We prepare our students to succeed in a dynamic, changing world through an entrepreneurial, team-based approach to legal education.
BUILDING THE FOUNDATION
During your first year of study at Northwestern Law, you will focus on building a solid foundation in legal reasoning, analysis, and writing, as well as a thorough understanding of the structures and policies of the law. Our first-year curriculum consists of 24 credits of required classes. Half of all first-year classes are taught in sections of 60 or fewer students.

Teamwork and communication skills are developed in classes such as Communication and Legal Reasoning, a required year-long course in which students collaborate on analytical exercises and group projects. As part of this class, you will participate in the Arlyn Miner First-Year Moot Court, which provides first-year students the opportunity to prepare a written brief and argue the case against fellow students before an appellate court composed of alumni and faculty.

Another highlight of the first year at Northwestern Law is Lawyer as Problem Solver. In this seminar, faculty and legal professionals teach students how to facilitate problem solving for clients in settings outside the courtroom or boardroom.
Required Courses

The following required first-year courses provide a basic foundation in law and legal reasoning:

- Civil Procedure
- Communication and Legal Reasoning I and II
- Constitutional Law
- Contracts
- Criminal Law
- Lawyer as Problem Solver
- Property
- Torts
Upperclass Electives Open to First-Year Students

During the second semester of your first year, you will have the opportunity to take two upperclass electives that may form the basis of additional study in subsequent years. Also available as electives will be courses that meet the graduation requirement that every student take at least one course offering an interdisciplinary perspective on law and the legal system—in the following list, these are noted with an asterisk. Here are some examples of courses that have recently been available as electives to first-year students:

- American Legal History*
- Basic Federal Income Taxation
- Business Associations (Corporations)
- Civil Procedure II
- Commercial Law: Sales
- Comparative Law *
- Constitutional Criminal Procedure
- Economic Analysis of Law*
- Employment Discrimination
- Employment Law
- Environmental Law
- Estates and Trusts
- Evidence
- Family Law
- Federal Jurisdiction
- First Amendment
- Fourteenth Amendment
- Health Care Delivery Systems
- Immigration Law
- Intellectual Property
- International and Comparative Law
- International Law
- Introduction to Islamic Law
- Jurisprudence*
- Labor Law
- Large Law Firms
- Law and Psychology*
- Law and Social Change
- Legislation
- Narrative Structures*
- Perspectives on Injury Law (Torts II)
- State and Local Government
- Social Science in Law
Moot Court and Trial Teams

Moot Court programs prepare students to participate in appellate arguments. Working under faculty supervision, students prepare briefs and present oral arguments in competitions with schools across the nation and around the world.

- Arlyn Miner First-Year Moot Court Program
- Julius H. Miner Moot Court Competition
- Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Team
- Bartlit Center National Trial Team
- National Trial Team
- Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration
- Moot Court
Student Journals

Northwestern Law students publish 6 different journals on a range of subjects featuring the work of leading researchers in the United States and throughout the world. Two of them, the Northwestern University Law Review and the Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology, boast a legacy of over 100 years of groundbreaking scholarship. More recently established journals focus on international commercial law, intellectual property, technology, human rights, and social issues.

Second- and third-year law students participating on journals have the opportunity to select, edit, and write cutting-edge scholarship; to pursue leadership opportunities by serving on a journal editorial team; and to collaborate with other members in advancing the journal’s goals.

In addition to publishing scholarship, our journals also gather leading scholars for frequent symposia on significant developments in the law.

• Northwestern University Law Review (founded 1906)
• Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology (founded 1910)
• Journal of International Law and Business (founded 1979)
• Journal of International Human Rights (founded 2003)
• Journal of Law and Social Policy (founded 2006)
Concentrations

For students interested in focused study in a specific area of law, Northwestern Law offers the following concentrations:

**Appellate Law**

Northwestern Law offers a federal appellate clinic, a Supreme Court clinic, and an appellate concentration together for comprehensive training in the theory and practice of appellate law.

**Business Enterprise**

Recognizing that students who focus on corporate law will still have widely disparate interests, the business enterprise concentration offers a set of coordinated courses that provide a strong background in business-related law and allows individuals to create their own business-related curriculum.

**Civil Litigation and Dispute Resolution**

The Civil Litigation and Dispute Resolution concentration is designed for students who desire a strong background in litigation and trial advocacy.

**Environmental Law**

The goal of the Environmental Law concentration is to provide students with a foundation for future leadership in environmental law and policy. Coursework and research are fundamental, but students also participate in interdisciplinary projects at Northwestern University as well as practical externship and clinical offerings at environmental organizations across the country.

**International Law**

The International Law concentration is designed for students with a particular interest in research related to public international law, international business law, or comparative law.

**Law and Social Policy**

Informed by the knowledge and techniques of the social sciences, the Law and Social Policy concentration focuses on how law shapes society. Within this concentration there are two tracks: a policy analysis track and a public interest track.

**Law Scholars Program**

The Northwestern Law Scholars Program is an initiative for students in the JD program who are interested in academic careers or academic affiliations in their future law careers. A central goal of the program is to introduce students to academic publishing through research and writing a co-authored paper with a faculty member. During their 2nd and 3rd years, students enroll in at least four seminars taught in conjunction with law school colloquia. Colloquia provide Northwestern Law students and faculty an opportunity to meet with visiting scholars and experts in various legal areas to exchange views on cutting-edge research in law and related disciplines. Upon completion of the JD program, students also are expected to have a working paper ready for job market presentation.
Senior Research Program

The Owen L. Coon/James A. Rahl Senior Research Program gives third-year students an opportunity to work in close collaboration with faculty on questions of doctrine and policy. Students can earn up to twelve credit hours for their project. During the 2014–2015 academic year, forty-three students worked one-on-one with faculty on topics ranging from “Big Administrative Walls To Big Data Solutions In Healthcare” to “Can You Keep A Secret? Mandated Reporting Laws And Teenage Victims Of Dating Violence.”

Matthew Hines (JD ’15)
Judicial Clerk, Judge Matthew F. Kennelly of United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

As part of his Senior Research project, Heins co-authored a paper with Professor Martin H. Redish entitled “Premodern Constitutionalism,” which is forthcoming in the William & Mary Law Review.
“Senior research was, without question, the most academically rigorous and intellectually fulfilling experience I have ever had. It was the culmination of everything I learned in law school (actually, come to think of it, in my twenty-plus years as a student). Throughout the process, I grew immensely as a researcher, writer, and thinker. Professor Redish pushed me all year, challenging me to read more critically, write more clearly, argue more forcefully, and develop my own authorial voice.”
Lawyers are called upon to develop responsible practices within complex regulatory frameworks, to lead multi-disciplinary teams, and to work across international jurisdictions. Through coursework and co-curricular programs that focus on skills development in teamwork, interpersonal communication, and transactional practice—a curriculum that is rigorous and comprehensive, imaginative and future-focused—Northwestern Law students are prepared for the future and for their roles in creating a new profession for a changing world.
Clients expect their counselors to be fully conversant with modern business practices. Through cross-school collaborations with the Kellogg School of Management, as well as a range of experiential and transactional courses, Northwestern Law is widely and justly celebrated for training students in essential business skills so that they understand the tools and techniques used in the corporate boardroom to develop and analyze data used for planning and strategy.

Increasingly, lawyers are called upon to serve clients who work in scientific and technology based fields. New practice areas are emerging, and these require different fluencies. We are pioneering an integrated and innovative curriculum that connects the study of law to science, technology, engineering, and math—the STEM disciplines—to provide opportunities for our students to develop the multidisciplinary skills they will use in the business and technology sector.

Central to this strategy are programs like NUvention, an interdisciplinary course in which several Northwestern University schools collaborate, including the Kellogg School of Management, the Feinberg School of Medicine, and the McCormick School of Engineering. NUvention students learn how technological innovation becomes a viable business enterprise by following their ideas through the commercialization life cycle.

Northwestern Law is also home to the Entrepreneurship Law Center, through which students gain valuable transactional experience assisting small business owners and entrepreneurs with their legal needs. The ELC was one of the first legal clinics in the United States to provide intensive, hands-on training for students who want to be transactional lawyers or founders of start-up companies.

**STUDENT FOCUS**

Kieren Patel (JD-MBA ’16)

Patel founded Opticent Health, a company that designs and manufactures optical medical devices, as a student in the JD-MBA program. Opticent won the Grand Prize and the Life Sciences/Medical Track first prize at the 2015 Northwestern University Venture Challenge, earning $45,000 in startup capital.
ALUMNI FOCUS

Ben Hernandez (JD-MBA ’13)
CEO, NuMat Technologies

Hernandez started NuMat while pursuing his degree at Northwestern Law. A graduate of Northwestern’s McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science (BS ’06) he connected with a Northwestern chemistry professor and engineering graduate student who were developing a high-surface-area material with the potential to revolutionize the storage and transportation of natural gases—making the process safer and more efficient—by eliminating the need for compression. Hernandez led his team to a series of business plan competition wins, bringing in over $2 million in seed capital while Hernandez was still in school.
Bluhm Legal Clinic

The Bluhm Legal Clinic is widely recognized as one of the most comprehensive and effective clinical programs in the country, one that is continually adapting to meet the evolving needs of our students, the legal community, and society. Through Northwestern Law’s clinical legal education program, second- and third-year students gain direct experience representing clients and fine-tuning their skills as advocates.

Typically, 90 percent of students from each graduating class participate in Bluhm Legal Clinic programs during their time at the Law School, working side-by-side with nationally recognized scholars and practitioners from diverse backgrounds and perspectives.

Each year, hundreds of clients receive assistance from Bluhm Legal Clinic students. Our students serve a wide range of clients, from teenagers tangled up in the juvenile legal system to members of international justice tribunals. As students gain unparalleled hands-on, real-world experience, they can also dramatically improve the lives of those they serve.

The Bluhm Legal Clinic houses more than 20 clinics within 14 centers:

The Appellate Advocacy Center offers clients with legal assistance in appealing their cases on the federal, intermediate, and Supreme Court level. It is the only law school-based center that provides students with experience in appealing cases before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit and the United States Supreme Court.

The Bartlit Center for Trial Advocacy provides students with simulation-based training, allowing them to perfect the skills they will need as practicing lawyers. Students are additionally able to gain unparalleled experience and feedback competing on trial teams and participating in moot court.

The Center for Criminal Defense offers trial level representation for adult criminal defendants as well as some advocacy at the post-conviction stage. This work includes pre-trial motion practice, evidentiary hearings, jury trials, and sentencing advocacy.

The Center for Externships practicum program integrates theoretical coursework with hands-on learning provided by fieldwork. This integrated approach provides students with a theoretical background that enhances their externship and an opportunity to use their externship to inform their in-class learning.
Professor Sarah O’Rourke Schrup (center), director of the Bluhm Legal Clinic’s Appellate Advocacy Center, and a team of faculty, students, and alumni—including (from left to right) Steve Art (JD ’09), Sarah Grady (JD ’12), Daniel Fishbein (JD ’15), and Andrew Thompson (JD ’15)—helped bring *Kingsley v. Hendrickson*, a 7th Circuit case involving the rights of pretrial detainees, before the Supreme Court. In June, 2015, the Court issued a 5-4 decision in favor of their proposed standard for evaluating excessive force claims.
Children and Family Justice Center student Julie Lee (JD ’13), client L. R., student Brendan Mooney (JD ’14), and Center director Professor Julie Biehl (JD ’86) exit Cook County Juvenile Court after winning L. R.’s case.

The **Center for International Human Rights** boasts a commitment to securing human rights for individuals around the globe. CIHR students provide advocacy before international tribunals and human rights bodies, traveling to countries such as Malawi, Rwanda, Uganda, Switzerland, and France to speak on behalf of marginalized groups.

The **Center on Negotiation and Mediation** provides students with theoretical and practical experience in negotiation and mediation through courses and workshops. Students collaborate with the Kellogg School of Management, attorneys in Chicago, and students from other law schools, to cover a range of situations, including real estate transactions, and lawsuit settlements.

The **Center on Wrongful Convictions of Youth** investigates and litigates the credible innocence claims of wrongfully convicted youth and spearheads national efforts to drive criminal justice reforms that will prevent children from making coerced statements during interrogations. Through advocacy and litigation the CWCY implements policies to ensure evidence used against youth is reliable.

The **Children and Family Justice Center** provides access to justice for unrepresented youth. Faculty, staff, and students work together to promote justice for children, adolescents and their families through direct legal representation, policy advocacy, and law reform.

The **Civil Litigation Center** focuses on poverty law cases in which students advocate for clients at court in trials or in motions. Students take depositions, draft written discovery, prepare and argue motions, and try cases. Class sessions develop students’ pre-trial litigation interviewing skills, counseling, case planning, negotiation, discovery, and motion practice.
The **Entrepreneurship Law Center** offers intensive, hands-on training for students who want to be transactional lawyers or founders of start-up companies. The student-based, nonprofit clinical program gives law and business students the chance to work together to represent start-up companies, entrepreneurs, and nonprofit organizations.

The **Environmental Advocacy Center** pursues issues related to clean air and water, clean-up of hazardous waste sites, safe drinking water, green technology, climate change, and renewable energy. Students learn to assess environmental issues, and develop and implement solutions working with attorneys, scientists, economists, and legislative experts.

The **Investor Protection Center** provides investors who have limited resources with legal assistance to resolve securities disputes with broker dealers and investment advisors. The Center also plays an advocacy role, providing information to regulators when patterns of scams or disputes emerge.

The **Roderick and Solange MacArthur Justice Center** fights against civil rights injustices in cases that include police misconduct, and executions, while serving as an advocate for the indigent in the criminal justice system. Students are involved in nearly every case the MacArthur Justice Center takes, serving on litigation teams, conducting and applying legal research, and planning next steps to advance litigation.
Bluhm Legal Clinic faculty, students, and alumni work to free the wrongfully convicted

Jason Strong was wrongfully convicted of murder based on testimony that was later recanted and a coerced confession. Bluhm Legal Clinic Director Thomas Geraghty led a team of faculty, students, and alumni on a seven-year effort that resolved complicated procedural problems and uncovered facts in the case that revealed Strong’s innocence. Strong’s conviction was vacated in May of 2015 and he was released from prison a free man. Pictured here: Brian Nisbet (JD ’09); Visiting Clinical Professor Judith Royal (JD ’81); Clinical Professor Maria Hawilo; Strong’s grandmother, Cece Benovsky; Strong’s mother, Debbie King; Jason Strong; Professor Thomas Geraghty (JD ’69); Clinical Fellow Greger Calhan; and David Luger (JD ’09).
From left: Andre Davis celebrates his exoneration with Bluhm Legal Clinic faculty; Nicole Harris (center) hugs Alison Flaum, Clinical Associate Professor of Law and Legal Director of the Children and Family Justice Center, following her 2013 exoneration for a murder she did not commit, but for which she served eight years in prison; Kristine Bunch celebrates her exoneration after seventeen years in prison.
Public Interest

Public interest initiatives are an integral part of legal education at Northwestern Law. We offer a concentration in Law and Social Policy, which focuses on law as it consciously shapes society, as distinguished from its role in adjudicating disputes. The Bluhm Legal Clinic and the Center for Externships offer curricular and co-curricular opportunities that provide substantive legal instruction and experiential learning while at the same time allowing students to make a tangible impact locally, nationally, and internationally.

A recent gift to the Law School from the estate trust of Dawn Clark Netsch—a member of the Class of 1952 and a prominent figure in Illinois politics until her death in 2013—created the Walter and Dawn Clark Netsch Scholarship Fund to provide financial aid for Northwestern Law students who are interested in pursuing careers in public interest law. The first cohort of Netsch Scholars will matriculate in the Fall of 2016.

Our commitment to public interest extends beyond graduation as well. The Jay A. Pritzker Fellowship program was created to help talented Northwestern Law graduates launch their public interest careers. Other programs, such as the Michael and Mary Schuette Global Fellowship in Health and Human Rights, focus on international health and human rights work. The Law School also offers a robust Loan Repayment Assistance Program for graduates who enter public interest and government jobs.

As a student, Belcore saw the devastation in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. He worked with Professor Wilson to create an experiential course to study the legal issues affecting low-income disaster victims and to provide direct legal assistance to people in need along the Mississippi coast. Belcore later designed a project for people facing legal and regulatory barriers to finding gainful employment because of prior criminal convictions. This project earned him an Equal Justice Works Fellowship at the Sargent Shriver Center on Poverty Law; he transitioned to a staff position there at the conclusion of his Fellowship. In 2011, he was named a White House Champion of Change, and in 2013, the Illinois State Bar Association named him the 2013 Young Lawyer of the Year for Cook County.

Before she returned to Northwestern Law to help educate the next generation of public interest lawyers, Professor Wilson served as the Project Director of the Employment Opportunity Project at the Chicago Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. In 2012, she was awarded the Chicago Bar Foundation’s Leonard J. Schrager Award of Excellence, which recognizes an exemplary attorney in academia who has made significant and lasting contributions to improving access to justice.

**ALUMNI FOCUS**

Todd Belcore (JD ’10)
Community Justice Lead Attorney, Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law

Cindy Wilson (JD ’86)
Clinical Professor of Law and Director of the Center for Externships, Bluhm Legal Clinic, Northwestern University School of Law
Global Opportunities

Northwestern Law offers many opportunities for students to prepare for both public and private practice in today’s global legal market.

Bluhm Legal Clinic students work on justice audits in Bangladesh, prison reform projects in Malawi, and international justice tribunals at The Hague and in the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia.

An interdisciplinary health and human rights project, Access to Health brings students and faculty from the Law School, the Kellogg School of Management, and the Feinberg School of Medicine together to work with communities in the developing world on projects that promote improved health outcomes.

Students who participate in International Team Projects, a popular comparative law program, have the opportunity to build a curriculum and conduct primary research abroad, expanding their learning experience beyond the classroom.
Inside the courtroom at the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia.

The International Programs Office facilitates participation in our dynamic study abroad programs. Northwestern Law also offers a concentration in International Law, which allows students to focus on three areas: public international law, international business law, and comparative law.

Faculty are involved in projects around the world as well. Reforming the evidence code of Tanzania and developing clinical legal training in Ethiopia are two examples—and in all of these undertaking students are active participants. These types of projects allow students to gain insights into different legal systems and provide incomparable experiential learning opportunities, while at the same time serving the highest ideals of the profession.

Uttara Dukkipati (JD-MBA ’15) and Ariel Moser, an MPH student at the Feinberg School of Medicine, partnered with station 107.6 FM (Radio Daande: The Voice of Douentza) in Douentza, Mali, to develop public health messages for the community as part of an Access to Health project.
OUR COMMUNITY
You are choosing not just a law school but a community. Enter our doors, and you will find a close-knit community with one of the lowest student-faculty ratios in the country—a place where students have unusually close contact with professors who are noted scholars. What we affectionately label the “Northwestern Law Difference” describes a culture that emerges from a core philosophy that our students are pre-professionals who work in partnership with faculty on their academic objectives. Northwestern Law students are responsible for principal elements of their educational choices.

We emphasize teamwork and collaborative learning, and nurture an environment in which ambitious law students can work seriously on their studies and their professional objectives—while not taking themselves too seriously. Open our doors to the outside world, and you will find a lakefront location in the heart of one of our nation’s most vibrant cities. Our setting and culture offer a uniquely attractive environment in which to pursue your studies, to forge lifelong friendships, and to plan your career.
Degree Programs

Our students come from around the world, bringing a broad diversity of perspectives and interests to a variety of programs of study:

- Juris Doctor
- JD-MBA
- JD-PhD
- JD-LLM in International Human Rights
- JD-LLM in Tax
- Accelerated JD (two-year JD program)
- Two-year JD for International Lawyers
- Master of Laws (LLM)
- Accelerated LLM
- LLM in Tax
- LLM in International Human Rights
- Graduate Program in Law and Business (LLM/Kellogg)
- Executive LLM Programs (in Madrid, Seoul, and Tel Aviv)
- Master of Science in Law (MSL)

Student Organizations

- African Legal Library Project
- AJD Club
- American Civil Liberties Union
- American Constitution Society
- Amnesty International
- Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Art and Entertainment Law Society
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association
- Black Law Students Association
- Christian Legal Society
- Disability Law Society
- Diversity Coalition
- Entrepreneurship Law Center Student Group
- Environmental Law Society
- Habeas Chorus
- Intellectual Property Law Society
- International Law Society
- JD-MBA Association
- Jewish Law Students Association
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Labor and Employment Law Association
- Latino Law Students Association
- Law School Democrats
- Law Students for Reproductive Freedom
- Muslim Law Students Association
- Moot Court Club
- National Lawyers Guild
- Northwestern University Human Rights Project
- OUTlaw
- Public Interest Law Group
- Real Property Trusts and Estates
- South Asian Law Students Association
- Sports Law Society
- St. Thomas More Society
- Student Bar Association
- Student Effort to Rejuvenate Volunteering
- Student Funded Public Interest Fellowships Program
- Tax Law Society
- The D.R.E.A.M. Committee
- The Federalist Society
- Veterans Association
- Wigmore Follies
- Women’s Leadership Coalition
Our Campus

Northwestern Law is located at the eastern edge of Northwestern University’s 20-acre Chicago campus. To the east of the Law School is Lake Michigan, the fifth largest lake in the world; to the west, Chicago’s premier shopping district, Michigan Avenue’s “Magnificent Mile”; to the north, residential neighborhoods of great charm and variety; to the south, Chicago’s downtown, home to courts, law firms, and corporations.

The Law School is part of one of the country’s foremost research universities. More than 17,000 students are enrolled on Northwestern’s two lakefront campuses. As a Northwestern student, you will be able to take advantage of the resources of both campuses. These include not only the complete holdings of the University libraries but also the cultural and recreational offerings on the Evanston campus. The campus offers a regular schedule of music and theater performances, lectures, art exhibits, and film showings as well as Wildcat football games and other Big Ten sports.
Chicago

A world financial center, Chicago is the third largest city in the United States and one of its largest legal markets. Almost every federal and state agency and every level of trial and appellate court have offices in the city. Many of the nation’s largest corporations and law firms are here, along with the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, the Chicago Stock Exchange, and the Chicago Board of Trade.
Chicago is also an entrepreneurship hub, with a number of high-profile tech incubators and accelerators—many with Northwestern ties. In 2015, a report that looked at how cities support local entrepreneurship, “City Initiatives for Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurship,” rated Chicago one of the world’s most innovative metropolises; and Forbes magazine ranked Chicago as the top city for female entrepreneurs.

Home to the Stanley Cup Champion Blackhawks, as well as the Bears, Bulls, Cubs, White Sox, Fire, and Sky, and world-renowned museums such as the Art Institute and the Field Museum, theaters like Steppenwolf and Second City, and music venues that range from the Chicago Symphony Orchestra to numerous summer music festivals—Chicago is a city of eclectic neighborhoods, of arts, architecture and galleries, of places to eat, drink and socialize. As the third largest city in the country, Chicago offers something for everybody and just happens to be a great place to live!
Life After Law School

Our career-centered approach to legal education first seeks input from legal industry leaders and practitioners—the ones who ultimately employ our graduates. By looking outward, we are able to ensure that our graduates have the abilities and perspectives they need to differentiate themselves with their future employers. The Law School’s recently established Center for Practice Engagement and Innovation, a first of its kind incubator to drive legal education innovation based on engagement with leaders of the profession, should enhance our efforts even further.

The success of our programs can be seen in the achievements of our alumni. Since our founding in 1859, the Law School has produced graduates who have served on the U.S. Supreme Court and in government, presided over the boards of directors of major corporations, fought for justice, and been leaders of the bench and bar in every part of the country and throughout the world. We graduated the first woman to receive a law degree in the United States, the first woman to hold a statewide elective office in Illinois, the first African-American mayor of Chicago, and major league baseball’s first commissioner.

Today as before, the Northwestern Law community extends beyond our campus, beyond Chicago. Our alumni are working in many different firms, companies, organizations, sectors, cities, and countries; together they constitute an extraordinary alumni network.

The Career Strategy Center facilitates connections to this powerful network of alumni and to potential employers, including law firms, government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and businesses. Each year, hundreds of employers from around the country visit the school to recruit our students. The Career Center also provides students with the tools and strategies needed to conduct successful job searches and manage multi-job careers over their lifetime. Perhaps the external recognition we have received is the greatest testament to our approach. In 2014, the Princeton Review ranked Northwestern Law as the best law school for career prospects — a position we have held for 6 of the 10 years the Princeton Review has published this ranking. In 2015, Business Insider listed Northwestern Law as the 5th best law school for networking. Finally, for each of the past nine years, the National Law Journal has listed Northwestern among the top ten “Go-To” law schools, based on the percentage of graduates securing positions within NLJ 250 firms.
Additionally, the Law School has created a series of unique programs designed to help recent graduates achieve their individual career objectives:

**Jay A. Pritzker Fellowship Program**

While there is a tremendous need for legal services in the public interest sector, a lack of adequate funding creates a shortage of opportunity, particularly for recent law graduates. To address this issue, the Jay Pritzker Foundation established the Jay A. Pritzker Fellowship Program to help highly qualified Northwestern Law students gain public interest experience upon graduation. Recipients of these post-graduate fellowships receive a full year’s worth of funding so they can work as lawyers at the domestic nonprofit or government agency of their choice.

**Loan Repayment Assistance Program**

Most law schools have a Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP), but ours is different in an important way: it dovetails with provisions of the College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007 (CCRAA). The CCRAA allows graduates to use Income Based Repayment (IBR) to lower monthly payments on federal student loans. However, one drawback of IBR is that the low payments often do not cover the interest due on the loan, much less the principal. Our LRAP helps graduates make their IBR payments and also pay down some of the unpaid interest during the first five years. This provision benefits graduates whose changing life circumstances cause them to pursue private sector employment before full forgiveness is achieved.
Employment Statistics: Class of 2014

EMPLOYMENT REPORT 9 MONTHS AFTER GRADUATION

EMPLOYMENT STATISTI

Employed (total) 269 92.4%
Bar Passage Required 2.41 82.8%
JD Advantage 27 9.3%
Total graduates 291

EMPLOYMENT TYPE

Law Firms 184
Business & Industry 23
Public Sector/Public Interest 25
Judicial Clerkships 35
Education 2

REPORTED JOBS BY REGION

Midwest 45%
Northeast 26%
West 16%
South 10%
International 3%

KNOWN SALARIES OF EMPLOYED

Less than $40,000 6
$40,000–$49,999 33
$50,000–$59,999 27
$60,000–$69,999 27
$70,000–$79,999 5
$80,000–$89,999 11
$90,000–$99,999 15
$100,000–$109,999 15
$110,000–$119,999 11
$120,000–$129,999 9
$130,000–$139,999 9
$140,000–$149,999 17
$150,000–$159,999 17
$160,000+ 144

Total graduates: 291

Detailed information regarding employment statistics can be found at:
www.law.northwestern.edu/professional-life/career/stats/jd/
Contact Us
Office of Admissions and Financial Aid
Northwestern University
School of Law
Phone: 312.503.8465
Fax: 312.503.0178
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Northwestern University does not discriminate or permit discrimination by any member of its community against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, parental status, marital status, age, disability, citizenship, or veteran status in matters of admissions, employment, housing, or services or in the educational programs or activities it operates.

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 Labor Relations, 720 University Place, Evanston, Illinois 60208-1147, phone 847-491-7458; Office of the Provost, Rebecca Crown Center, Evanston, Illinois 60208-1101.

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