“One of the aspects of the CWRU School of Law I most enjoyed was the focus on experiential education. There are many opportunities both in the classroom and through externships to get hands-on experience.”

Blair Mills '21

As a social worker, Blair Mills was frustrated by the legal barriers faced by her clients. She came to CWRU Law to get the tools she needed to better serve those clients and affect social change. During law school she externed with Legal Services of Eastern Missouri and several other nonprofits. Those experiences helped her secure a post-graduate Equal Justice Works fellowship providing family law representation for survivors of domestic violence in high-poverty areas of St. Louis.

Blair Mills '21

Intrigued? Learn more about us at case.edu/law.
Or contact lawadmissions@case.edu.

BE READY TO PROTECT THE POWERLESS

Public Interest Law

The Great Lakes are Cleveland’s front yard, and that energy flows through a diverse and welcoming metro area with friendly, affordable neighborhoods, downtown glam, live music, and three professional sports teams: the Cavs, Browns, and Guardians. Superb public transit, including a rail link to Cleveland Hopkins International Airport, makes the area easy to explore.

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Working for Social Justice

Our courses prepare you for real-life challenges. Some examples:
- Death Penalty Lab
- Human Trafficking Clinic
- Immigration Law
- LGBTQ+ Legal Issues
- Prisoner Rights and Litigation
- Race, Law & Society
- Second Chance Reentry Clinic
- War on Drugs
- Wrongful Convictions

At Case Western Reserve University School of Law we put social justice at the heart of our mission. We work to improve the local bail bond system, reform municipal policing, prosecute international war crimes, research Innocence Project cases, address human trafficking, and work to remedy the lead contamination crisis in our city and the nation.

We raise our voices for social justice. In our Criminal Justice Clinic, students prepare and argue all pre-trial matters. We assist clients with naturalization and citizenship applications in our Immigration Clinic. The Ohio Attorney General’s office supports the work of our Human Trafficking Clinic, which includes representation, advocacy, immigration status, and employment.

Dual Degrees
Earn two graduate degrees in just four years. Credit-sharing between the School of Law and the Jack, Joseph, and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences allows you to earn your JD and MNO (Master of Nonprofit Organizations) or MSSA (Master of Science in Social Administration) simultaneously.

Stipends for Externships
The Social Justice Law Center provides stipends for summer and semester-long public interest law internships and externships. It also supports research projects for our Stephanie Tubbs Jones Scholars—talented students in each class recognized for their interest in public interest law. The Student Public Interest Law Fellowship (SPILF) also supports students interested in public interest law careers. Through an annual auction and other events, SPILF raises money to provide annual grants to law students who accept summer internships with public interest employers.

Street Law
Street Law student volunteers lead an innovative teaching program in the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court’s juvenile detention center for youth ages 14 through 17. Lessons aim to help them understand relevant legal topics, such as discrimination, crime, and domestic law.

Loan Repayment
CWRU JD graduates who use their legal training to provide services in the public interest are eligible for a Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP) grant to help cover student loan payments for up to eight years of eligibility. Our LRAP program has provided loan repayment assistance to alumni since its inception over 25 years ago.

Exterships
- Catholic Charities Immigration Legal Services, Cleveland, Ohio
- Habens Corpus Resource Center, San Francisco, California
- NAACP, Cleveland, Ohio
- Human Rights Watch, Washington, D.C.
- New York, New York
- Texas Innocence Project, Fort Worth, Texas
- Equality Ohio, Columbus, Ohio
- Disability Rights Maine, Augusta, Maine
- Pulitzer Center, Washington, D.C.