the opportunity for full participation in University programs.

In exceptional circumstances, Northwestern University School of Law reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to waive any documentation normally required for admission. It also reserves the right to admit or deny an applicant admission whenever it believes that it has sufficient evidence for the decision. At the discretion of the University, supporting documents that are received more than one month after the application form may not be incorporated into the admission decision.

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