

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AT A GLANCE*

*The following is a brief summary of BYU Law School's graduation requirements.
Please consult <https://law.byu.edu/policies-and-procedures/graduation-requirements> for a full explanation of graduation requirements.

Graduation Requirements

1. 90 Total Credits
2. First Year Courses
3. Professional Responsibility
4. Substantial Writing Paper
 - a. Minimum 30-page paper completed in one semester in conjunction with a class, Directed Research, or a Co-curricular, and submitted to the supervising professor for feedback, student revisions, and final approval.
5. 6 Credits of Professional Skills Courses
 - a. Professional Skills includes Externships, Clinical Alliances, and upper-division courses designated as "Professional Skills" courses. (Courses designated "Professional Skills" usually stay as such, but they may change at the Associate Dean of Curriculum's discretion.)
6. Maximum of 21 total credits of Externships, Clinical Alliances, Co-curriculars, and approved non-law courses; additionally:
 - a. Maximum of 12 credits of Externships (Law 599R) and Clinical Alliances (Law 780R)
 - b. Maximum of 6 credits of Externships over the spring/summer
 - c. Maximum of 3 credits at a private law firm
 - d. Maximum of 6 credits of Co-curriculars (Law 792R and Law 793R)
 - e. Maximum of 6 approved non-law credits (this limit is not applicable to joint degree students)
 - f. Clinics (Law 788R) are not included in the 21 total credit limit
7. Meeting with Law School Registrar at least four months before graduation

Credits per Semester

Maximum of 16 credits per semester without permission. Students seeking to enroll in 16.5-18.0 credits must receive permission from the Law School Registrar.

Overlapping Course

Students may not register for two classes scheduled for the same time, even if there is only a short overlapping time period, no exceptions.

Qualifying for Latin Honors & Order of the Coif

In order to qualify for Order of the Coif (top 10% of the class at graduation) and Latin Honors (top 32% of the class at graduation) students must earn a minimum of 67.5 graded credits (this excludes pass/fail courses). Transfer and visiting students may apply for an exception to this requirement.

Further Questions

1. Questions about BYU School Policies and Graduation Requirements?

Please consult <https://law.byu.edu/policies-and-procedures>

2. Seeking Academic Advisement?

Please contact the Director of Academic Advisement & Development, Catherine Bramble, catherine.bramble@law.byu.edu

3. Questions about Specific Policies or Graduation Requirements?

Please contact the BYU Law School Registrar, Gaelynn Smith, smithgl@law.byu.edu



BYU Law General Career Paths

See General Career Paths handout and Specific Career Paths handout for more information about all of the exciting and rewarding paths you can explore while here at BYU Law.

Administrative Law:

For future lawyers who want to learn the intricacies of federal regulations on corporations, businesses, and local or state governments.

Constitutional Law:

For future lawyers concentrating on constitutional rights and issues as well as guiding individuals & organizations that recognize those rights.

Family Law:

For future lawyers that want to focus on children, women's and familial matters.

In-House Counsel:

For future lawyers who want to work with or help run a corporation or business.

Labor & Employment Law:

For future lawyers focusing on balancing the rights and duties of employees and employers.

Religion and the Law:

For future lawyers who want to familiarize themselves with the Free Exercise and Establishment Clauses, which are commonly litigated before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR):

For future lawyers excited to engage in mediation, negotiation, and arbitration to resolve differences out of court.

Education and the Law:

For future lawyers who want to help reform or restructure public or private education within the law.

Government Law:

For future lawyers intending to work in government-related areas, such as the legislative or judicial branches, or in local and state government.

Innovating the Law:

For future lawyers interested in learning the necessary skills, attributes, and rules needed to innovate the law and become future leaders.

Litigation:

For future lawyers who want to understand the procedures, skills, and processes to work within the courts.

Sports & Entertainment Law:

For future lawyers interested in the ultra-competitive entertainment and sports industries, which involves contract law, employment discrimination, and IP law.

Business Law:

For future lawyers intending to work in business-related areas, but unsure of which specific subset of business law to focus on.

Environmental Law & Natural Resources:

For future lawyers who want to learn about local, state, and federal government laws and regulations concerning the environment.

Health Law:

For future lawyers dedicated to public health and medical issues, as well as thinking about how the government interacts with public health.

Intellectual Property & Technology:

For future lawyers interested in intellectual property (trade secrets, patents, trademarks, copyrights) and technology, especially for students who majored in science.

Public Interest Law:

For future lawyers becoming more involved with their community, work within the system, and improve the rights of individuals on a low bono or pro bono basis.

Tax Law:

For future lawyers focusing on taxation and its effects on every aspect of corporations, businesses, and individuals.

Criminal Law:

For future lawyers focusing on the rights of individuals within the criminal justice system.

Estate Planning:

For future lawyers who want to structure a person's future affairs, such as personal and real property, tax issues, and creating trusts—including up to and after death.

Immigration Law:

For future lawyers hoping to concentrate on border disputes and the rights and issues of immigrants.

International Law:

For future lawyers focusing on the flow of goods, technology, ideas, capital, and people across State borders.

Real Estate Law:

For future lawyers interested in real estate issues, varying from safeguarding the environment to Indian affairs to helping landlord-tenant relations to litigating with state and local government.

