



CASE WESTERN RESERVE  
UNIVERSITY  
School of Law

2025 - 2026

# STUDENT HANDBOOK

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# 2025 – 2026 STUDENT HANDBOOK

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# **ACADEMIC REGULATIONS, POLICIES, AND PROCEDURES**

The faculty has adopted the Academic Regulations listed below as AR 1 through AR 22. Policies and procedural clarifications complement these provisions. Both the Academic Regulations and the policies and procedures are subject to change by the faculty. Unless otherwise stated, the “Academic Dean” refers to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. The “Dean of Students” refers to the Associate Dean of Student Services. “CWRU” refers to the Case Western Reserve University School of Law or to Case Western Reserve University. “Students” refers to all students of CWRU, including in-person JD, Online Part-Time JD, Master of Law, CRM, MAFI, LL.M., and SJD students, unless otherwise stated within a particular Academic Regulation. Additional programs, other than the JD program, may have policies and procedures that they will make known to their students.

This publication has the limited purpose of providing information concerning the Law School’s policies and programs for the period listed. The publication should not be construed as a basis of an offer or contract between the University and any present or prospective student. The Law School and the University have the right to amend, add, or delete any information in the publication, including any course of study, program, or regulation of the Law School or University. Announcements of such changes are made on a routine basis within the University or the Law School.

## **AR 1. Registration**

Students must register for each semester before the first day of classes. During any semester, a student enrolled in the Law School may not register in another college or university or in another division of this University without special permission of the Academic Dean. To enroll in the Law School as a candidate for the J.D. degree, a student must be a graduate of an accredited undergraduate institution. One week prior to when the student commences the J.D. program, the student must furnish two official transcripts showing such graduation, with degree and date awarded, and one official transcript from any institution from which a graduate degree was obtained. Failure to submit transcripts as required may result in severe penalties, including suspension or dismissal.

This regulation applies to students registered in the MAFI program except that MAFI students will be registered for MAFI courses by the Case Western Reserve University School of Law, and except that in exceptional circumstances, individuals without a bachelor’s degree but with extensive professional experience in the Anti-Money-Laundering field may be admitted to the MAFI program and allowed to enroll in the MAFI program.

## **AR 2. Financial Obligations**

Students are considered registered only after tuition and fees have been paid. The discharge of all financial obligations to the University is a prerequisite for graduation, for obtaining academic transcripts, and for subsequent attendance. Checks and money orders should be made payable to Case Western Reserve University and should include the name and student ID number of the student for whom payment is made. Students can access their bursar accounts through the online Student Information System (SIS).

See also University Policy on Past Due Debts.

For information on Tuition Invoices and Billings, see the section on Law Student Financial Services Office.

### **Related Policies and Procedures**

Returning students who have unpaid tuition and fees owed to the University may not register for any subsequent coursework. For this purpose, fees include the student activity fee, the health insurance fee, housing fees, and library fines.

### **AR 3. Law School Technical Standards**

J.D. graduates of Case Western Reserve University School of Law must have a predictable level of competence across the range of knowledge and skills generally expected of lawyers. This allows clients, licensing and credentialing authorities, and other interested parties to rely on these competencies. The American Bar Association and state bar associations require some of these competencies; others come from widespread industry practice and expectations. To achieve these competencies, students must *enter* the Case Western Reserve University School of Law able to do various functions, either with or without reasonable accommodation, and must maintain these abilities throughout law school to graduate. These functions, known as *technical standards*, are listed, and described below.

Case Western Reserve University is committed to providing reasonable accommodation for students with disabilities who cannot satisfy these technical standards without accommodation. However, students should be aware that:

- A. Technical Standards are not waivable. If a student cannot meet these requirements with or without reasonable accommodation, then a student will not be able to enroll or complete the J.D. program and graduate.
- B. Case Western Reserve University adheres to a formal reasonable accommodation process through the Office of Disability Resources (ODR). Reasonable accommodations are reviewed on a case-by-case basis through an interactive process between the student and ODR, in accordance with these technical standards. Accommodations are deemed unreasonable if they fundamentally alter an essential academic requirement that is necessary to the J.D. curriculum or the fundamental curricular goals of a course. This includes competence, knowledge, and general lawyering skills both inside the classroom as well as in the practical environment. In those cases, the request for accommodations may be denied.
- C. Because of the specialized skills involved in the practice of law, accommodations that were available and adequate in high school, undergraduate study, and/or in standardized testing may not be appropriate, adequate, or reasonable when applied to law study at Case Western Reserve University.
- D. Case Western Reserve University offers an in-person full-time and an online part-time J.D. program. This typically requires a credit load of approximately 15 and 8 credit hours,

respectively, which translates to 40 and 21 or more hours of work per week in class and outside of class, respectively.

After reviewing the Technical Standards, prospective students who anticipate the need for reasonable accommodation or who are unsure as to whether they can satisfy the requirements of the program even with reasonable accommodation must contact ODR. This contact must take place prior to matriculating to determine whether reasonable accommodations can be provided. If, at any point, a current student experiences or anticipates a need for reasonable accommodation, that student must contact the ODR in a timely manner to determine whether reasonable accommodations can be provided.

### **Description of Technical Standards**

Technical Standards are not waivable. If a student cannot meet these requirements with or without reasonable accommodation, then a student will not be able to enroll or to complete the J.D. program and graduate.

- 1. Intellectual and Conceptual Skills.** Students must independently be able to learn to research, solve problems, apply concepts, and think critically, such that they can engage with materials and satisfy course requirements.
- 2. Time Management Skills.** Students must be able to meet deadlines, complete all classroom, exam, and clinical assignments and administrative tasks within the assigned timeframe, and keep scheduled appointments.
- 3. Attendance and Exam Policy.** Students must comply with the School of Law's policies on attendance and on exams and other assessments. Students must also satisfy the attendance, exam, and other assessment policies in all required and elective courses, clinics, and other offerings in which the student is enrolled.
- 4. Participation and Public Speaking.** During class in many required and elective courses, clinics, and programs, students will be called on with or without advance warning. Students must be able to make public responses to questions from the instructor, from guest speakers, or from other students. In other required and elective courses, clinics, and programs, students must be able to make public presentations and publicly answer questions.
- 5. Communication Skills.** Students must be able to communicate in an effective, efficient, mature, respectful, and professional manner. Students must be able to understand and respond effectively to directions, corrections, and feedback. Students must be able to read and understand large amounts of written material as well as lectures and audio and video presentations and communicate effectively in writing.
- 6. Organizational Skills.** Students must have the ability to set goals, to formulate a plan to accomplish those goals, and to implement a plan. Students must be able to follow directions, to make reasonable inferences, and to organize and synthesize large amounts of information. Students must be able to organize ideas to communicate those ideas in writing and orally. Students must be able to understand deadlines and to meet them. Students must be able to manage competing demands and heavy workloads.

7. **Behavioral Skills.** Students must exercise good judgment, honesty, and integrity. Students must have appropriate professional interpersonal skills and be able to work successfully under stressful conditions with or without others. Students must be able to work alone, with other students, and with faculty and staff. Students must be able to work in teams, and in all cases to observe appropriate boundaries. Students must be able to handle course loads and clinic demands that may be mentally and emotionally taxing. Students must be able to adapt to changing circumstances. Each student must be able to monitor his or her own behavior, act civilly, and adhere to all norms of ethical and professional conduct.

## **AR 4. Course Selection**

This Regulation does not apply to Online Part-Time students. Regulation AR 3(2) through AR 3(4) do not apply to LLM and SJD students.

After the first year, students must select their courses before the beginning of each semester. During the first week of each semester, students may drop or add courses (subject to enrollment restrictions). Courses may not be added after the first week of classes. Courses may be dropped after the first week of classes only in the event of exceptional circumstances and only with permission of the Academic Dean. See also AR 7.

### **Related Policies and Procedures**

#### **1. Drop/Add Policy**

For most courses, the drop/add period lasts the entire first week of the semester. The drop/add option does not apply to Clinic or Capstone placements. Classes that meet outside the standard academic calendar dates might have special drop/add deadlines; information about those deadlines is available from the Academic Services Office. Courses that are officially dropped from a student's schedule before the drop/add deadline will not appear on the student's academic transcript. Students are requested to make decisions to drop a class as early as possible to allow other students to take a seat that is being vacated.

Students are reminded that attendance during the drop/add period is important. Students should attend any class they are considering adding, to the extent that course conflicts permit. If a student misses a class in a course before adding it, the student will start the class with a significant disadvantage relative to other students. It is not the responsibility of the instructor to try to offset or ameliorate this disadvantage. In addition, students are urged to contact the instructor before adding a class late in the drop/add period to discuss the effects of any absences that have already occurred. Faculty members may choose to count absences during drop/add period toward the allotment of excused absences for the semester.

The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs, and Associate Dean for Student Services are available to advise students who are unsure of which courses to take.

#### **2. Limits on Clinics, Externships, Practicums, and Capstone Externships**

A student may take only one Clinic, Externship, Practicum, or Capstone Externship in any given semester. A student may take one Capstone Externship and/or Capstone Clinic. A student may not take two Capstone Externships, but they may take two semesters of a Clinic.



A student is limited to receiving credit at a particular placement for a single semester/summer. In some circumstances, the Associate Dean for Experiential Education may approve a second semester at the same placement upon a showing that the experience in the second semester will involve significant additional development of the student's knowledge, experience, and skills beyond what the student achieved during the first semester.

A student may not apply for Field Placements (Externships and Capstone Externships) that will result in a conflict of interest based on other work in which a student is engaged such as simultaneous work for a public defender's office or a prosecutor's office or a judicial Field Placement in the same court system.

### **3. Application and Selection Process for Externship, Capstone Externship, and Clinic Experiences.**

Applications for externships and clinic experiences are managed by the Experiential Education Program.

#### **Externships**

Students apply for Externships through the Career Development Office's online job portal, CDOonline. There is an official, two-week application period prior to each semester, during which time students may apply to a variety of Externship postings. Students interested in applying for an Externship must complete and submit an application via CDOonline by the deadline date. Each application will specify the Externship site's required application documentation. The Externship sites will contact the selected students to schedule interviews and extend Externship offers.

#### **Capstone Externships and Clinics**

Students apply for Capstone Clinics and Capstone Externships through CDOonline. There is an official, two-week application period for the Capstone Program during which time students may apply to a variety of Capstone Externship and Clinic opportunities. Each application will specify the Capstone site's required application documentation. Capstone Externship sites will contact the selected students to schedule interviews and extend Capstone Externship offers.

Students apply to earn experiential credit for an Externship or Capstone Externship placement at a site outside of the law school's current Field Placement Externship Program by submitting a student-initiated application. Students seeking more information and the student-initiated application should contact the Manager of Experiential Opportunities, whose office is located in the Kramer Law Clinic.

Students may also propose a self-arranged placement. Information about this option can be found on the [Student Advising Portal](#).

Clinics and some Capstone Externships have prerequisites or co-requisites that students should take into consideration when planning their schedules and selecting courses.

This regulation does not apply to students registered in the MAFI Program.

## **AR 5. Rules of Conduct**

### **A. Codes of Conduct**

Each student admitted to the Law School is subject to three separate codes of conduct. The University will enforce its Rules of Conduct except for any Substantial Violations found in the Law School Code of Conduct (Section II) and/or any violations of the ABA Model Rules, which will be subject to Law School enforcement, where applicable, such as where a student is acting as a legal intern or in a representational capacity.

#### **1. University Rules of Conduct**

Conduct that is subject to University disciplinary action includes the following:

- a. Interference with freedom of speech or movement, or intentional disruption or obstruction of teaching, research, administration, or other functions on University property
- b. Any actual or threatened physical harm or mental abuse of any person on University premises or at functions sponsored or supervised by the University
- c. Failure to comply with the directions of University officials, instructional or administrative, acting in performance of their duties
- d. Theft or vandalism of University property or that of a member of the University community or campus visitor
- e. All forms of dishonesty, including cheating; plagiarism; knowingly furnishing false information to the University; forgery; and the alteration or misuse of University documents, records, or instruments of identification
- f. Falsification, distortion, or misinterpretation of information before a hearing body
- g. Unauthorized carrying or possession on University premises of firearms or of any weapon with which injury, death, or destruction may be inflicted
- h. Violations of law on University premises or in connection with University functions
- i. Violation of published University rules and regulations

#### **2. ABA Model Rules**

To the extent it is applicable, such as where the student is acting as a legal intern or in a representational capacity, every law student must abide by the American Bar Association's Model Rules of Professional Conduct, copies of which are available in the law library and the online table of contents at the following link: [ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct](#).

#### **3. Law School Code of Conduct**

All law students are subject to the Law School Code of Conduct, *see infra*.

This provision applies as written to MAFI students, except that MAFI students are not subject to the ABA Model Rules of Professional Responsibility by virtue of being a MAFI student. (MAFI students may be subject to these Rules by virtue of their status as an attorney or otherwise.)

### **B. Continuing Obligation to Disclose**

In their application for admission to CWRU, students are required to disclose incidents of misconduct (as specified in the application for admission). Failure to disclose information can be

grounds for denial of admission, revocation of an offer of admission, dismissal, or suspension after matriculation and may be reported to the state bar.

### **1. Late Disclosure**

Students who, after matriculation disclose information that should have been disclosed on the application will be subject to review which could lead to discipline, dismissal from the Law School, or revocation of the diploma if the individual has graduated.

### **2. Continuing Duty**

Students have a continuing duty to disclose incidents of misconduct that occur after the student has applied for admission. Whether the incidents occur before or after matriculation, students should notify the Dean of Students in writing with a full explanation of the circumstances, including dates. Students have a continuing duty to disclose the types of misconduct specified in the application for admission that would change any answer originally given on the application.

This provision applies as written to MAFI students except that failure to disclose information will not be reported to the state bar unless the student is also an attorney.

## **AR 6. Student Class Responsibilities**

**A. Requirement of Regular Attendance and Related Responsibilities.** Regular and punctual class attendance, a high degree of preparation for class, a high degree of participation in class discussions, and diligent and timely execution of class exercises or assignments are required of every student. Under Standard 308 of the ABA Standards for Approval of Law Schools, all schools must “adopt, publish and adhere to a written policy requiring regular class attendance.” In compliance with this Standard, School of Law policy requires that students attend classes regularly and punctually. In courses without specific attendance requirements communicated in the syllabus, students may not incur a number of absences that exceeds twice the number of times the course meets per week (the “Maximum Absence Rule”). For example, if a course meets twice a week, the maximum number of permitted absences would be four. A violation of the Maximum Absence Rule may result in withdrawal from the course and entry of the grade WF on the student’s transcript. Failure to meet other class responsibilities may also result in withdrawal and a WF grade. The Associate Dean of Academic Affairs may, for good cause, temporarily modify this policy.

Instructors may further limit permitted absences in their attendance policies at the beginning of a semester. Any such policy must be clearly communicated on the syllabus and enforced by the instructor.

\* A student enrolled in an asynchronous course is expected to complete all assignments and classes on time. A student enrolled in an asynchronous course is considered absent if they fail to complete an assignment or class by the due date and time. The instructor shall define what constitutes an assignment or class for the purposes of the attendance policy. Failure to satisfy the requirements set forth by the asynchronous-course instructor may violate the Maximum Absence Rule and be grounds for withdrawal from the course and entry of the grade WF on the student’s transcript.

**B. Student Reporting Absences to the Instructor, Dean of Students.** Students must report all absences to the instructor(s), whether or not within the Maximum Absence Rule, unless otherwise provided for in the policies of a specific course. Students in courses with more limited permitted absences must request permission from the instructor for any absences that exceed the instructor's policy even if they do not violate the Maximum Absence Rule (i.e., twice the number of times the course meets per week). Students must also report any absences in violation of the Maximum Absence Rule to the Dean of Students as soon as practicable.

**C. Instructor Reporting of Excess Absences.** In any course in which a student has violated the Maximum Absence Rule, the instructor of that course shall notify the Dean of Students, indicating the dates of each absence.

**D. Absences Within and Beyond the Maximum Absence Rule.** A student need not contact the Dean of Students about absences within the Maximum Absence Rule, though they need to contact the course instructor, unless otherwise indicated on the course syllabus.

The Dean of Students has discretion to permit a limited waiver of the Maximum Absence Rule if the student can demonstrate extraordinary circumstances beyond the student's control. A student seeking such a limited waiver must communicate with both the Dean of Students and the applicable instructor(s) as soon as practicable after the need arises; unreasonable delay may render it impossible to grant a limited waiver. Any such limited waiver may require additional work on the part of the student as determined by the applicable instructor in consultation with the Dean of Students.

If a student fails or is unable to comply with requirements set forth as part of a limited waiver, the student will be subject to exclusion from the course as per Section A.

Students who have a combination of four or more grades of W or WF in the most recent two semesters must meet with the Academic Dean before registering and must obtain the Academic Dean's written approval of their course selections.

See also University Policy on Religious Holidays and Student Absence.

### **MAFI-Applicable Policy**

Regular class attendance, a high degree of preparation for class, a high degree of participation in class discussions, and diligent execution of class exercises or assignments are required of every MAFI student.

- MAFI Students are expected to attend all classes in person unless they have obtained written permission from the MAFI Executive Director to attend all classes, or a particular class, remotely (i.e., via Zoom). Such permission shall be granted liberally upon good cause. Remote attendance without prior written permission shall be treated the same as an absence.
- When attending a class remotely, MAFI students are required to have their cameras on to ensure active and engaged class participation and are expected to participate in the class as fully as if they were attending in person.
- If a MAFI student is unable to attend all or part of a class in person or remotely, the

student must obtain written prior permission from the MAFI Executive Director to miss the class or part of the class. Missing more than 20% of a class is considered an absence. To get credit for a class in which a MAFI student has missed more than 20% of the class, a MAFI student must have obtained permission from the Executive Director to miss the class, and will be required to watch all class sessions, turn in all required work for the class, and will be assigned supplemental work to be completed before credit will be given for the class. A MAFI student who misses all or part of a class and fails to complete all required work by the required deadline will be given a grade of “F” in the course, pursuant to AR 14, and will be required to repeat the course pursuant to AR 19.

- Any student enrolled in a MAFI cohort that meets for intensive sessions (i.e. once per month, or 3-4 days in a row for most of the day) who fails to attend (in person, or remotely with prior approval) more than one weekend of class in a given semester, or two weekends of class during the course of the entire degree program, must meet with the Academic Dean before being registered for the next semester, and must obtain the Academic Dean’s written approval to continue with the program.

#### **E. Classroom Use of Computers and Electronic Devices**

Students may use portable computing or other electronic devices in the classroom for educational use only. Students shall not use portable computing or other electronic devices in an inappropriate manner during class. Inappropriate uses include any and all uses of a portable computing or other electronic device not directly related to the class in session. Examples include, but are not limited to, the following:

displaying web pages; receiving, reading, composing, or sending e-mail or instant messages; making or receiving phone calls; playing video or audio files; and playing games.

Each class instructor retains the right to set a more or less restrictive class policy in consultation with the Dean of Students, and subject to University policy on accommodations.

This provision applies as written to MAFI students.

### **AR 7. Withdrawal from Courses or from the Law School**

#### **A. Withdrawal during Drop/Add Period**

A student may withdraw from one or more Law School courses, or from the Law School, during the registration period, either through the online enrollment system or by written notification to the Academic Services Office. Tuition charges for the semester will be based on the student’s enrollment status at the close of the drop/add period.

#### **B. Withdrawal after Drop/Add Period**

From the end of the drop/add period through the last day of classes, a student may withdraw from Law School or from a class only with permission of the Academic Dean and only for pressing personal or medical reasons. For these purposes, dropping a class after the drop/add period for any reason other than to correct a registration error will be deemed a withdrawal with permission. A student who withdraws with permission receives a W.

### **C. Involuntary Withdrawal from Courses and Co-Curricular Activities before the End of Classes**

A student withdrawn from a course pursuant to AR 6(A) or who, without permission of the Academic Dean, fails to complete obligations imposed by a co-curricular activity which is not graded but for which academic credit is awarded, shall have a grade of WF recorded on the student's transcript for that course or activity. A WF grade shall not be included in the computation of the student's grade point average, nor shall it affect the student's class rank.

### **D. Withdrawal after the End of Classes**

A student may not withdraw from a course or from the Law School after the last day of classes without permission of the Academic Dean. If a student withdraws without permission after the end of classes, a grade of F is recorded on the official transcript for all courses, unless the Academic Dean later decides that the student's withdrawal was for pressing medical or personal reasons. A student may not withdraw from a course after taking the final exam or submitting the final draft of a paper.

### **E. Refund of Tuition**

Permission to withdraw from a course or from the Law School does not affect the policy on refund of tuition. Students must arrange for the payment of all financial obligations to the University.

Note: Withdrawal from Law School after the drop/add period may disqualify the student from receiving scholarship, grant, and or loan assistance for any tuition obligations for that semester. See the section on the Law Student Financial Services Office.

Additional information concerning the withdrawal and refund schedule may be found here: <https://case.edu/studentaccounts/tuition-fees/withdrawal-refund-schedule>.

### **F. Leave of Absence from the Law School**

A student must submit a written request to the Academic Dean stating the reasons for their leave of absence, the effective date and when they intend to return. Leaves of absence are normally granted only to allow a student to complete another educational program elsewhere, or for pressing personal or medical reasons, and are usually limited to one academic year. The Academic Dean must give written approval. A student who takes a leave without obtaining the Academic Dean's written permission forfeits the privilege of enrolling for subsequent terms.

Note: Student must submit an approved Leave of Absence request to Academic Services at [lawreg@case.edu](mailto:lawreg@case.edu), and turn in their Student ID and any other University Property. A leave of absence is likely to have substantial consequences in terms of financial aid, including both scholarship grants and loans. Students contemplating a leave are advised to discuss with the law student finances administrator the implications for financial aid.

This regulation applies as written to MAFI students. MAFI students should note that MAFI courses have special drop periods that will be published with each course's introductory documentation.

## AR 8. Graduation Requirements

This regulation does not apply to MAFI students except for paragraph G.

Online Part-Time students are subject to course sequences and residency requirements different from paragraphs A.2, B and D.

### A. Basic Requirements

Case Western Reserve University confers the degree of Juris Doctor, at the recommendation of the Faculty of Law, on all students who have:

1. completed all required courses, as designated by vote of the faculty, including the first-year courses, Constitutional Law 1, Professional Responsibility, and 12 credits of experiential education, including LLEAP 3 and a minimum 6-credit Capstone Experience during the third year;
  - a. For dual-degree students, an individualized plan is developed to ensure sufficient experiential education credits, considering field placement or other experiential requirements from the other degree program approved by the dual degree-program faculty advisors at both schools, the Associate Dean for Experiential Education, and the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.
  - b. Students participating in the two-semester Concurrent-Degree program need only complete 6 non-Capstone credits of experiential education. Students participating in a one-semester study-abroad program are still required to meet the 12-credit experiential education requirement but are limited to a 6-credit capstone.
  - c. Online Part-Time Students can meet the Capstone requirement by engaging in six credits of practice-focused experiences like an externship, practicum, or clinic after completing the 1L curriculum.
2. completed at least 88 credit hours in a minimum of six semesters in residency as full-time students, at least four of which are in residency at Case Western Reserve University;
3. attained a cumulative grade point average of at least **2.325** (applicable to students entering law school no later than spring 2025) or at least **2.50** (applicable to students entering in fall 2025 or later); and
4. completed a substantial research paper that satisfies the writing requirement set out in AR 16.

### B. Specific Requirements

1. Students must take Constitutional Law 1, Professional Responsibility, and LLEAP 3 in the second year, and a Capstone Experience during the third year.
2. Students graduating in the **class of 2026** and thereafter must satisfy the General Education requirement by taking at least **3 of the General Education** courses.
3. Students graduating in the **class of 2027** and thereafter must satisfy the General Education requirement by taking **3 to 6 of the General Education Courses**. The number of general education courses a student must take is based on their cumulative first-year GPA percentile rank (after the second semester of the JD program).
  - a. Students in the **50th percentile and above** must complete at least **3** General Education courses.
  - b. Students below the **50th percentile but above the 25th** percentile must complete at least **4** General Education courses.
  - c. Students **at or beneath the 25th percentile** must complete at least **6** General

Education courses.

4. The General Education courses are Business Associations; Conflict of Laws; Constitutional Law 2; Criminal Procedure 1; Evidence; Family Law; Federal Courts; Judicial Remedies; Sales; and Wills, Trusts, and Future Interests.
5. At least 70 credit hours counted for the J.D. degree must be earned in classroom experiences.
6. At least 66 credit hours counted for the J.D. degree must be graded. (In the case of dual-degree students, a minimum of 64 credit hours counted for the J.D. degree must be earned in classroom experiences, and 57 of the credit hours counted for the J.D. degree must be graded.)

### **C. J.D. Priority Enrollment**

Pursuant to ABA Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar Standard 313(c), J.D. students enjoy priority enrollment for all courses required for the J.D. degree and all bar-examination subject-tested courses set forth in Section B.1-4.

### **D. Residency Requirement**

To receive credit for a semester in residence, a student must enroll in 10 or more credits, and must earn 9 or more credits. Summer sessions with a combined total of at least 10 credit hours are equivalent to one semester in residence.

### **E. Distance Education Credits**

A maximum of one-third of the credits required for the J.D. degree may be taken via distance learning. "Distance learning" includes online courses and any other courses taken remotely.

**This rule does not apply to Online, Part-Time Law School students.**

NOTE: Some jurisdictions may restrict the distance-learning credits a student may take to be admitted to practice law. Students should consult respective bar admission rules in selecting courses.

### **F. Credit for Courses Taken outside CWRU**

Students may receive credit toward the J.D. degree for courses taken outside CWRU only as provided in this subsection. (Credit for courses taken outside the Law School but within CWRU is covered in AR 9.)

After a student has been admitted to candidacy for the J.D. degree, all courses that count toward the degree must be taken at CWRU, unless the Academic Dean grants prior written permission to take courses for credit elsewhere.

#### **1. Summer Sessions at Another Law School**

With the approval of the Academic Dean, students in good standing may, during their enrollment, take up to 6 credit hours in a summer session offered by an ABA-approved law school other than CWRU, either in the U.S. or abroad, so long as the other law school is a member of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS).

Such approval is routinely granted, provided there is no duplication of courses already taken. The 6-hour limitation may be waived for part-time students only if they can conclusively demonstrate that graduation is otherwise impossible within the 6 years



prescribed in AR 13.

## **2. Visiting at Another Law School**

A student may visit at another AALS-member law school only with the consent of the Academic Dean and only if the student has completed all required courses, including the writing requirement. All requests to visit at another school must be submitted in writing to the Academic Dean and must include any supporting documents. Permission to attend another law school as a visiting student may be granted only for the most exceptional reasons, usually one of the following:

- a. The student must live elsewhere because of serious long-term illness of an immediate family member.
- b. The student must finish another (non-law) advanced degree program and cannot transfer to a graduate degree program at Case Western Reserve University.
- c. The student's spouse has or will have a job at a location beyond commuting distance.

Visiting status is not granted where the reason is to improve the employment prospects of the student or for bar examination reasons.

In deciding whether to approve a visit under this rule, the Academic Dean shall consider the student's academic record and whether the student has completed all required courses (i.e., first-year courses, Constitutional Law, Professional Responsibility, the LLEAP program, the general education requirement, the experiential education requirement, and the upper-level writing requirement).

A student may visit at another law school for no more than 2 semesters and may earn no more than 15 credits per semester towards the J.D. degree. Credit will not be awarded for any courses that duplicate or substantially overlap with courses that the student has taken or will take at CWRU. The Academic Dean must approve the courses taken at the other law school.

## **3. Study Abroad**

The purpose of studying abroad is to gain access to courses that are not otherwise available in the Law School's curriculum, and to provide an opportunity to study a foreign legal system in the educational environment in which most lawyers in that country are trained.

Study abroad is intended to provide students with an important comparative perspective and immerse them in a foreign country's legal culture.

Students pursuing either a one-semester study abroad or a two-semester, concurrent-degree program may participate in only established CWRU Law School study-abroad programs. To obtain a two-semester concurrent degree, students spend their final year of law school at the foreign institution. A student may pursue either a one-semester study abroad or a two-semester, concurrent degree, but not both. Students may only begin a study abroad program in their penultimate semester. Students interested in studying abroad should consult the Assistant Dean for Online and Specialized JD Programs. See also AR 21 relating to Study Abroad.

#### **4. Grades and Credit**

Grades in courses taken at another law school are not recorded on the Law School transcript and are not used in computing the student's current or cumulative grade point average or class rank.

For purposes of these rules, credits earned in a CWRU-sponsored study-abroad program, whether an exchange program or concurrent degree program, shall be treated as graded, classroom credits. However, grades earned in the foreign institution will not appear on the student's transcript and will not be counted in the student's GPA.

#### **G. Credit for Coursework Taken Before Matriculating into the J.D. Program**

1. Credits earned in coursework taken before matriculating into the Law School's J.D. program only count toward the J.D. degree if approved by the Academic Dean and:
  - a. the student earned the credit for coursework completed at another law school approved by the ABA Council and the student undertook the courses as a J.D. degree student;
  - b. the student earned the credit for coursework completed at a law school in the United States that is not approved by the ABA Council and the unapproved law school has been granted the power to confer the J.D. degree by the appropriate governmental authority in the unapproved law school's jurisdiction, or if graduates of the unapproved law school are permitted to sit for the bar examination in the jurisdiction in which the unapproved law school is located, provided that:
    - i. the student undertook the courses as a J.D. degree student; and
    - ii. the Law School would have granted credit toward satisfaction of J.D. degree requirements if earned at the Law School;
  - c. the student completed the coursework at a law school outside the United States and the Law School would have granted credit towards satisfaction of J.D. degree requirements if earned at the Law School; or
  - d. the student is enrolled in a dual program and
    - i. the Law School would have allowed credit for the non-J.D. coursework had it been completed contemporaneously with the dual program;
    - ii. the credit would have counted toward the J.D. degree had the student been enrolled in the dual program at the time the credits were earned;
    - iii. the credit was earned in a course offered by the Law School; and
    - iv. the credit was earned no more than three years prior to the student's matriculation in the J.D. program.
2. All quality points earned in coursework taken before matriculating into the Law School's J.D. program shall be excluded from the student's J.D. GPA calculation. Credit hours granted pursuant to subsection b. and c. of this rule shall not, individually or in combination, exceed one-third of the credits required for the J.D. degree.
3. A student may apply a General Education course taken before matriculation in the J.D. program toward the General Education requirement.

## **H. Special Rules for non-J.D. Degrees**

### **1. LL.M. Requirements**

Case Western Reserve University confers the degree of Master of Laws (LL.M), at the recommendation of the faculty of law, on all students who have:

- a. completed all required courses, including the Foreign Graduate Seminar and U.S. Legal Writing; and
- b. completed at least 24 credit hours in a minimum of two semesters in residence.

### **2. Master of Laws Requirements**

Case Western Reserve University confers the degree of Master of Law, at the recommendation of the faculty of law, on all students who have:

- a. completed all required courses; and
- b. completed at least 30 credit hours in a minimum of two semesters in residence.

### **3. S.J.D. Requirements**

Case Western Reserve University confers the degree of Doctor of Juridical Science, at the recommendation of the faculty of law, on all students who have fulfilled the following requirements:

- a. All candidates for the S.J.D. must submit a dissertation as evidence of their ability to conduct independent research at an advanced level. The dissertation must represent a significant contribution to knowledge in the student's field, and at least a portion of the dissertation must be suitable for publication.
- b. Only members of the faculty who are authorized to supervise student writing under AR 16 or AR 20(C) may supervise an S.J.D. dissertation.
- c. S.J.D. students must be registered for three academic years and must complete four semesters in residence, except that students pursuing the S.J.D. in Health Law must be registered for two academic years and must complete two semesters in residence. In special circumstances, the semesters-in-residence requirement may be waived for students pursuing the S.J.D. in Health Law at the discretion of the Director(s) of the Health Law S.J.D. program.
- d. All requirements for the S.J.D. must be completed within three calendar years from the date of matriculation. A student may be granted one additional year for good cause shown.
- e. S.J.D. students who have completed four semesters in residence may, with the approval of the dissertation advisor and the Academic Dean, register for fewer than 10 credits during the third year.

### **4. Master of Arts in Financial Integrity Requirements**

Case Western Reserve University confers the degree of Master of Arts in Financial Integrity, at the recommendation of the faculty of law, on all students who have:

- a. completed all required courses; and
- b. submitted a capstone project that meets all the requirements set out in the MAFI Program capstone rules, which will be provided to each MAFI student.

The MAFI degree must be completed within 6 years, except in exceptional circumstances and with written permission of the Executive Director of the MAFI program.

## **5. Master of Arts in Compliance and Risk Management Requirements**

Case Western Reserve University confers the degree of Master of Arts in Compliance and Risk Management, at the recommendation of the faculty of law, on all students who have:

- a. completed all required courses, including a thesis; and
- b. completed at least 30 credit hours in a minimum of two semesters.

## **Related Policies and Procedures**

### **1. Classroom Credits**

Classroom experiences are those that involve regularly scheduled Law School class meetings (including clinics, seminars, and labs). All other credits are non-classroom experiences. Non-classroom experiences include credit hours awarded for supervised research, externships (including Capstone externships), journal editorial boards, mock trial and moot court teams, moot court advisors, and non-law courses taken at CWRU.

### **2. Ungraded Credits**

Ungraded credit hours include those awarded for summer school credits from another AALS-member school, externships (including Capstone externships), journal editorial boards, mock trial and moot court teams, moot court advisors, courses that are graded only on a Credit/No Credit basis, and all non-law courses taken at CWRU.

For purposes of calculating the number of graded credits, all credits that are accepted as transfer credit when a student who matriculated at another law school transfers to CWRU will count as graded credits if they were graded hours at the original school, even though they are not factored into the student's GPA at this Law School. Likewise, when a CWRU student visits at another law school or studies at another university as part of an exchange or concurrent-degree program, courses that are graded at the other school will count as graded credits, even though they are not factored into the student's GPA here. Other coursework from another law school (such as summer school or other incidental coursework) will not be counted as graded credits, even if the courses are graded at the school where they were taken.

### **3. Graduation Check**

At the start of the final year of study, all students should carefully review their advising transcript and planned schedule to be certain that they will meet all requirements for graduation. Any errors or omissions on the transcript should be reported to the Academic Services Office immediately. Upon request, the Academic Services Office will help students complete this graduation check.

### **4. Financial Aid for Students Studying Elsewhere**

Note: Becoming a visitor at another law school may have a serious impact on the availability and timing of financial aid. For example, grants awarded at CWRU are not transferable to another institution. There may also be a difference in available loan funds. Anyone contemplating a visit elsewhere should discuss with the law student financial services director the financial aid implications of such a visit.

## **AR 9. J.D. Credit for Courses Taken in Other Divisions of CWRU**

Students may receive credit toward the J.D. degree for courses taken in other divisions at Case Western Reserve University. Students may receive credit toward the J.D. for other courses at CWRU in several ways: through formally established dual-degree programs, individually designed dual-degree programs, and the graduate school option. (Credit for courses taken outside the University is covered above in AR 8(E) and below in AR 21.)

This regulation does not apply to MAFI students.

### **A. Formally Established Dual-Degree Programs**

Students at the Law School may enroll in a formally established dual-degree program in which they are concurrently candidates for the J.D. and for another degree of this University provided that:

1. the Law School has entered into an agreement with the other school on the content and administration of a dual-degree program;
2. the academic component of the dual-degree program has been approved by the Law School faculty;
3. courses taken outside the Law School for credit toward the J.D. degree have been approved by the Academic Dean as consistent with the academic component approved by the faculty and as not being duplicative of courses previously taken in the Law School;
4. enrollment at the second school commences in the academic year immediately following completion of the first year in the program (although the Academic Dean may permit deviations from this sequencing in exceptional cases); and
5. both degrees are awarded simultaneously.

Note: The faculty has formally established the following dual-degree programs: J.D./M.D.; J.D./M.B.A.; J.D./M.S.W.; J.D./M.P.H.; J.D./M.A. (bioethics); J.D./M.A. (history); J.D./M.A. (military ethics); J.D./M.A. (political science); J.D./M.Acc. (accountancy); J.D./M.N.O. (nonprofit organizations); and J.D./M.S. (biochemistry).

### **B. Individually Designed Dual-Degree Programs**

Outside of a formally established dual-degree program, a student at the Law School may concurrently enroll in an advanced degree program offered by another school of the University provided that:

1. courses taken outside the Law School for credit toward the J.D. degree have been approved by the Academic Dean as having a close relation to the study of law and as not being duplicative of courses offered in the Law School;
2. no such course is taken before completion of all required first-year courses; and
3. both degrees are awarded simultaneously.

### **C. Graduate School Option**

A law student who is not enrolled in a dual-degree program may enroll in a graduate-level course in another graduate or professional school of the University with the permission of the other school. That permission does not require admission to the other school but is generally granted on a space-available basis. In addition, such credit may be applied to the J.D. degree provided that:

1. such courses have been approved by the Academic Dean as having a close relation to the study of law and as not being duplicative of courses offered in the Law School; and
2. no such course is taken before completion of all required first-year law courses.

#### **D. Grades and Credit**

Credit for non-law courses may be applied to the J.D. degree only if a grade of C or higher is earned. Grades in these courses will be recorded on the Law School transcript, but they will not be computed in the student's grade point average, nor will they be computed in the class ranking.

For students who complete a formally established dual-degree program, no more than 12 credits earned in the other program may be applied toward the J.D. degree. For all other students, no more than 6 credit hours earned at another school of the University may be applied toward the J.D. degree. In both cases, there are likely to be financial implications for students enrolled in classes outside the School of Law. Students should inquire with the financial services office about the specific impact on their scholarship and tuition charges.

### **AR 9.1 MAFI Credit for Courses Taken Outside CWRU, in Other Divisions of CWRU, or at CWRU School of Law**

1. Students may not receive credits toward the MAFI degree for courses taken outside CWRU or in other divisions of CWRU.
2. Students may not receive credits toward the MAFI degree for courses taken at CWRU School of Law except that MAFI students may apply up to 6 credits towards the MAFI degree as follows:
  - a. Any student who has taken and received a passing grade in LFIN 1007, "Law, Legislation, and Regulation in Practice" within the preceding two years is not required to retake the course and may apply the three credit hours from this course toward the MAFI degree;
  - b. Any student who has taken and received a passing grade in LAWS 4561, "Governance, Risk Management, and Compliance" within the preceding two years is not required to retake the course and may apply the three credit hours from this course toward the MAFI degree;
  - c. Any student who has taken and received a passing grade in LAWS 1204, "Law, Legislation, and Regulation" is not required to take LFIN 1007, "Law, Legislation, and Regulation in Practice" and may apply the three credit hours from this course toward the MAFI degree;
  - d. Any student who received a J.D. degree from an ABA accredited Law School in the United States, and received a grade of B- or higher in the student's first year criminal law class is not required to take LFIN 1002, "Introduction to Criminal Law and Procedure" and may apply one credit hour toward the MAFI degree.
3. Students who take a full MAFI curriculum course for a Document of Completion, and receive a grade of B- or better, will be given credit for the course and be exempt from taking the course again if they apply to, are accepted by, and begin the MAFI degree program within five years of completing the course.

## AR 10. Grading

The following letter grades are used to record the quality of a student's academic work: *A*, *A-*, *B+*, *B*, *B-*, *C+*, *C*, *C-*, *D+*, *D*, *D-*, *P* (pass), *F* (failure), *CR* (credit), *NC* (no credit), *WF* (withdrawal failure), *W* (withdrawal), *I* (incomplete), and *R* (temporary grade for multi-semester course).

Grade point averages are computed by dividing the student's quality points by the hours attempted. Averages are calculated and recorded to three decimal places.

The following scale per credit is used in figuring quality points:

*A* = 4.000  
*A-* = 3.666  
*B+* = 3.333  
*B* = 3.000  
*B-* = 2.666  
...  
*F* = 0.

*CR* (Credit) awards credit for a course that is not offered on a letter grade basis; such coursework is not factored into the grade point average.

*NC* (No credit) awards no credit for a course this is not offered on a letter grade basis; such coursework is not factored into the grade point average.

*WF* (withdrawal failure) indicates that the student was withdrawn from the course or activity by the instructor or activity advisor pursuant to AR 6(A) or AR 7(C).

*W* indicates withdrawal with permission. Neither the *W* nor the *WF* affects the grade point average.

*I* indicates that a student, with permission, has not completed one or more requirements of a course within the time allowed for recording grades. An *I* is assigned when a student has made significant progress, but not fully completed the requirements for a course. A student must petition for the assignment of an incomplete grade, in advance, from the Instructor. Both the Instructor and Academic Dean must approve the assignment of an incomplete grade. If granted, the course requirements must then be completed in full by the extended deadline as established by the course Instructor, but in no case can the deadline be extended beyond the last day of the next succeeding semester (which may be the summer semester). If the requirements are not completed by the deadline, the Incomplete grade will revert to a grade of *F* (JD and MAFI students) or *U* (LLM/SJD students).

*R* is a temporary grade given for a course that extends beyond one semester in length.

This regulation applies as written to MAFI students.

### Related Policies and Procedures

Paragraphs 1-3, and 8-9 of the Related Policies and Procedures under this regulation do not apply to MAFI students.

### 1. Grade Distribution in First-Year Courses (other than LLEAP)

The grade distribution in all first-year courses other than LLEAP shall be in substantial compliance with the following distribution. The target mean GPA for courses subject to this policy shall be 3.10. In no event shall the mean GPA exceed 3.20.

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
A/A-	30%
B+/B/B-	55%
C+ and below	15%

### 2. Grading Policy in Upper-Level Courses and LLEAP

The grading policy in all upper-level courses focuses on the mean GPA. The target mean for these courses is 3.20 and the maximum mean is 3.40. The enrollment size will not impact the applicable mean. If, however, the mean GPA of the students enrolled in a course, determined after the add/drop period, exceeds 3.40, then the maximum permitted mean will be adjusted to that mean. The target mean GPA will remain 3.20.

**Exceptions.** The upper-level grading policy does not apply to students' work that satisfies the writing requirement and to lab and clinic courses.

### 3. Grades for LL.M. Students

LL.M. students will receive grades of Honors (H), Commendable (M), Satisfactory (S), or Unsatisfactory (U). For all classes in which both LL.M. and J.D. students are enrolled, the instructor must give the LL.M. students (in addition to the formal grade on an H/M/S/U basis) a "shadow" grade based on an evaluation of their performance as if they were J.D. students, and using the same grading system (A, A- etc.) that is used for J.D. students. The shadow grade will not be recorded on an LL.M. student's transcript and will not be disclosed to third parties. It will be used solely for admissions purposes if the student applies for admission to the CWRU J.D. program. The shadow grade may be disclosed to the student on request.

### 4. Grades for Students Pursuing a Master or Certificate Offered by the Law School

Beginning in the Spring of 2026 and thereafter, students pursuing a Master or Certificate offered by the Law School will receive grades of Honors (H), Commendable (M), Satisfactory (S), or Unsatisfactory (U).<sup>1</sup> For all classes in which both Master or Certificate students and J.D. students are enrolled, the instructor must give the Master and Certificate students (in addition to the formal grade on an H/M/S/U basis) a "shadow" grade based on an evaluation of their performance as if they were J.D. students, and using the same grading system (A, A- etc.) that is used for J.D. students. The shadow grade will not be recorded on a Master or Certificate student's transcript and will not be disclosed to third parties. It will be used solely for admissions purposes if the student applies for admission to the CWRU J.D. program. The shadow grade may be disclosed to the student on request.

### 5. Grades for Students Pursuing Both a J.D. and a Master or Certificate Offered by the Law School

Beginning in Spring of 2026 and thereafter, students pursuing both a J.D. degree and a Master or Certificate offered by the Law School will be graded on the J.D. grading scale for all courses except Risk Management; Compliance Skills; and Planning, Auditing, Investigating, and

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<sup>1</sup> Pending Faculty Senate approval.



Reporting, which will be graded on an Honors (H)/Commendable (M)/Satisfactory (S)/Unsatisfactory (U) basis. After the semester in which a student has completed all requirements for the J.D. degree, any remaining courses required for the Master or Certificate program will be graded on the H/M/S/U scale.

#### **6. Approval of Grades by the Academic Dean**

Before final grades are posted, each instructor shall present to the Academic Dean a proposed distribution of grades. If the grades do not conform to the applicable grade distribution policy, the Academic Dean shall consult with the instructor to bring about compliance. If this process is unsuccessful, the Academic Dean shall have the authority, after further consultation with the instructor, to assign grades that are consistent with the raw scores and other relevant factors.

#### **7. Exam Grading Period**

Grades for each course are due for approval by the Academic Dean 18 days after the faculty member receives the exam. Additional time thereafter may be required for review of the grades under the grade distribution policy set out above. Grades are posted approximately 25-30 days following the end of the exam period.

#### **8. Grade Posting**

Students have confidential access to their grades through the Student Information System (SIS). Upper-class grades are posted as they are received and approved. First-year grades are usually posted once grades are received and approved for at least two courses. Thereafter, they are posted as they are received and approved.

#### **9. Anonymous Grading**

All exams are graded anonymously. Once instructors have finished grading the exams for a particular course, they may access examination numbers and corresponding names. The instructor may then adjust grades for class participation and attendance.

#### **10. Class Rankings**

##### **A. Calculation of rankings**

1. Each student is ranked in relation to classmates, based on grade point averages. Rankings are calculated annually each June, after all spring grades have been posted and recorded on the official transcripts. There are separate rankings as follows:
  - a. Following completion of the first year, based on first-year grades.
  - b. Following completion of the second year, based on cumulative grades through the end of the second year.
  - c. Following completion of the third year, based on cumulative grades through graduation.
2. Grades earned at other law schools, or in non-law courses offered by other schools or departments within CWRU, are not included in the calculation of a student's Law School grade point average and thus do not affect a student's rank.
3. Students must have completed at least 24 credits to be ranked as completing their first year and at least 54 credits to be ranked as completing their second year. Credits earned at other institutions or at other schools at CWRU, including credit awarded transfer students for courses taken elsewhere, will be included in computing the minimum hours for ranking.
4. Students are ranked with their class. The Academic Services Office determines each

student's class based on the number of credit hours earned. A student's class may change, depending on individual progress in fulfilling graduation requirements.

## **B. Disclosure of Rankings**

Students whose cumulative GPA falls within the top 20% of the class will receive an individual numerical ranking. The Law School will also publish the cumulative GPA of the top 10; 20; 30%; 35%; 50; and 75% bands of the class. Rankings are calculated annually each June, after all spring grades have been posted and recorded on the official transcripts.

## **Honors**

### **a. Dean's Honor List**

J.D. students who achieve a GPA of at least 3.395 for a semester that includes at least 9 earned and average Law School credits will be placed on the Dean's Honor List.

Designation of Dean's Honor List is shown on the official transcript. Ungraded credits in the first semester of a full-year course are ignored for purposes of determining the Dean's Honor List. At the end of the year, when the grade for the prior semester is officially posted, students who achieve a GPA of 3.395 or higher for the prior semester are also designated as having been placed on the Dean's Honor List for that period.

LL.M. students who receive grades of H in all of their Law School credits and earn at least 9 Law School credits will be placed on the Dean's Honor List. Designation of Dean's Honor List will be shown on the official transcript.

Note: Members of the Dean's Honor List will receive a letter of congratulations.

### **b. Honors at Graduation**

Students who have a final cumulative GPA that ranks in the top 30% of their graduating class will graduate with honors (*cum laude*). Students who have a final cumulative GPA that ranks in the top 10% of their graduating class graduate with high honors (*magna cum laude*). The students with the two highest GPAs in the graduating class will graduate with highest honors (*summa cum laude*).

Students graduating in August or January will be awarded the honor of *summa cum laude*, *magna cum laude*, or *cum laude* based on whether their GPAs would have qualified them for that honor if they had graduated in the May preceding their actual graduation.

LL.M. students who receive grades of H in all courses or who receive no more than one grade of S and all other grades of H graduate with honors.

The **Order of the Coif** is a national law honor society, founded to encourage scholarship and to advance the ethical standards of the legal profession. It admits students in the J.D. graduating class whose grades rank them in the top 10 percent. No more than three students who are tied for the last eligible position may be elected to membership.

## **AR 11. Transcripts**

CWRU considers the grades earned by a student and other information about the student's performance here to be a private matter. But the University reserves the right to release such

information in circumstances deemed proper by the Academic Dean or upon written request of the student. Transcripts will not be issued for students who have failed to discharge all financial obligations to the University.

See also University Policy on Confidentiality of Student Information, and University Policy on Past Due University Debts.

This regulation applies as written to MAFI students.

### **1. Disclosure of Student Information**

- a. The University Policy on Confidentiality of Student Information forbids disclosure of transcript information except with the written permission of the student. No grade or class ranking information will be given to anyone (including the student) by telephone or e-mail.

## **AR 12. Academic Standing**

[Note that the rules vary based on whether students entered law school before fall 2025.]

[The following academic-standing rules 1-3 and 7 apply to students who entered law school in fall 2025 or later.]

### **1. Dismissal after First Year**

A full-time JD student whose term GPA is below 2.50 in both semesters of the first year will be dismissed.

A student may not appeal this dismissal.

A part-time online JD student whose term GPA is below 2.50 at the end of their fourth semester will be dismissed. The summer-semester grades are not included in this calculation. A student may not appeal this dismissal.

### **2. Probation During Third Semester for Full-Time JD Students; Probation During Fourth Semester for Part-Time Online JD Students**

A full-time student whose cumulative GPA is below 2.50 at the end of the first year and who earned a term GPA of at least 2.50 in either semester of the first year will be placed on academic probation in the third semester. A student who is on probation during the third semester must enroll, on a graded basis, in at least 14, but no more than 16, credits and must fulfill such other requirements as are designated by the Academic Dean. The Academic Dean must approve the class schedule of any student who is on probation. If the student's cumulative GPA remains below 2.50 at the end of the probationary semester, the student will be dismissed. The student may not appeal this dismissal.

A part-time online JD student whose cumulative GPA is below 2.50 at the end of their fourth semester and who earned a term GPA of at least 2.50 in either of the first four semesters will be placed on academic probation in the fifth semester. For the purposes of probation, summer semesters are not considered. The student must fulfill such other requirements as designated by the Assistant Dean or Academic Dean. If the student's cumulative GPA remains below 2.50 at the end of the probationary semester, the student will be dismissed. The student may

not appeal this dismissal.

### **3. Probation During Fourth or Later Semester for Full-Time JD Students; Probation During Fifth or Later Semester for Part-Time Online JD Students**

A full-time JD student whose cumulative GPA is below 2.50 after the third semester but whose GPA was not below 2.50 during the first year will be placed on probation for the fourth semester. The Academic Dean must approve the class schedule of any student who is on probation. If the student's cumulative GPA remains below 2.50 at the end of the probationary semester, the student will be dismissed.

A student whose cumulative GPA is less than 2.50 during the fourth or later semester will be placed on academic probation for the following semester. The Academic Dean must approve the class schedule of any student who is on probation. If the student's cumulative GPA remains below 2.50 at the end of the probationary semester, the student will be dismissed. A student whose cumulative GPA at the end of the fourth or any subsequent semester is below 2.50 and who has been on academic probation during any previous semester will be dismissed.

If, during the final semester (the semester in which the student completes the number of credits required for graduation), the student's cumulative GPA falls below 2.50 and the student has not previously been on probation, the student may be granted readmission for a single probationary semester during which the student must bring the cumulative GPA back up to 2.50 to graduate. If the student fails to bring the cumulative GPA back up to 2.50 at the end of the probationary semester, the student will be dismissed.

A student may not appeal a dismissal made pursuant to this section.

Paragraphs 1-3 of this regulation apply to MAFI students.

A part-time JD student whose cumulative GPA is below 2.50 after the fifth semester, but whose GPA was not below 2.50 during their first four semesters will be placed on probation for the fifth semester. The Academic Dean or the Assistant Academic Dean must approve the class schedule of any student who is on probation. If the student's cumulative GPA remains below 2.50 at the end of the probationary semester, the student will be dismissed. A student whose cumulative GPA is less than 2.50 during the fifth or later semester will be placed on academic probation for the following semester. The Academic Dean or Assistant Academic Dean must approve the class schedule of any student who is on probation. If the student's cumulative GPA remains below 2.50 at the end of the probationary semester, the student will be dismissed. A student whose cumulative GPA at the end of the fourth or any subsequent semester is below 2.50 and who has been on academic probation during any previous semester will be dismissed. If, during the final semester (the semester in which the student completes the number of credits required for graduation), the student's cumulative GPA falls below 2.50 and the student has not previously been on probation, the student may be granted readmission for a single probationary semester during which the student must bring the cumulative GPA back up to 2.50 and be graduated. If the student fails to bring the cumulative GPA back up to 2.50 at the end of the probationary semester, the student will be dismissed.

A student may not appeal a dismissal made pursuant to this section.

Paragraphs 1-3 of this regulation apply to MAFI students.

***[The following academic-standing rules 4-7 apply to students who entered law school no later than spring 2025.]***

#### **4. Dismissal after First Year**

A full-time JD student whose term GPA is below 2.325 in both semesters of the first year will be dismissed.

A student may not appeal this dismissal.

A part-time online JD student whose term GPA is below 2.325 at the end of their fourth semester will be dismissed. The summer-semester grades are not included in this calculation. A student may not appeal this dismissal.

#### **5. Probation during Third Semester**

A full-time student whose cumulative GPA is below 2.325 at the end of the first year and who earned a term GPA of at least 2.325 in either semester of the first year will be placed on academic probation in the third semester. A student who is on probation during the third semester must enroll, on a graded basis, in at least 14, but no more than 16, credits and must fulfill such other requirements as are designated by the Academic Dean. The Academic Dean must approve the class schedule of any student who is on probation. If the student's cumulative GPA remains below 2.325 at the end of the probationary semester, the student will be dismissed. The student may not appeal this dismissal.

A part-time online JD student whose cumulative GPA is below 2.325 at the end of their fourth semester and who earned a term GPA of at least 2.325 in either of the first four semesters will be placed on academic probation in the fifth semester. For the purposes of probation, summer semesters are not considered. The student must fulfill such other requirements as designated by the Assistant Dean or Academic Dean. If the student's cumulative GPA remains below 2.325 at the end of the probationary semester, the student will be dismissed. The student may not appeal this dismissal.

#### **6. Probation during Fourth or Later Semester**

A full-time JD student whose cumulative GPA is below 2.325 after the third semester but whose GPA was not below 2.325 during the first year will be placed on probation for the fourth semester. The Academic Dean must approve the class schedule of any student who is on probation. If the student's cumulative GPA remains below 2.325 at the end of the probationary semester, the student will be dismissed.

A student whose cumulative GPA is less than 2.325 during the fourth or later semester will be placed on academic probation for the following semester. The Academic Dean must approve the class schedule of any student who is on probation. If the student's cumulative GPA remains below 2.325 at the end of the probationary semester, the student will be dismissed. A student whose cumulative GPA at the end of the fourth or any subsequent semester is below 2.325 and who has been on academic probation during any previous semester will be dismissed.

If, during the final semester (the semester in which the student completes the number of credits

required for graduation), the student's cumulative GPA falls below 2.325 and the student has not previously been on probation, the student may be granted readmission for a single probationary semester during which the student must bring the cumulative GPA back up to 2.325 and be graduated. If the student fails to bring the cumulative GPA back up to 2.325 at the end of the probationary semester, the student will be dismissed.

A student may not appeal a dismissal made pursuant to this section.

Paragraphs 1-3 of this regulation apply to MAFI students.

A part-time JD student whose cumulative GPA is below 2.325 after the fifth semester, but whose GPA was not below 2.325 during their first four semesters will be placed on probation for the fifth semester. The Academic Dean or the Assistant Academic Dean must approve the class schedule of any student who is on probation. If the student's cumulative GPA remains below 2.325 at the end of the probationary semester, the student will be dismissed. A student whose cumulative GPA is less than 2.325 during the fifth or later semester will be placed on academic probation for the following semester. The Academic Dean or Assistant Academic Dean must approve the class schedule of any student who is on probation. If the student's cumulative GPA remains below 2.325 at the end of the probationary semester, the student will be dismissed. A student whose cumulative GPA at the end of the fourth or any subsequent semester is below 2.325 and who has been on academic probation during any previous semester will be dismissed. If, during the final semester (the semester in which the student completes the number of credits required for graduation), the student's cumulative GPA falls below 2.325 and the student has not previously been on probation, the student may be granted readmission for a single probationary semester during which the student must bring the cumulative GPA back up to 2.325 and be graduated. If the student fails to bring the cumulative GPA back up to 2.325 at the end of the probationary semester, the student will be dismissed.

A student may not appeal a dismissal made pursuant to this section.

Paragraphs 1-3 of this regulation apply to MAFI students.

## **7. Academic Supervision and Course Requirements**

If a full-time student's cumulative GPA is less than 2.795 at the end of the first year or at the end of either semester of the second year, then:

- a. An academic supervision letter is to be sent, indicating that the student may be at risk with respect to passing the bar.
- b. The Academic Dean must approve the class schedule of any student whose cumulative GPA is less than 2.795 at the end of first year or at the end of either semester of the second year;
- c. If a student's cumulative GPA is below 2.795 at the end of the first year or at the end of either semester of the second year, the Academic Dean will require all students under Academic Supervision to take and receive credit for Entering the Profession and may require any student on Academic Supervision to take other requirements designated by the Academic Dean.

Any MAFI student who receives a grade lower than "C" in any MAFI course must consult

with the Academic Dean regarding continuation in the MAFI program.

If an online part-time student's cumulative GPA is less than 2.795 between their fourth and penultimate semester, then:

- a. An academic supervision letter is to be sent, indicating that the student may be at risk with respect to passing the bar.
- b. The Academic Dean must approve the class schedule of any student whose cumulative GPA is less than 2.795 at the end of first year or at the end of either semester of the second year;
- c. The Academic Dean will require all students under Academic Supervision to take and receive credit for Entering the Profession and may require any student on Academic Supervision to take other requirements designated by the Academic Dean.

#### **8. No incomplete During Probationary Semester; Consultation with Academic Dean Before Registering for Courses**

A student on academic probation may not receive a grade of Incomplete in any course during the semester that will determine their academic standing for purposes of dismissal. Students who are on academic probation must consult with the Academic Dean before registering for courses. A student on academic probation may not enroll in a capstone externship or a graded two-semester course, clinic, or writing requirement project.

#### **9. Dismissal from the LL.M. Program**

An LL.M. student who receives more than two grades of U will be dismissed.

#### **10. Dismissal from the S.J.D. Program**

An S.J.D. student who receives a grade of NC for the S.J.D. thesis seminar in any two semesters will be permanently dismissed.

#### **Related Policies and Procedures**

Students on academic probation must meet with the Director of Academic Support before the start of each academic term.

### **AR 13. Maximum and Minimum Hours per Semester**

This Regulation does not apply to Online Part-Time students.

After the first year, full-time students may take no fewer than 10 credit hours in the fall or spring semester except with the permission of the Academic Dean. Students may not take more than 18 credit hours in the fall or spring semester, excluding credits earned from a summer externship. Students may not take more than 10 credit hours in the summer semester, including credits earned from a summer externship (even if the credit will be applied to the fall semester).

A student may exceed these credit limits only with the consent of the Academic Dean and only (1) if the student would otherwise have to add an additional semester to graduate; and (2) if the student is in good academic standing. In no instance may the student exceed 20 credits in one semester counted toward the JD degree.

Permission to exceed credit limits may be granted only for the most exceptional reasons.

Some qualified students may be permitted to enroll on a part-time basis. All students must complete the J.D. program within six years.

See also AR 8(C), Residency Requirement; and AR 18, Full-Time Study.

This regulation does not apply to MAFI students.

## **AR 14. Examinations**

**A.** Each student at the Law School will take examinations under the standards and principles that apply to members of the legal profession. This places on the student a responsibility to meet the highest degree of honor and integrity. Students who fail to meet these standards will be considered to lack a necessary qualification for membership in the profession, and appropriate sanctions will be applied.

**B.** All students must take examinations at the designated times. Failure to do so will result in an F in the course unless the reason is illness or another emergency. In the event of such illness or emergency, the student must immediately notify the Dean of Students and also have the illness or emergency appropriately verified. Only if the illness or emergency is established to the satisfaction of the Dean of Students may the student be authorized to take a makeup examination. Any student seeking to take a makeup exam must not notify the professor, since doing so may compromise the integrity of the anonymous grading process.

**C.** The makeup examination ordinarily will be the original examination if the student certifies no knowledge of its contents. With the approval of the instructor, the Academic Dean may require that another examination be used or may recommend other appropriate action. In the event that an examination is postponed beyond the date on which grades for the course must be given to the Office of Academic Services, a grade of Incomplete will be entered on the student's record. If the student, without first having received the permission of the Dean of Students, fails to take the makeup examination on the appointed date, an I grade will be changed to F.

**D.** Students who require accommodations because of mobility, sensory, or learning disabilities should make such arrangements with the Dean of Students as soon as reasonably possible prior to the start of exam period. Requests for special accommodations must be made directly to the University's Disability Resources Office. See also University Policy on Persons with Disabilities.

**E.** If a paper is required in a course or seminar, the paper must be submitted at or before the time set by the instructor. No paper shall be submitted after the end of the term, which is the last day of scheduled examinations, unless the instructor grants leave to submit a paper after that date. Leave may be granted by the instructor for good cause. A professor may not grant an extension beyond a date that would prevent the professor from assigning grades by the date on which grades for the course are due to the Office of Academic Services. Failure to submit a paper by the applicable deadline will result in a failing grade.



Note: Students are advised to carefully read the Law School Code of Conduct before each examination period.

This regulation applies as written to MAFI students.

## **Related Policies and Procedures**

### **1. General Policy**

- a. Students should report to the assigned examination room 15 minutes before the examination is scheduled to begin. Bluebooks and scrap paper will be provided in the exam room.
- b. Timely appearance at the exam is the student's responsibility. Oversleeping, car trouble, missed transportation arrangements, and the like are not normally excusable, and extensions beyond normal due times will usually not be allowed.
- c. Exams are graded anonymously. The Law School issues a special "Examinee ID number" for identification of all exam materials. Students are responsible for obtaining their Examinee ID numbers from Academic Services before the start of each exam. Students receive a new exam number each semester. This Examinee ID number should be entered on all bluebooks and on the distributed exam. Student names should not appear on any of the examination materials.
- d. Exams begin promptly. It is the student's responsibility to allocate the time allowed for the exam and to complete the exam on time. Late arrivals will not be given makeup time.
- e. Each instructor is required to announce to the class, well in advance of the exam, what materials and aids are permitted in the exam room. These instructions cover, for example, the use of calculators, books, class notes, and handouts, and whether books used may be annotated. These instructions will be repeated on the exam and should be read with care. Unless otherwise instructed by advance announcement and exam instructions, students are not permitted to bring anything into the exam room except writing instruments and personal essentials such as handbags, tissues, or coffee.
- f. Students must write their exams in the room in which the exam was distributed or in the designated alternate room. For those who prefer to use computers for their exams, the Law School uses a software package that blocks access to material (class notes, outlines, etc.) on the computer's hard drive. That means that notebook computers owned or rented by students may be used for all essay exams, including closed-book exams (unless the instructor specifically prohibits the use of computers). Students must register in advance to use the special exam software. The Academic Services Office will establish installation procedures and deadlines each semester.
- g. Communication with and among students taking an exam is prohibited.
- h. If there is an announcement during an exam concerning the content of that exam, it will be communicated to the students.
- i. Exam rooms are staffed by proctors. Completed exams may be returned to the proctor before time expires. A student who chooses to submit an exam early must leave the exam room and will not be permitted to re-enter for any reason. At the end of the time allocated, the proctor will call time and collect all remaining exams. Penalties may be assessed for the late return of exams.
- j. Both the examination questions and the exam bluebooks or electronic file containing the student's answers must be identified with the examinee ID number and turned in at or before the expiration of the time allowed for the exam. All unused and/or discarded examination books, scratch paper, and unused bluebooks must also be returned to the

- proctor. No materials may leave the exam room at any time during or after the exam.
- k. If any problem—e.g., illness, error in a question—arises during the exam, the proctor is to be notified immediately. Proctors are responsible for reporting any irregularity that occurs during the exam.
  - l. Each student takes exams subject to the Law School Code of Conduct (*see infra.*) No electronic devices of any type are permitted in exam rooms, other than pre-approved laptop computers that are running the special exam software. All electronic devices must be left outside of the exam rooms. This prohibition includes phones, headphones, electronic dictionaries, personal stereos, and calculators. Students should instruct their family members to call the Academic Services Office in case of emergency. The office will retrieve students from the exam room in such a situation.

## **2. Exam Conflict Policy**

Students are required to take exams at the designated times published on the exam schedule. Failure to appear for an exam will normally result in an F for the course. If necessary, however, an exam may be postponed and a makeup exam scheduled by the Academic Dean for any student under the following circumstances:

- a. Students who have two exams scheduled to take place on the same calendar day may have one of the exams rescheduled by the Academic Services Office.
- b. Students who have three exams scheduled on three consecutive calendar days may have one of the exams rescheduled by the Academic Services Office.
- c. No exam may be given before the day and time originally scheduled, unless no other rescheduling possibility exists, including scheduling after the exam period ends.
- d. All makeup exams are scheduled as authorized by the Academic Dean or Dean of Students. Exam conflict forms are available at the Academic Services Office and on the [Student Advising Portal](#) and must be completed by the posted deadline.
- e. Makeup exams will be scheduled on the earliest day possible. Students receive notice of makeup exam dates and times via e-mail. Once a makeup has been scheduled, a student must take the exam at the makeup session, and may not take the exam as originally scheduled.
- f. Students who have an exam scheduled on a religious holiday may arrange a makeup exam, pursuant to the University Policy on Religious Holidays and Student Absences.

## **3. Scheduling Activities during Reading and Examination Periods**

A reading period will be scheduled at the end of semester, before the beginning of exams. Many, if not most, students use this time to outline their courses in preparation for exams. Indeed, the reading period was designed to serve as an intensive period of synthesis, reflection, and learning. Students may not be deprived of this valuable learning time by take-home exams or makeup classes unless:

- a. They are informed in the registration materials or at the beginning of the course during the drop/add period that a take-home exam will be given in the course. (See item 6 below relating to self-scheduling of take-home exams.)
- b. It is absolutely impossible to schedule a makeup class at any other time. However, since students reasonably expect to use the reading period for exam preparation and not class makeups, makeups should be scheduled as soon as possible after class cancellation.

Review classes may be scheduled during the reading and examination period and must be recorded. Such classes are helpful to students in preparing for exams and are consistent with the

purposes of the reading period.

#### **4. Course Evaluations**

All students are required to complete a standard course evaluation for each Law School course taken. The evaluation forms are completed anonymously and are typically completed on-line during a designated evaluation period during the last two weeks of classes. Information provided by course evaluations is available to instructors and the Law School community only after all final grades have been posted. Student course evaluations are an important part of the Law School's continuing effort to improve its course offerings. Most faculty review these evaluations and work to incorporate many of the suggested changes. Student evaluations also play a role in the promotion and tenure process and in the selection and retention of adjunct faculty.

#### **5. Deadlines for Papers**

The following policies apply to seminar papers, supervised research papers, and papers submitted to satisfy the writing requirement.

- a. The deadline for submission of the final (i.e., graded) version of any paper submitted in satisfaction of the writing requirement, a seminar requirement, or supervised research shall be no later than the end of the term of the seminar, course, or supervised research. For these purposes, the end of the term is the last day of scheduled examinations of the relevant term.
- b. Requests for extensions or exceptions to this policy must be made to the instructor before the deadline. After consultation with the Academic Dean, the instructor may grant extensions or create exceptions for good cause shown. Before granting such extension or exception, the instructor should consider the impact of such extension or exception on the fair treatment, and the perception of fair treatment, of other students, including students enrolled in other seminars and courses.
- c. A paper submitted for purposes of grading may still not meet the minimum requirements of the writing requirement. In such cases, the instructor to whom a paper has been submitted in satisfaction of the writing requirement may and normally should grant the student additional time beyond the grading deadline to enable him/her to revise the paper so that it may meet the standards of the writing requirement. In no event, however, should the extension for purposes of satisfying the writing requirement extend beyond the end of the following term. For papers begun in the spring semester, extensions may not extend beyond the final day of the summer semester.
- d. Instructors in seminars and courses may set earlier deadlines than provided here. But any instructor setting a deadline earlier than that stated here must give prompt notice of the earlier deadline.
- e. Instructors may, and customarily will, set interim deadlines for outlines and preliminary drafts. Instructors should announce such deadlines, normally early in the term.
- f. If a student fails to meet any of the deadlines provided here or by the instructor, the instructor may impose sanctions, including but not limited to a reduction in grade, failure in the course or seminar, denial of credit, or withdrawal from the course pursuant to AR 7.

#### **6. Work-at-Home Exams**

- a. Work-at-home exams, other than first-year exams, are self-scheduled—i.e., each student chooses, within prescribed limits, when to take the exam. Students will be

- notified of the dates on which at-home exams will be available and the duration of the exams.
- b. All at-home exams must be downloaded from the school's exam server and the final answer file must be uploaded to the server, unless specific alternative arrangements are approved in advance.
  - c. Students in upper-level classes may work on at-home exams on any day of reading period or any day on which exams are scheduled as long as the return date is not later than the last day of scheduled examinations. Individual instructors may place more restrictive times on the availability of exams if they notify the class well in advance of the exam period.
  - d. Exams must be completed and submitted within the time limit determined by the instructor. Students must allow sufficient time for the file upload process. Exam files that are uploaded late will be marked as such and will have points deducted.
  - e. Problems with the exam server or any other aspect of at-home exams should be reported to the Academic Services Office by emailing lawexams@case.edu. Students should not contact instructors directly to ask questions about at-home exams, as this causes problems regarding anonymity and equity for students who have already completed their exams.

## **AR 15. Auditors**

This regulation does not apply to Online Part-Time students. An official auditor is a student who is enrolled in a course, attends regularly, and participates in class discussions and other class activities, but is not required to submit written work or to take the examination. Auditors do not receive a letter grade but will have record of their successful or unsuccessful auditing of the course notated on their transcripts (indicated by "AD"). Students must discuss with the instructor what the expectations are regarding class attendance and participation.

Students who are enrolled as degree candidates in the Law School or in any school of the University may audit law courses by registering as auditors with the advance written approval of the instructor. Auditors are allowed on a space-available basis and may not displace a student who is seeking to take the course for credit. Law students are not permitted to audit non-law classes.

Audited courses do not count as prerequisites for law school courses. This regulation applies as written to MAFI students.

## AR 16. Writing Requirement

*This regulation does not apply to MAFL, LLM, and SJD students.*

- A. As a requirement for graduation, each student must complete a substantial research paper or equivalent writing project that meets the criteria set out below.
- B. Professors should set a minimum word count for writing requirement projects. A suggested figure (that other schools have adopted) is **7,000 words**. Several writing requirement options are available.

- 1. An academic paper that demonstrates that the student has:
  - a. framed a thesis;
  - b. supported that thesis with a credible sustained argument;
  - c. identified and engaged with the relevant legal authorities and academic literature necessary to understand the topic and test the thesis;
  - d. grappled with the arguments supporting and opposing the thesis;
  - e. developed a critical understanding of a legal issue or legal institution;
  - f. made a contribution to the literature through original arguments or recommendations.

Students must be given **2 semesters** to write this type of academic paper. Therefore, such seminars or supervised research projects would need to begin in the fall semester. Seminars can be taught in one semester, but students should not receive a grade after the first semester. Rather, they will continue working on their papers during the second semester. The supervising instructor will also continue to provide comments on written work and meet with students as needed during the spring semester.

This option will ordinarily entail an outline, two preliminary drafts, and a final draft. The supervising instructor will review and comment upon the outline and preliminary drafts.

- 2. A paper, memo, or document that does not make an original contribution to the literature but constitutes a substantial writing endeavor and is similar to a memorandum or other work product that lawyers would write in a professional setting. Such a paper should:
    - a. demonstrate thorough and accurate analysis of the relevant legal issues;
    - b. be properly directed at the interests and needs of the intended audience;
    - c. rely on substantial independent research; and
    - d. include original analysis and drafting (cannot be boilerplate).
  - 3. A series of shorter papers that collectively achieve the goals outlined in option 2 above.
- C. All papers must show the earmarks of good writing. The student's writing must be grammatically correct, clear, concise, and effective. The paper(s) must have a coherent and logical organization. The student must credit sources relied upon for the paper and must use proper citation form.
  - D. The writing requirement paper(s) must be written under faculty supervision. Students are encouraged to complete the writing requirement before their final semester. Students who are

journal members will typically fulfill the requirement through the successful completion of their Note during their second year. Students may also fulfill the requirement in the setting of courses, whether seminars or regular courses, for which the faculty has approved conferral of writing credit for writing that meets the requirements of paragraphs B and C. Finally, students may fulfill the requirement as a supervised research project or in certain labs.

- E. A student who wishes to use a seminar, lab, or course paper or supervised research project for satisfaction of the writing requirement must obtain the approval of the supervising faculty member before the student begins work. Individual faculty may (1) limit the number of students who may use a particular seminar, lab, or course to satisfy the writing requirement and (2) require completion of the writing requirement as a condition for satisfactory completion of the seminar, lab, course, or supervised research project. When students undertake the writing requirement in a seminar, lab, or course they must fulfill all other class requirements.
- F. After the student has successfully fulfilled the writing requirement, the supervising faculty member will so notify the Director of Academic Services. The student's transcript will include a notation that the student has fulfilled the requirement. This notation will be independent of the course, seminar, or supervised research grade and the award of academic credit for the work. Because satisfaction of the writing requirement may entail some additional revision of work that has been accepted for academic credit, certification of satisfaction of the writing requirement need not be submitted to the Academic Services Office with the course grade. The revision process must be completed by the end of the semester or summer session following the one in which the paper was undertaken. For these purposes, the end of the summer semester is the Friday before the start of fall semester classes.
- G. As is true for all student academic work, the Law School Code of Conduct applies to writing requirement work. Students are advised to read carefully the Law School Code of Conduct, particularly the sections relating to Generative Artificial Intelligence, plagiarism and the prohibition on the reuse of papers.

## **Related Policies and Procedures**

### **1. Deadlines for Papers**

See AR 14 (Related Policies and Procedures 5, Deadlines for Papers).

### **2. Supervision of the Writing Requirement**

Only tenured, tenure-track, clinical, or lawyering skills faculty members and those holding the rank of senior instructor may supervise written work submitted to satisfy the writing requirement. Adjunct and visiting faculty members may not supervise writing requirement projects. This policy recognizes the deliberative process that generated the writing requirement and does not make a judgment about the capability of special or adjunct faculty. AR 16 is the culmination of extended faculty discussion on the writing requirement, and subsequent discussions have focused on the rigorousness and uniformity of standards for evaluating written work under this rule. The integrity of the writing program requires that supervisors be participants in these deliberations. Secondarily, there are practical constraints that limit the availability of special or adjunct faculty to do extended supervision of student

writers. For these reasons, the policy is enforced except in exceptional cases where the Law School faculty has specifically voted to approve for writing-requirement credit a seminar taught by a special or adjunct law faculty member or other University faculty member.

In some cases, students want to take advantage of distinctive resources outside the regular faculty. We have been able to accommodate these students within the guidelines of this policy by having them secure a regular faculty member as the supervisor and a special or adjunct faculty member as a resource person. This accommodation seems to work well in balancing institutional concerns with the needs of students and is consistent with the writing program under AR 16.

### **3. Writing Requirement Declaration**

Students must file a writing requirement declaration during the semester in which they begin work on the writing requirement project. The declaration period will take place the fourth week of each semester; the Academic Services Office will distribute information about the declaration process.

## **AR 17. Grievance Procedures**

Any student or faculty member who has been a victim of unfair, oppressive, or grossly unprofessional acts, on the part of a faculty member or a member of the administrative staff, may file a written grievance with the Academic Dean. If the grievance cannot be settled by informal agreement among the grievant, the Academic Dean, and the faculty or staff member, the grievance will be referred to a fair hearing before the Faculty Committee on Appeals and Rules.

Any student may appeal to the Faculty Committee on Appeals and Rules, any administrative decision of the Academic Dean or his or her designee that implements academic policies (except for decisions on violations of the Law School Code of Conduct, which are subject to section III. Disciplinary Procedures of the Code of Conduct, and a dismissal pursuant to AR 12. Academic Standing). The decision of the committee on such appeals is final within the Law School, subject only to appeal procedures at the University level.

This regulation applies as written to MAFI students.

## **AR 18. Full-Time Study**

This regulation does not apply to Online Part-Time students. Our graduation standards require six semesters in residence as a full-time student and specify that “a full-time student means a student who devotes substantially all working hours to the study of law.”

The Law School recommends that full-time students not seek any employment for their first year and that they limit their extracurricular activities that year. Full-time students (i.e., students enrolled in 10 or more credit hours per semester or 5 per summer semester) may not engage in more than 20 hours of employment per week.

For the purpose of this regulation, employment is construed to include work for which no remuneration is received, such as volunteer activity in a political campaign. It also includes employment within the University or the Law School, such as work as a library student assistant or

a dormitory counselor.

This regulation does not apply to MAFI, LLM and SJD students.

## **AR 19. Repeating Required Courses**

- A.** A student who receives a grade of F or WF in a course that is required for graduation must repeat and pass that course in the next term in which the course is offered. A grade of F or WF on the second attempt will result in the student's dismissal. A student may not otherwise repeat a course.
- B.** When a student repeats a required course because of a failure the first time both the failing grade and the later grade will be averaged in computing the cumulative average and class rank.
- C.** A student may choose to repeat one time any required course, general education course, or course that is required for a concentration that the student is pursuing, under the following conditions:
  - 1. The student received a grade of B- or lower in the course. The course repetition option may be exercised no more than twice per student.
  - 2. In the case of J.D. students who previously took the course while completing an LL.M. degree, the student may retake the course if the student's shadow grade was a B- or lower.
  - 3. The student consults with and receives permission from the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs to retake the course.
  - 4. Credit may only be awarded once for a particular course. Thus, a student who takes a four-credit course twice will still only receive a total of 4 credits for the course.
  - 5. The new grade received after the course is retaken will be averaged with the later grade in computing the student's GPA and class rank. If a student withdraws from a course that is being repeated, the course repeat option will not be applied and the original grade will stand.
  - 6. Regardless of the grade received, labs, practicums, writing seminars, and clinics may not be retaken.
  - 7. Faculty may encourage or recommend repetition of a course by a particular student but may not require repetition unless the student has received a failing grade. However, the faculty Appeals & Rules Committee may condition readmission of a dismissed student on retaking a course or courses (up to a maximum of two).
  - 8. Where possible, a repeated course should be retaken with a different professor.

Sections A and B apply as written to MAFI students. MAFI students should take into consideration the fact that MAFI courses are not offered with frequency, and so granting a degree to a MAFI student who is required to repeat a course may be significantly delayed.



## **AR 20. Supervised Research**

This regulation does not apply to MAFI students.

### **A. Student Eligibility**

Only candidates for the J.D. degree may enroll. First-year students are not eligible; a student must have completed two semesters in residence and 24 credit hours. This requirement may be waived by the Academic Dean in special cases.

### **B. Grades**

Supervised Research is graded like any other course. Grades are based on the instructor's evaluation of the work done.

### **C. Faculty Supervision**

No faculty member may supervise more than three Supervised Research students at any given time. In exceptional circumstances, this rule may be waived by the Academic Dean upon request of the faculty member.

Students may enroll in Supervised Research only with faculty members who are eligible to supervise writing requirement projects under AR 16, unless the Academic Dean specifically waives this restriction. Academic credit is not given to students who do research for practicing attorneys who will use the research product as part of their regular law practice (except to the extent that such work is done in the context of a laboratory course, under the direct supervision of a faculty member).

Students may enroll in Supervised Research with a member of the CWRU faculty outside the Law School only with the Academic Dean's approval. Except in very unusual cases, such permission will be granted only for students in a dual-degree program. In such a case, the credit awarded will be treated as part of the hours permitted to be taken outside the Law School under AR 9(D).

The degree of supervision depends upon the nature of the research project. Normally, supervision entails, at a minimum, submission and approval of a detailed outline, a first draft and a detailed review of that draft, and submission of the final draft by the end of the semester so that the instructor can grade it during the examination period.

### **D. Acceptable Research Projects**

The project must be an individual effort of scholarly depth and scope. The result should be a single paper or a series of connected papers. Work produced by a compensated research assistant does not qualify. Isolated memos of a routine nature, such as the kind of work normally done by a research assistant, do not qualify.

Most projects are based on legal research, and the final product is a paper in essay form, substantially equivalent to a law review article. But the project may be based on field research (questionnaires, observations of trials, etc.), and the final form may be something other than an essay, such as a draft statute or regulation with commentary, or an appellate brief in major litigation.

## **E. Administration**

Students enroll in Supervised Research through the Academic Services Office, but the instructor's permission is required. This is recorded on a form that names the project, the student, the semester, and the number of credits to be awarded. The form must be signed by the instructor. The student must return this form to Academic Services by the end of the drop/add period. Students who complete the writing requirement through Supervised Research will be enrolled in Scholarly Writing.

Occasionally, a student may be unable to complete the research project in one semester. If the student has, in the opinion of the instructor, made substantial progress during the semester and wishes to complete the project during the next semester (or summer session), the project may be spread over two semesters. If the student completes the project, the instructor reports the grade as a late grade for the first semester. If the student fails to complete the project by the extended deadline, the grade of I automatically converts to an F for the prior semester. A student who is completing a project begun the previous semester is not listed as enrolled in Supervised Research during the current semester and may not enroll in another Supervised Research course during the current semester.

Note: Students are advised to read carefully the Law School Code of Conduct, particularly the sections relating to plagiarism and to the prohibition on the reuse of papers.

See also AR 14, Related Policies and Procedures 5, for information about deadlines for Supervised Research papers.

## **AR 21. Study Abroad Program**

### **A. Eligibility to Apply**

A student is eligible to apply for nomination to a study abroad program if the student

- a. is not required to take more than three General Education courses (i.e., a full-time student who is ranked in the top 50% at the end of their first year or a part-time student at the end of their fourth semester);
- b. is not required to enroll in Entering the Profession; and
- c. has a cumulative GPA of 3.2 or above at the time of their application.

Each student must include an addendum explaining their efforts to secure a job after graduation and why the committee should not be concerned about the student passing the bar exam.

### *Two-semester Concurrent Degree*

Applicants who wish to pursue a two-semester, concurrent-degree study-abroad program must have successfully completed all mandatory first-year courses and be enrolled in or successfully completed all mandatory second-year courses, the writing requirement, three general-education courses, and six experiential credits. The capstone requirement does not apply to students undertaking a concurrent degree abroad.

### *One-semester Study Abroad*

Applicants who wish to pursue a one-semester study abroad program must have successfully completed all first-year required classes; be enrolled in or successfully completed all mandatory

second-year courses, at least one of the three required general education courses, and the writing requirement. With the approval of the Academic Dean or the Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs and the requisite professor, a student may complete the writing requirement while studying abroad. Students are strongly advised not to fulfill their writing requirement in their final semester of law school.

Students may apply for both one-semester and two-semester concurrent-degree programs but may only participate in one study-abroad program. Students participating in a one-semester study abroad program are required to meet the 12-credit experiential education requirement but are limited to a 6-credit capstone. Students participating in a two-semester study abroad program are required to complete six experiential credits and do not need to complete the capstone requirement.

Academic Affairs will announce the application period for each cycle.

### **B. Selection Process**

Each application will be reviewed by a Study Abroad committee consisting of the Academic Dean or Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs, a professor, and one staff member from Student Services, the Career Development Office, or Experiential Education. The student must show a well-developed career interest in the country or area in which the program is held and the relevance of the program to that interest. All decisions of the Study Abroad committee are final.

### **C. Responsibilities of Study Abroad Students**

Students shall continue to pay tuition to the Law School. Students must complete all required questions on the study-abroad portal prior to departure, except for their return dates. Students must add their return date on the portal as soon as the return ticket is purchased.

Students are not permitted to take courses at foreign universities that are offered at the Law School without approval of the Associate Dean or Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs, upon showing that there are significant differences in the content or approach of the course.

No student may enroll in more than the equivalent of 18 Law School credits in a semester while studying abroad.

Each study-abroad student must enroll in and transfer, at minimum, the equivalent of 12 Law School credits in a semester.

Credits toward the J.D. degree for all foreign study shall not exceed one-third of the credits required for the J.D. degree at the Law School. While the Law school is limited in the amount of credits that can be transferred, the student may still take the equivalent of 18 credits per semester at the foreign institution.

Each student must complete an Education Abroad Plan and receive approval from the Academic Dean or the Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs prior to the foreign institution's add/drop deadline.

Students are strongly encouraged to complete the Education Abroad plan prior to or immediately after registering for classes.

At the conclusion of each semester, an official academic transcript must be sent directly from the host institution to the Law School in order for any transfer credit to be granted. Timely receipt of the foreign institution's transcript is required to ensure Law School degree conferral.

Each student must complete the Law School Study Abroad evaluation form prior to graduation.

Each study abroad student shall commit to fulfilling all other obligations as specified by the Academic Dean or Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs.

## **AR 22. Generative Artificial Intelligence (GAI) Exam and Assignment Policy**

During an exam, quiz, or other similar graded assignment, students shall not submit a prompt to GAI or use information obtained from another person's prompt to GAI that was submitted during an examination. Nor may students use devices on which locking software is not installed (if otherwise required to use computer-locking software on an exam) to circumvent the prohibition on the use of GAI. Students are allowed, however, to rely on information or material generated by GAI before the start of their exam.

For purposes of the general exam prohibition on GAI, GAI does not include applications that only suggest corrections for spelling and grammar, or any component of any examination software required or provided by the law school.

### **A. GAI Work and Assignment Policy**

For purposes of rules addressing plagiarism in work submitted in any course, the Law School considers text generated by GAI as if it had been written by a person other than the student. The student may use GAI for correction of spelling and grammar and to perform research in ways similar to search engines such as Google. Except as provided in AR 22(B), GAI may not be used to compose any part of the submitted assignment.

### **B. Faculty Discretion**

Faculty may modify these default rules by providing written notice in the syllabus before the first week of classes ends. By default, use of GAI on an exam is prohibited, but faculty may, at their discretion, allow its use on an exam. Use of GAI, however, is strictly prohibited for any closed-book portions of an exam.

### **C. Creative GAI Instructions**

Faculty are encouraged to utilize GAI in their instruction in thoughtful and creative ways that may enhance students' learning and prepare them for legal practice. Faculty should delineate clearly when and how students may employ GAI in their studies.

### **D. Final Exam Modality**

The default rule for final exam modality is in-person. Exams will either be closed-book exams or open-book with access only to hardcopy materials and no access to digital copies, computer hard drives, or the Internet.

### **E. Faculty Discretion on Exams**

Faculty may choose to adopt other exam modalities, including in-person but unlocked (providing limited access to the Internet) or remote exams. However, faculty must demonstrate

to the Academic Dean for Academic Affairs how the alternative modality does not jeopardize integrity and fairness through the potential use of GAI.

**F. Remote exams**

To the extent that any exams are remote, the exams should be administered via Canvas and HonorLock.<sup>1</sup> Faculty should design their exams with considerations about how to deter GAI use.

# THE LAW SCHOOL CODE OF CONDUCT

## I. Introduction

Every student admitted to the Law School is subject to three separate codes of conduct:

1. To the extent it is applicable, every law student must abide by the Model Rules of Professional Conduct adopted by the American Bar Association. The decision to adopt the Model Rules of Professional Conduct was made by the Faculty of Law and by the Student Bar Association.
2. All members of the University community, including law students, are subject to the University Standards of Conduct and related University policies and procedures (e.g., Sexual Assault Policy, Sexual Harassment Policy). The University Standards of Conduct and related policies and procedures were promulgated by the President of the University on the direction of the Board of Trustees. They are available at <http://students.case.edu/handbook/policy/>.
3. All law students are subject to the Law School Code of Conduct. This code addresses student conduct, including academic dishonesty such as cheating on examinations, plagiarism, etc., and supplements the first two codes. The Law School Code of Conduct has been adopted by the Faculty of Law and by the Student Bar Association.

## II. Substantive Violations

### 1. Cheating

Unless specifically permitted by the instructor, no student shall give or receive aid during any examination or other required class project, including but not limited to any regularly scheduled class examination or take-home examination. “Aid” means information or help of any nature and from any source. “Give or receive” means voluntary transmission or receipt of aid in any manner, and includes receipt of aid from persons, notes, books, or objects.

### 2. Improper Cooperation on Work

No student shall cooperate with another student or solicit cooperation from or offer cooperation to another student, in the preparation of any written work submitted for credit, unless cooperation is specifically allowed by the instructor or by the program in which the student is participating.

### 3. Plagiarism

No student shall submit any written academic work that is plagiarized.

Plagiarizing is knowingly copying or paraphrasing words or appropriating ideas from another’s work without clearly identifying them as the work of another.

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<sup>1</sup> The Honorlock authentication process may entail taking a picture of the student, submission of ID, and scan of the student’s room. Honorlock will record the exam session by webcam, as well as record the student’s screen. Honorlock also has an integrity algorithm that can detect search- engine use.

“Written academic work” is all writing for which there is the expectation of originality, and which is submitted to the school or under the auspices of the school, whether or not it is submitted for academic credit.

See Commentary on Plagiarism and Interpretive Statement on the Academic Significance of Plagiarism (*see infra*).

#### **4. Misappropriation or Defacement of Property**

No student shall misappropriate or deface property of the University or of another member of the University community. “Misappropriation” means the intentional and unauthorized taking, carrying away, or keeping or concealing of property with or without the intent to deprive permanently. “Defacement” means the intentional and unauthorized writing in or marking of property, destruction of property in whole or in part, or damage to or abuse of property.

#### **5. Improper Knowledge of Contents of Examination**

- a. No student shall voluntarily acquire any knowledge of the content of a forthcoming examination without authorization from the instructor.
- b. Any student who has voluntarily or involuntarily acquired knowledge of the contents of any forthcoming examination without authorization from the instructor shall report this fact to the instructor immediately.
- c. No student who has acquired knowledge of the contents of an examination or who has taken an examination, and who knows that one or more other students are to take the same examination at a later time, shall directly or indirectly disclose the contents of said examination to a student who has yet to take the examination.
- d. No student shall make any unauthorized copy of any examination that is to be turned in at the end of the examination period, nor shall any student retain possession of any such examination, or any portion thereof, after the examinations have been collected.

#### **6. Nondisclosure**

A student shall report immediately any violation of this code that he or she knows or reasonably believes to have occurred. Reports may be made to the Dean’s office, to the Law School Office of Student Services, or to the University Office of Student Affairs.

#### **7. Giving False Information and Failure to Assist Enforcement**

No student shall knowingly give false information, refuse to give information, refuse to testify, or otherwise refuse to cooperate in any investigation or hearing involving a charge of misconduct under the Model Rules of Professional Conduct, the University Standards of Conduct, or the Law School Code of Conduct.

#### **8. Unauthorized alterations**

After the deadline for completion has passed, unless a student receives authorization from an instructor, a student shall not alter any writing or examination that has been submitted as a course requirement.

## **9. Misrepresentation**

No student shall intentionally misrepresent to anyone, whether within or outside the Law School, his or her or any other student's grades, class rank, personal references, employment records, activities, or any other material facts regarding his or her academic and personal achievements. This section shall apply to misrepresentation in areas including, but not limited to, admission, financial aid, and placement.

## **10. Reuse of Papers**

No student shall use the same or essentially the same paper, or a substantial part thereof, for two courses without notifying the person or persons who are responsible for awarding credit for the courses. If the courses in which the paper is to be submitted are not taken concurrently, then only the person responsible for awarding credit in the course last taken must be notified. For purposes of this section, "course" means any endeavor for which Law School credit is received. For purposes of this section, "paper" means any written material submitted for credit (e.g., briefs, memoranda, articles).

## **11. Examination Rules**

No student shall intentionally violate examination policies, procedures, rules, or instructions that have been announced or published, either in general or for a specific examination.

# **III. Disciplinary Procedures**

The purposes of these disciplinary procedures are to hold students accountable for misconduct, to deter misconduct, and, when appropriate, to provide remedial and rehabilitative assistance to aid in the ethical development of the student. The Dean of the Law School (hereinafter "the Dean") makes the ultimate decision with respect to all disciplinary matters and sanctions to be imposed, if any, upon the recommendation of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs (hereinafter the "Academic Dean") or Dean of Students in cases resolved by admission, or the hearing panel in cases resolved through the Hearing Process described below.

In addition, notwithstanding any provision in these procedures or the Law School Code of Conduct generally, the Dean of the Law School may exercise his or her plenary authority at any time to withdraw any pending matter from the investigation or hearing process described below and dispose of any such matter in any way he or she deems appropriate at the time, subject only to review by the President of the University. The Dean's decision-making authority and disciplinary process stated herein do not automatically preempt the jurisdiction and disciplinary procedures of other University bodies (e.g., the University Appeals Board) that retain their own concurrent jurisdiction to investigate and enforce their own rules and impose their own disciplinary measures. In circumstances where different findings and/or disciplinary measures may be imposed by different bodies, the more severe disciplinary findings and/or measures shall control.

## **1. Referrals**

Members of the Law School community should bring evidence of violations of the Law School Code of Conduct, the Law School Academic Regulations, or the University Standards of Conduct and related policies (hereinafter "Codes of Conduct") to the Academic Dean, the Dean of Students, or the University Office of Student Affairs. If uncertain whether a violation of the Codes of Conduct has occurred, members of the Law School community



are encouraged to consult with the Academic Dean or the Dean of Students. It is helpful if the member making the referral provides a description of the possible misconduct, including name(s), date(s), and location(s). Referrals need not be in writing. If a referral is made directly to the Law School, the Law School shall notify the University Office of Student Affairs, and if a referral is made directly to the University Office of Student Affairs, that office shall notify the Law School. The Law School and the University Office of Student Affairs will work collaboratively to the extent appropriate.

## **2. Law School Representative**

When a matter has been referred to the Academic Dean or the Dean of Students (hereinafter the “Investigating Dean”) for investigation as a possible violation of the Codes of Conduct, the Dean may designate a faculty member as Law School Representative to assist the Investigating Dean in investigating a possible violation of the Codes of Conduct.

If a case is to be resolved through a hearing, the Dean shall designate a faculty member as Law School Representative to present information, question witnesses, and argue the case on behalf of the Law School.

## **3. Investigation and Initiation of Charge**

After receiving a Referral, the Investigating Dean will investigate whether a charge that the Codes of Conduct have been violated is warranted. During such investigation, the Investigating Dean or his/her designee may interview the student or students who may have violated the Codes, interview witnesses to the possible violation, and gather other appropriate evidence. Any student whose conduct is under investigation shall be provided a reasonable opportunity to address the alleged violations.

If the Investigating Dean determines there is not sufficient evidence to support a charge that the Codes have been violated, the referral and investigation shall be closed.

If there is sufficient evidence to support a charge that the Codes have been violated, the Investigating Dean shall initiate a charge by setting forth the alleged violation and a list of possible sanctions in writing to be delivered to the student suspected of the violation. The Investigating Dean also shall give any student charged a copy of the Disciplinary Procedures and answer any questions the student may have about the Procedures.

## **4. Treatment of Information**

Deans and faculty members who receive information during the course of an investigation or hearing should exercise care in relation to such information out of regard for its sensitive nature. Deans and faculty members ultimately cannot refrain from revealing or using information provided by a student for appropriate reasons, such as a disciplinary proceeding, either for the purpose of establishing a violation or choosing an appropriate sanction, finding appropriate counseling or treatment for a student, or admission to the bar.

To inform the Law School community of the nature of student misconduct under the Academic Rules and Codes of Conduct and to deter such misconduct, each academic year the Academic Dean will prepare and circulate to the Law School community a report of student misconduct during the preceding three academic years. The report will describe offenses, sanctions, and the terms and conditions of such sanctions in general terms. The Academic Dean shall describe the offenses with sufficient specificity to educate and inform the Law School community while

maintaining the privacy of the individual student(s) to the extent possible. The report will not mention the names of the students involved or any personally identifiable information.

## **5. Resolution of the Charge**

A charge may be resolved by Dismissal, Admission, or one of the Hearing Processes described below.

1. *Dismissal.* The charge may be dismissed by the Investigating Dean if new factual information indicates that the charge is unwarranted.
2. *Resolution by Admission.* The charge may be resolved by admission. If, in response to the charge, the student admits misconduct in violation of the Codes of Conduct, the Investigating Dean shall consult with the Dean. The Dean shall prepare a letter to the student stating the facts constituting misconduct and setting forth proposed sanctions. The student shall have five working days to respond to the letter. If the student agrees to the accuracy of the statement of facts and agrees to accept the sanctions, the student shall sign the letter to indicate agreement to the facts and imposition of the proposed sanctions. The sanctions then shall be imposed. The letter shall serve as the record with respect to the misconduct and the Law School's disposition of the charge in the event of inquiry by bar authorities or by others authorized by the student to receive information about the misconduct. A misconduct charge may not be resolved through admission unless the student admits the charged misconduct.

If a student admits the charged misconduct but does not agree to the proposed sanction, the choice of sanction will be resolved through the Hearing Process. The Investigating Dean shall prepare a written stipulation stating the facts constituting misconduct, which shall be signed by the student and submitted jointly to the hearing panel. In a hearing in which the student disputes only the proposed sanction and not the charged misconduct, the student shall only be allowed to present arguments and evidence related to the sanction.

3. *Hearing Process.* Unless both the charge and sanction are resolved by dismissal or admission, these issues shall be resolved through a hearing before a three- member panel.

If both the issues of misconduct and sanction are contested, the Investigating Dean shall prepare a summary statement including: the charge of misconduct; evidence supporting the charge, including but not limited to the names of witnesses and copies of documents that support the charge. The statement shall summarize the testimony of the witnesses and the substance of any documents. The student charged has a right to be present at the hearing, to question witnesses, and to present evidence on his or her behalf. The student charged does not have an obligation to testify, but the student's failure to answer questions at the hearing may be considered, but not solely relied upon, in the panel's finding. The student may be accompanied by an advisor chosen by the student. The student's advisor may consult with and advise the student and may also question and cross-examine witnesses, present evidence, address the panel, and otherwise participate as an advocate in the hearing. The charge shall be resolved using a preponderance-of-the-evidence standard. Formal rules of evidence and civil procedure do not apply at the

hearing.

The hearing shall be recorded by a court reporter and shall be closed except for the following: the panel, the student charged and his/her advisor, the Investigating Dean, the Law School Representative, the court reporter, and witnesses.

The panel shall consider all evidence submitted during the hearing and shall determine whether a preponderance of the evidence supports a finding that the student violated the Codes of Conduct as charged. If only sanction is at issue, the Stipulation shall constitute the basis for a finding of misconduct for which the sanction shall be imposed. At the conclusion of all proceedings, the panel shall submit a report to the Dean setting forth its findings and, if misconduct was found or stipulated by the student, a recommendation for sanction. The Dean has ultimate authority regarding sanctions imposed for misconduct.

4. *Composition of the Panel.* One member of the panel shall be a student chosen by the Dean from Student Bar Association's Honor Court. The other two members of the panel shall not be students and shall be chosen by the Dean from a panel named annually by the Dean. The Dean may, but is not required to, choose faculty members to serve in these positions. The Dean shall designate one of the non- student members to serve as the panel Chair to preside at the hearing. The panel Chair shall resolve any procedural issues or questions of interpretation of the Codes of Conduct that may arise.

The Law School Representative shall call and question witnesses, present information, and argue the case on behalf of the Law School. The panel members may question witnesses, call additional witnesses, and request that other evidence be brought before the panel for consideration. All members of the panel shall vote the issue of whether a violation of a Code of Conduct has been proven by a preponderance of the evidence and on the appropriate sanction to recommend to the Dean. These decisions will be made by majority vote of the panel.

## IV. Penalties

### 1. Range of Penalties

The following penalties, either singly or in combination, may be imposed upon a student under Section III. Disciplinary Procedures of the Law School Code of Conduct for violations of the Model Rules of Professional Conduct, the University Code of Conduct, or the Law School Code of Conduct. In determining the penalty, the nature of the offense and the entire record of the student involved shall be considered. **Note that any sanction may require reporting to bar authorities where the conduct implicates character and fitness concerns.**

### 2. Penalties in Increasing Order of Severity

- a. *Informal Private Reprimand.* The student may be given a private letter from the court stating that he or she has violated one of the Codes of Conduct, and that if repetition of the conduct should occur, a more severe penalty may be imposed. This reprimand does not become part of the student's permanent Law School record and is not reported to the Law School community, **but may need to be reported to bar authorities where the conduct implicates character and fitness concerns.**

- b. *Formal Reprimand.* A formal reprimand is identical to a private reprimand, except that a copy of the reprimand shall be included in the student's permanent Law School record.
- c. *Disciplinary Probation.* Disciplinary probation is a formal reprimand that also imposes disabilities upon the student for a specified period of time, not to exceed two years. The terms of the probation may limit participation by the student in co-curricular activities, such as SBA office or Law Review, or may disqualify the student from honors, such as Coif. A copy of the reprimand, containing the terms of the probation, shall be included in the student's permanent Law School record.
- d. *Suspension.* The student may be suspended for up to two semesters, commencing immediately or in the following semester. The effect of immediate suspension is to prevent the student from receiving any course or residence credit for that semester. Suspension excludes the student from all classes, exams, the use of the library, and all other Law School activities. The suspension will be entered on the student's transcript.
- e. *Indefinite Suspension.* The student may be suspended for an indefinite period. Readmission is possible, but only upon approval by the Appeals and Rules Committee. The indefinite suspension will be entered on the student's transcript.
- f. *Dismissal.* The student may be expelled. The expulsion will be entered on the student's transcript.

### **3. Additional Penalties**

In addition to the penalties set forth in Section 2 above, the following penalties may be imposed in appropriate cases.

- a. *Restitution.* Upon a conviction of an offense involving property, the student may be ordered to repair or replace the property or to reimburse the University or the party whose property was damaged.
- b. *Grade Reduction and Withholding Credit.* Where misconduct is committed in connection with the grading of a specific course:
- c. The Dean or hearing panel may recommend to the faculty member involved that the grade for that course be reduced. The Dean or hearing panel shall not have the power to lower a grade.
- d. The Dean or hearing panel may order that no credit be given for the course. In such case the fact that credit was denied for violation of one of the Codes of Conduct may be noted on the student's transcript.

## Commentary on Plagiarism

1. This commentary is intended to be an aid to the interpretation of the rule against plagiarism [Law School Code of Conduct II.3].
2. Plagiarism is one of the most serious forms of academic dishonesty. It is destructive to the institution in which it takes place. It is dishonorable conduct that justifies disciplinary action. It is also conduct that is inconsistent with the award of academic credit. Plagiarism can result in the denial or revocation of academic credit by the appropriate faculty member or faculty committee whether or not disciplinary action is taken.
3. The rule forbids submitting work that copies or paraphrases words or appropriates the ideas of another without clearly identifying them as the work of another. Of course, some ideas have such wide currency that all may use them freely; some words, such as proverbs and clichés, are public property. But words or ideas that are clearly identifiable as the work of another may not be copied, paraphrased, or appropriated without proper attribution.

This does not mean that the words or ideas must be the most important ones or essential either to the work that is plagiarized or to the written academic work that uses them. It does not matter whether they are considered to be descriptive or analytical.

The random use of a few words that are the same as those found in another's work does not constitute plagiarism. However, copying or paraphrasing even a short passage or appropriating a single idea without identifying it as the work of another can constitute a violation of the rule.

4. There are few truly original ideas. But that is not a defense to a charge of plagiarism. The rule is defined by the interests it protects. The rule is not so much intended to protect someone else's work as it is to foster academic honesty in individuals and protect the integrity of the institution. Thus, it is no defense that the material copied, paraphrased, or appropriated was not "original" itself. Whether written academic work copies or paraphrases another's words or appropriates another's ideas is a question of fact that takes into account all the relevant surrounding circumstances.
5. The rule requires that the words copied or paraphrased, or the ideas appropriated must be clearly identified as the work of another.

This rule does not command the use of any particular system of citation. Plagiarism is not committed simply by mistakes in or deviation from accepted citation form. On the other hand, the failure to indicate quotations with quotation marks, indentations, or some other method, which clearly indicates that the other person's words are being quoted, can be plagiarism even if the source for the quotation is cited in the text or in a footnote. A proper citation to the source of an idea is not sufficient to show that language is being quoted.

Similarly, it is not a defense to a charge of plagiarism that the written academic work contains some reference to the material that is copied or paraphrased. Whatever citation form is employed must be sufficient to clearly alert the reader that the words are copied or paraphrased or that the idea is appropriated from another's work.

6. The expectation of originality is an element of the offense. Some academic work may require copying other materials without any attribution. A pleading prepared at the legal clinic, for example, might receive academic credit and yet it might be expected that the student would write the pleading drawing on form books or other pleadings in the files of the clinic without giving attribution to the source. Similarly, an instructor in a seminar might require early drafts of a paper in which the ideas were to be developed, but in which attribution was not required. These examples are exceptions. Unless the instructor clearly states that there is no requirement of attribution, all written work, including preliminary drafts, is done with the expectation of originality. The expectation of originality means the expectation that the work will be the student's effort. Originality in the sense that a scholar submitting a paper for publication should be making an "original contribution" to the field is not pertinent to the inquiry whether a student's paper plagiarizes another's work.
7. Plagiarism requires knowingly copying, paraphrasing, or appropriating. The purpose of the word "knowingly" is to ensure that no one will be disciplined for an act done because of mistake, accident, or other innocent reason.

Knowingly copying, paraphrasing, or appropriating may be shown by direct or circumstantial evidence. The written academic work itself, together with materials that it draws on, can be sufficient evidence to show the offense was committed knowingly.

No other intent is required to establish the offense. The intent to deceive or mislead is not required, although the intent or lack of intent to deceive or mislead may be considered as a matter of aggravation of the offense or mitigation of punishment. As with other offenses, ignorance of the rule against plagiarism is not a defense.

8. Written academic work includes all academic writing, whether or not submitted for credit. It includes research papers or memoranda submitted for academic credit. It includes Law Review notes and articles submitted to our or to other Law Reviews. It includes essays, papers, briefs, or other documents submitted in contests and competitions under the auspices of the school. Any contest or competition that requires or recognizes the status of the author as a student in this school is under the auspices of the school.  
On the other hand, research work prepared for a private law firm and not presented for credit to the school is not covered by this rule.
9. Normally, work done in an inside final examination is not governed by the plagiarism rule, but by the rules against cheating in examinations. Take-home examinations, however, are considered written academic work. They are governed by the plagiarism rule as well as the other rules pertaining to examinations unless the instructor specifically indicates to the contrary.
10. The rule forbids submitting work written in whole or in part by another person without clearly identifying it as the work of another. Payment or expectation of any sort of consideration is not an element of the offense but may be considered as a matter of aggravation of the offense or mitigation of punishment.
11. One who writes in whole or in part a paper for another, knowing it is to be submitted by another without proper attribution, is guilty of plagiarism.

## **Interpretive Statement on the Academic Significance of Plagiarism**

1. The faculty retains jurisdiction to grant, withhold, or withdraw academic credit or status based on credit. The faculty's jurisdiction in plagiarism cases is independent of any action that might be taken under the Code of Conduct or other applicable disciplinary regulations.
2. Plagiarism is a form of behavior or conduct that has substantive significance in two separate dimensions, one being its "dishonorableness" and the other being its negation of the fulfillment of academic requirements in the case of a research submission: that it be the product of substantial efforts exerted by the student submitting it; that it form a basis for evaluating the efforts and thought product of the student submitting it; and, in the case of a submission that may be published, that it contain no obstacles to publication.
3. A finding that credit has been requested or granted on the basis of a plagiarized submission constitutes an exceptionally strong academic ground upon which the faculty may, and usually will, deny or rescind credit and deny or revoke academically significant status that is contingent upon the earning of credit. Whenever credit or academically significant status is gained on the basis of a plagiarized submission, continued possession of such credit or status constitutes a misrepresentation of academic achievement. Because plagiarism negates fulfillment of academic requirements, faculty authority to withhold or rescind credit or status is not affected by such factors as: the absence of a system to discover plagiarism; student ignorance of, or unwillingness to abide by, the academic requirements, fulfillment of which is negated by plagiarism; failure, on the part of students who participate in the granting of credit or status, to perceive the academic significance of plagiarism or to seek denial or rescission of credit or status when plagiarism appears, or student complicity in the submission of plagiarized work. Neither the nature nor the frequency of such factors can cure the false signals sent by the possession of credit or status gained because of a plagiarized submission.

# ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

In compliance with Standard 208, dated February 2024, in the ABA Standards and Rules of Procedure for Approval of Law Schools, the faculty restates its commitment to academic freedom and freedom of expression through the Policy on Freedom of Expression Activities, approved by the President and Board of Trustees on November 19, 2019, and the previously approved rules found in Article 1. D. and Article IV of the law school's Faculty Handbook. These policies bind the Law School are set forth below:

**Case Western Reserve University Policy on Freedom of Expression/Expressive Activities**  
Relates to: Faculty, staff, students, and community members

## I. Summary of Policy

Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) is committed to freedom of expression. The purpose of this policy is to promote that free exchange of ideas while preserving the safe and efficient operation of Case Western Reserve University. This policy should be read in conjunction with the other CWRU policies that protect the right to engage in freedom of expression such as the CWRU Use of Facility Policy, the Faculty Handbook, the Student Rules of Conduct, and the CWRU Non-Discrimination Policy.

## II. Policy

### Commitment to Freedom of Expression

Fundamental to the purposes of the University is the belief that progress in social and individual welfare is ultimately dependent upon the maintenance of freedom in academic processes. Accordingly, CWRU is committed to the freedom of speech, thought, expression, and assembly, and guarantees all members of the CWRU community the fullest possible right to hold and express opinions, to speak and write, to listen, challenge, inquire and learn. Except insofar as limitations on these rights are necessary to preserve the functioning of the University, CWRU fully respects and supports the freedom of all members of the CWRU community to engage in expressive activities, as such activities are vital to the purposes of the University.

It is inevitable, and often desirable, that some members of the University community will hold and express opinions different from our own. As a consequent, the ideas of different members of the University community may conflict. Yet it is not the proper role of the University to exclude or suppress those ideas some may find unwelcome, disagreeable, or even offensive. As affirmed in the CWRU Statement of Ethics and Faculty Handbook, fulfillment of the University's mission requires an openness to new ideas, and the protection of expression, which is critical toward conventional thought or established interests. While all members of the University community share in the responsibility for maintaining a climate of mutual respect and intellectual honesty, concerns about civility and mutual respect should not be used as a justification for closing off discussion of ideas.

Nevertheless, CWRU may restrict expression that violates the law or CWRU policy, that falsely defames a specific individual that constitutes a genuine threat or harassment, that unjustifiably invades substantial privacy or confidentiality interests, or that is otherwise directly incompatible with the functioning of the University. In addition, CWRU may reasonably regulate the time, place, and manner of expression to ensure that it does not



disrupt the ordinary activities of the University.

#### Commitment to Safety

Just as CWRU supports freedom of speech, freedom of inquiry, freedom of dissent, and freedom to demonstrate in a peaceful fashion, University community members have a corresponding responsibility to support and promote this freedom for all, even in disagreement or opposition, as well as to respect the rights of all individuals. The University will maintain a safe and secure atmosphere conducive to academic and educational pursuits. CWRU is committed to the rights of all faculty, students, and staff to carry out their academic and professional activity without coercion, harassment, or disruption. The rights to free speech are subject to reasonable restrictions regarding time, place, and manner, and do not include the right to engage in unlawful activity, activity that endangers or imminently threatens to endanger any member of the university community or property, restricts the freedom of movement, or disrupts/obstructs the functions of the university (or imminently threatens such disruption or obstruction). Although members of the University community are free to criticize and contest the views expressed on campus, and to criticize and contest speakers who are invited to express their views on campus, they may not obstruct or otherwise interfere with the freedom of others to express views they find to be wrongheaded or objectionable.

[Date approved by President and Board of Trustees: November 19, 2019  
Effective date: November 19, 2019]

#### **Case Western Reserve University Faculty Handbook, 2022-2023, Chapter 3, Article I, D. Academic Freedom**

1. Fundamental to the purposes of the University is the belief that progress in social and individual welfare is ultimately dependent on the maintenance of freedom in academic processes. Especially vital is the protection of expression which is critical toward conventional thought or established interests.
2. Academic freedom is a right of all members of the University Faculty and applies to university activities including teaching and research. Specifically, each faculty member may consider in his or her classes any topic relevant to the subject matter of the course as defined by the appropriate educational unit. Each faculty member is entitled to full freedom of scholarly investigation and publication of his or her findings.

# STATEMENT OF STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

It is important to realize that your legal career begins on your first day at CWRU School of Law. Here you will start to establish a professional reputation. The Law School encourages students to achieve their best, and fulfilling all your student responsibilities is a good place to start.

Many sections of this Handbook speak to the responsibilities of students. As members of the Law School and University communities, students must comply with the Law School Code of Conduct and Academic Regulations, the University Standards of Conduct, and the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct. In addition, each of the faculty responsibilities set forth on the prior pages suggests a corollary student responsibility. Finally, set out below are a few of what might be called “administrative” responsibilities of students. Some of these derive from the other codes and rules. They are highlighted here because they seem to be problem areas for many students each year.

## **1. Class Attendance and Deadlines**

Students should strive to be active participants in their learning experience. This includes consistent and thorough preparation for class, participation in class discussion, adherence to paper and assignment deadlines, and regular class attendance pursuant to Academic Regulation 5.

## **2. Courtesy to Others**

Students should treat fellow students, faculty, administrators, and staff members with the utmost courtesy and respect.

## **3. Respect for Property**

Students should treat Law School and University property, equipment, and grounds with care and respect. This includes shared student spaces, such as the wellness space.

## **4. Financial Obligations**

Students should arrange for prompt payment of tuition, fees, and any other amounts owed to the University. If payment is being made by a third party, it is the student’s responsibility to advise the payer of the amounts and due dates. The Financial Services Office provides assistance, but students must take primary responsibility for completion and submission of financial aid information and forms.

## **5. Staying Informed**

Students should keep themselves informed about events and services sponsored or offered by the Law School and about changes of schedule, policy, or procedure within the Law School.

Information is communicated within the Law School via email and by posters, handouts, and materials placed in student mail folders. Important notices from the Dean’s office, the Academic Services Office, the Student Services and Career Development Office, and other offices will be communicated via email to students at the CWRU User ID assigned at the time of matriculation at the University. Students should check their CWRU email account and their mail folders at least daily.

## **6. Personal Information**

It is sometimes necessary, or indeed urgent, that we be able to reach students by telephone or by U.S. mail. Students should update SIS immediately with changes in address (local or permanent) and telephone numbers. Changes in name should also be reported promptly to the Academic Services Office, together with supporting documentation.

## **7. Personal Emergencies and Changes in Status**

Students should advise the Law School immediately in the event of personal illnesses, injuries, or emergencies that affect the student's ability to meet academic requirements. Students should report immediately to the Dean of Students or the Academic Dean any extended absence from class or exams or a failure or inability to meet any deadlines in courses or credit-bearing co-curricular activities. The student bears the burden of establishing and documenting a satisfactory excuse for each such absence or failure or inability.

## **8. Graduation Requirements**

Students should regularly monitor their progress toward meeting requirements for graduation. The Academic Services Office, Academic Dean, and Dean of Students will assist with a review of graduation requirements, but students must take primary responsibility. It is each student's responsibility to notify the Academic Services Office of errors or omissions on his/her transcript. It is also the student's responsibility to confirm with faculty the completion of course requirements, supervised research projects, and the writing requirement, and to make sure that this information is reported to the Academic Services Office. Each student is required to provide to the Admissions Office two official transcripts from his/her undergraduate college or university, showing date of graduation and the degree granted, as well as one official transcript from any graduate degree-granting institution. In addition, any student seeking to have credits transferred to CWRU from another law school must provide an official transcript showing courses, credits, and final grades.

## **9. Educational Use of Computer Equipment, Software, and Resources**

Computer equipment, software, and information resources are made available to students to assist them in the pursuit of their educational goals. Students should cooperate with each other in the use of these resources and respect the ownership of work and information in electronic form. Students should follow the Acceptable Use Policy of the University found at the following link: [Acceptable Use of Information Technology](#).

## **10. Bar Registration**

It is each student's responsibility to register with the bar of the state in which he or she expects to practice, and to register appropriately to take the bar examination as well as the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination. These registration procedures can be lengthy, cumbersome, and expensive, and often include rigid filing deadlines. The Academic Services Office will help by providing information and forms for Ohio registration, but students must take primary responsibility for these filings, in Ohio and other states. Questions about bar registration can be directed to the Director of Academic Services and the Dean of Students.

## **11. E-Mail Postings**

Student organizations may request that notices of upcoming events and other communications of general interest be posted on the Law School email server. Items which may be posted are: meetings, speakers, evening social events, and information of interest to the general public relating to Law School matters and endeavors.

All email notices must be submitted to the Office of Student Services. Students and student organizations may not send emails to the lawstudent, lawfaculty, or lawstaff listserves. Email notices will be sent on Monday and Wednesday mornings only. Student organizations are responsible for drafting and submitting the notice text for posting.

## 12. Activity Calendaring and Scheduling

Room reservation requests for meetings, presentations, and other events in the Law School must be submitted via the Spartan Reservation System: [www.case.edu/rooms](http://www.case.edu/rooms). Anyone seeking to schedule an event should check the “Reservation Book” on the Spartan Reservation System before scheduling an event or requesting a room for an event. When submitting an event, search for “School of Law” as your group name (do not enter a specific organization as your group). Because of limited space available, all requests should be submitted at least one week in advance. This will allow time for resolution if the requested room is being held for another purpose. **Reservation requests submitted less than 48 business hours in advance will not be accepted.** Classrooms at the School of Law can only be reserved for the current semester. Law classes and academic activities have priority for scheduling in all Law School spaces.

Specific guidelines for scheduling and calendaring events by student organizations and clubs and other student groups can be found in the 2025-2026 Student Organization Handbook which is issued to the SBA and the executive board of every student organization and club. This handbook is also available on the intranet (<https://lawhome.case.edu/Departments/Student-Services>) and in the [Student Advising Portal](#). Questions about activity calendaring and scheduling may be directed to the Director of Student Services.

## CONCENTRATIONS

The Law School offers the following concentrations.

- Business Law
- Civil Litigation and Dispute Resolution
- Criminal Law
- Environmental Law
- Health Law
- International Law
- Law, Technology, and the Arts
- Public Interest Law

The concentrations share several common features:

1. Each concentration requires completion of a set of required and designated elective courses. Each concentration will have 1 or 2 required courses; students also will complete 2 or 3 elective courses from a list compiled by the concentration advisor.
2. Students must complete a seminar paper, journal Note, or 2-credit supervised research project as part of a concentration. The course in which the paper is written may count as a concentration elective. *Students should consult in advance with the concentration advisor to make sure that the topic will satisfy this requirement.*
3. Students may count only graded courses toward a concentration.
4. A designation of honors in the concentration will be awarded to each student who obtains a grade point average of 3.495 or better in all courses defined by the concentration and who receives a grade of at least B+ on the concentration paper.
5. Students wishing to complete more than one concentration must first obtain the approval of the Academic Dean. In no circumstances may a student complete more than two concentrations. Students who wish to fulfill the requirements of two concentrations must complete the separate paper requirement for each.
6. Students who have successfully completed the concentration will receive a special certificate upon graduation (with a notation of honors, if awarded), and the transcript will record such achievement(s) accordingly.
7. Any change in the required or elective courses must be made by agreement between the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and the faculty member who serves as the concentration advisor. The concentration advisor will be designated by the dean on an annual basis consistent with the appointment to other service positions (e.g., committees or advisory roles).
8. Students will be asked to consult career advisory memoranda prepared by the concentration advisor. These memos will provide a list of recommended courses both within and outside the defined concentration area that correspond to different types of practice (e.g., transactional, planning, litigation).
9. Students interested in pursuing an optional curricular concentration will have the opportunity to declare a concentration near the beginning of each semester. The deadline to declare a concentration is the fourth week of the student's fourth semester of study. All concentration requirements must then be certified by the concentration advisor in March of the student's final semester of study (October for students graduating during the fall term.)

Students should contact the sponsoring faculty member to obtain more details about the requirements of each concentration. In 2025-26, the concentration advisors are:

- Business Law: Professor Juliet Kostritsky
- Civil Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution: Professor Kathryn Mercer
- Criminal Law: Professor Michael Benza
- Environmental Law: Professor Victor Flatt
- Health Law: Professor Maxwell Mehlman
- International Law: Professor Michael Scharf
- Law, Technology, and the Arts: Professor Craig Nard
- Public Law: Professor Jessie Hill

These provisions do not apply to MAFI students.

## OFFICES AND SERVICES

### Law Student Financial Services Office

The Law Student Financial Services Office acts as a liaison between law students and CWRU's central Financial Aid Office. It also serves as a liaison to the University's Office of Student Accounts Receivable. General information about tuition invoices, account balances, and payment is available at the Law Student Financial Services Office.

This office is also available for discussing general financial and budgeting concerns for all CWRU law students. Tonya Phillips, student financial services director, encourages students to see her with any questions they may have about financial aid policies and procedures, payment of tuition and fees, loan indebtedness, or general financial concerns.

Periodic financial aid emails are sent by this office and issued to all students. These emails advise students of financial aid application procedures and deadlines as well as providing information about tuition payment policies and deadlines. General information is also listed on the intranet.

### Tuition Invoices/Billings

Tuition and fees are payable in full at the beginning of each semester. Invoice statements will be issued approximately one month before the beginning of the semester. **All tuition bills are processed and delivered through the Student Information System.** If another party is paying your expenses, it is your responsibility to forward the invoice to that party.

Follow-up invoice statements are issued each month after classes begin. The invoice statements will show all charges and credits that have been added to your account since the last invoice date. If your account shows a zero balance, no invoice will be issued. If you do not receive an invoice by the beginning of each semester, please contact the Law Student Financial Services Office.

### Payment of Invoices

CWRU accepts cash, checks, certified bank drafts, Discover, Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and money orders for payment of tuition invoices. Please make all payments to Case Western Reserve University. Payments from a checking/savings account or credit card can be made online through the Student Information System. Official payments can be made in-person at the Cashier's Office, 165 Yost Hall, during regular business hours. The Law Student Financial Services Office will also accept check payments and will forward them to the Controller's Office, but such payments are not officially posted to your account until they are received in the Controller's Office.

Students with delinquent accounts will be prohibited from registering for subsequent semesters, obtaining school transcripts, obtaining grades, and obtaining diplomas. Continued delinquency may result in dismissal from the University. Delinquent accounts should be discussed with the Law Student Financial Services Office.

See also University Policy on Past-Due University Debts.

### **Payment of Invoices with Financial Aid**

Financial aid will appear as a credit on your invoice only after each component of the award is received. Scholarships will be posted during the first week of classes. Loan funds will be applied to your account as of the date of disbursement.

For the first billing due date of each regular semester, we will honor loan applications as payment for purposes of finalizing your class registration. Therefore, if all of the required forms are on file and you have submitted loan applications of sufficient amount to cover the balance due, your account will remain current for the first payment due date of each semester.

### **Receiving Loan Proceeds**

Most bank loan proceeds are sent electronically by the lender directly to CWRU. Your lender will mail to you a disclosure statement indicating the amount of the loan and the date of disbursement. The loan funds will be sent on the date of disbursement. Allow one-week transit time before checking to see if funds have been posted to your student account. Loan proceeds will be credited to your account three days after the disbursement date.

**Late fees resulting from failure to pay outstanding tuition charges will not be removed.**

### **Refund of Credit Balances**

All students having credit balances will be issued refunds within two weeks of the credit date. For students receiving federal funds each semester, refunds cannot be processed until after registration closes. Therefore, no refunds will be issued before the third week of classes. Students must arrange to cover personal costs prior to the issuance of refunds. Refer to the information issued by the Law School as to refund schedule guidelines. All refunds are sent via direct deposit. Checks will be mailed to your local address on file with the Academic Services Office if direct deposit is not set up. Checks cannot be sent to the Law School for pickup. Make certain that we have an accurate address for you at all times. Questions about refunds can be addressed to the Law Student Financial Services Office.

### **Financial Aid Application Procedures**

All students applying for any financial assistance—including federal Stafford Loans, private loans, and Graduate Plus loans—must complete the entire financial aid application process as established by the Law Student Financial Services Office. Application materials will be available online after January.

## **Withdrawals**

### **Partial Withdrawal**

A student who drops a course or courses after the normal drop/add period without completely withdrawing from the University is not entitled to a tuition refund for the course or courses dropped. This rule applies to both semesters and summer sessions.

### **Complete Withdrawal**

A student who completely withdraws from a fall or spring semester must pay a percentage of the tuition charge. The amount of the rebate is based on the number of weeks that classes have been in session at the time of withdrawal. There is no tuition rebate after the fourth week of classes.

A student who completely withdraws from a summer session must likewise pay a percentage of the tuition charge. The amount is based on the number of weeks classes have been in session at the time of withdrawal. There is no tuition rebate after the second week of classes.

The University will rebate any tuition paid for a semester by any student in good standing who is inducted into the armed forces before the end of the semester and who does not receive credit for the work completed during that semester.

Students receiving financial aid will have their awards repackaged if they withdraw during the school year. Scholarships, grants, and loan eligibility will be recalculated based on the specific program requirements of each aid type. Students should meet with the Law Student Finance Officer to discuss the financial impact of withdrawal.

Students who received loans at any time during Law School must contact the Law Student Finance Officer for loan exit interview before they leave the Law School. Graduating students will receive information on exit-interview requirements two months before graduation.

### **Outside Scholarships**

Hundreds of organizations sponsor grants and scholarships for legal study. Some scholarships are awarded on the basis of exceptional performance in Law School, others are based on need, and still others are directed to students from a certain locale or ethnic or religious group. The Law Student Financial Services Office will send e-mail notices of outside scholarship programs that are calling for applications.

CWRU financial aid policy requires that students receiving any financial aid through CWRU report receipt of any outside scholarships. Students should speak with Law Student Financial Services Office to discuss the effects of any outside scholarships on their package.

### **Loan Repayment Assistance Program**

The Law School sponsors a loan repayment assistance program for J.D. graduates who use their legal training to benefit the public interest. Applications for the program are accepted each January. Information about the assistance program is given during loan exit interviews or may be obtained from the Law Student Financial Services Office.

### **Academic Services Office**

The Law School Academic Services Office is on the first floor, Room 101. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Academic Services Office has primary responsibility for the following functions: maintenance of official student records; special registration problems; examination scheduling and administration; assignment of lockers and mail folders; calculation of class rankings; distribution of course evaluations; enforcement of academic rules; and processing of documentation for bar applications.

For further information about many of these, see the Academic Regulations and Related Policies and Procedures.



The Academic Services Office maintains official academic records for all students enrolled in the Law School. Official academic transcripts are prepared by the University registrar (Yost Hall) upon written request from the student or graduate. There is a charge for each transcript issued. Detailed information on the process for obtaining an Academic Transcript can be found on the University Registrar's website.

Students should submit all forms requiring school certification for bar licensure applications to the Academic Services Office. Each form must be accompanied by signed, written authorization from the student permitting the University to release the requested data. All forms and authorizations must be delivered to the Academic Services Office at least two weeks prior to the application deadline.

Students are responsible for making sure that the University has current address and phone information at all times. Students can view and update this information at any time through the SIS computer system.

Students needing to change their legal names in University records must contact the Academic Services Office. Legal documentation of the name change is required. The University does not record name changes that occur after a student has left the University. In the SIS, students may choose to record a preferred name, preferred prefix, and gender identity for use on all non-legal documents at the University. Students with questions or concerns about usage of legal/preferred names or gender identity information may contact the Director of Academic Services.

## **Building Services**

Russell Bell is the facilities and building coordinator. His office is Room 228B; he can be reached by phone at 368-3296 or by email at [lawfacilities@case.edu](mailto:lawfacilities@case.edu).

When school is in session during the Fall and Spring terms, Gund Hall is open to actively enrolled law students as follows:

- Monday-Friday: Revolving Doors Unlocked from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Holiday & Break hours will differ)
- Monday-Thursday: Badge Access Only from 6:00 p.m. until Midnight (Holiday & Break hours will differ)
- Friday: Badge Access Only from 5:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. (Holiday & Break hours will differ)
- Saturday: Badge Access Only from 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. (Holiday & Break hours will differ)
- Sunday: Badge Access Only from 10:00 a.m. to Midnight (Holiday & Break hours will differ)

Special hours for holidays, breaks and the summer term will be announced via email prior to those time periods.

The building hours and access rules for all campus facilities are subject to change at any time due to security and/or logistical concerns. Law students must carry their CWRU ID badge at all times

while on campus. A valid CWRU ID badge must be presented upon request to security and/or administrative staff to verify identity and rightful access to all CWRU facilities. Problems with CWRU ID badges should be reported to Access Services at [access@case.edu](mailto:access@case.edu)

Any damage or problems with the building should be reported to Russell Bell or via email to [lawfacilities@case.edu](mailto:lawfacilities@case.edu). There is also a link to report problems on the Intranet under *Report Building Concern*. In an after-hours emergency, call 368-3333 (Security).

## Law Library

Associate Director: Robert Myers, [robert.myers@case.edu](mailto:robert.myers@case.edu)

Circulation desk and general information: 368-2792, [lawcirculation@case.edu](mailto:lawcirculation@case.edu)

Reference desk: 368-5206, [lawref@case.edu](mailto:lawref@case.edu)

Web: [case.edu/law/ourschool/library](http://case.edu/law/ourschool/library)

The library's regularly scheduled hours appear below. Any changes are posted in advance. The library always extends its hours during reading week and the first week of exams. The library is closed on University holidays. Summer and intersession hours may vary.

Monday-Thursday	7:30 a.m. to 12 midnight
Friday	7:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Saturday	8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Sunday	10:00 a.m. to 12 midnight

The law library is open to all CWRU law faculty, students, and alumni. Attorneys and other persons may be admitted for legal research as guest users.

The library supports your needs as a CWRU law student through our management of print and electronic collections, provision of group and one-on-one research instruction, and our network of services to help you with your research tasks through your law school career and beyond. Our librarians and staff are here to make your efforts to learn the law (and to navigate the networks of documents and information that comprise "the law") as effective, pleasant, and efficient as possible.

## Services

The law library's holdings of print and electronic books and journals are included in the online campus-wide catalog discovery search tool available on the law library's website. . We also provide organized access to these materials by creating and sharing (primarily via our website) many topical treatise lists, more comprehensive research Libguides to many legal topics, and an online tool, called the A-Z List for locating and learning about library-provided databases.

The law library assigns a Personal Librarian to each 1L J.D., L.L.M., and S.J.D. student. The Personal Librarian serves as a "human finding aid" to help students navigate the library's resources and services effectively. Your Personal Librarian can assist you with questions regarding library policy, help you reserve a study room, or direct you to a Reference Librarian who can help you with your research. You may use your Personal Librarian as often or as infrequently as you like, and, of course, other library staff are available to assist you, as well.

Reference librarians are available for point-of-need consultation at the reference desk in person,

by email, and by phone during standard business hours. After-hours phone messages and emails will be addressed the next day. Reference librarians can assist you with general or advanced reference questions, can provide advice or instruction on legal or general research inquiries, and are available to schedule personal consultations, or PERCs, by appointment. PERCs can be scheduled online on the 'student services' portion of the law library website or in person at the reference desk.

Electronic databases are indexed in the library catalog and also indexed and linked on the library A-Z list on the law library website. We make them available campus-wide whenever possible. Most often, our networked resources are available to law students from off-campus locations through the University's VPN network. (Campus ITS provides information about VPN client software and configuration on its website.) On rare occasions, certain databases are available only from certain campus locations or only by means of a password. If you encounter difficulty, please consult the specific resources' entry in the library's database-finding tool for guidance or approach the reference department for assistance.

Lexis, Westlaw, and Bloomberg Law (among the premium online research libraries used in law) are exceptions to the shared school-wide database access. Law students receive a personal, password-based account on each of those three main proprietary services. Registration information is provided students during orientation, at the beginning of the first year, and will enable the student to establish their own username and password on those systems. Students who have lost or don't know their passwords or have other difficulties with Lexis, Westlaw, or Bloomberg should contact the reference desk for assistance.

Our participation in the statewide OhioLINK network allows our students direct access to borrow circulating print resources from other libraries throughout the state, as well as enhancing the array of online databases and other electronic resources that we can provide. Through additional contacts with other libraries in the United States and abroad, the library can generally help students acquire access, via interlibrary loan, to research materials beyond those available even in the full OhioLINK network. A student may place basic ILL requests via the website. We strongly recommend consulting with a reference librarian for advice before placing an ILL request, so they can help you secure the required information more quickly and accurately.

### **Borrowing Privileges**

CWRU law students may check out circulating books at any CWRU-affiliated library for the duration of the current semester. All materials are subject to recall once the original borrowing period has expired. Fines for most circulating books accumulate at the rate of \$.25 per day.

Borrowing privileges are suspended when fines at any campus library total \$15. Fees for lost books are set at the value of the book or a default of \$75 plus an additional \$30 processing fee and a \$5 billing fee. You may pay fines at the circulation desk.

CWRU law students may also borrow materials from any OhioLINK institution using the shared OhioLINK catalog, linked from our website. (OhioLINK is a consortium of state-affiliated universities, research institutions, and community colleges within Ohio, which share a common union catalog.) Using the OhioLINK shared catalog, patrons may request delivery of circulating materials by entering their school's name (it is listed alphabetically as "CWRU") and regular network login/password. Items requested from other libraries via OhioLINK patron-initiated borrowing will be delivered by courier within two to four days, and students will be notified upon arrival that they may pick them up at the library. Borrowing periods for OhioLINK

materials are 21 days, with up to six additional 21-day renewal periods. Fines for overdue OhioLINK materials are \$.50 per day.

CWRU graduate students are responsible for all materials borrowed from all campus or OhioLINK libraries. In addition, while any CWRU-affiliated library will accept return of materials borrowed from another CWRU-affiliated library, borrowers remain responsible for the material until it is returned and discharged at the owning library.

CWRU Law Library personnel can only waive fines on law library materials. The law library cannot waive OhioLINK or other CWRU-affiliated library's fines for faculty, students, or staff.

More detailed information on the CWRU-affiliated libraries' circulation policies is available on the online, campus-wide catalog.

### **Work and Study Space**

Closed carrels and open worktables are located throughout the library. Additionally, group study rooms on the third floor are available and can be reserved by law students for scheduled periods of time. Rooms can be scheduled ahead of time via the library website. Maximum occupancy signs are posted outside each study room door. Each study room has a large screen monitor equipped for screen sharing and wireless keyboard/mouse – great for group collaboration, web conferencing, recording simulations, and more.

There are two computers for student use on the first floor located outside the Career Development Office.

### **Food and Drink**

Only beverages in spill-resistant containers such as travel mugs, sports bottles and those with twist off caps are permitted. Some food such as chips, nutrition bars, candy bars, anything that does not smell and are not flakey can be brought into the law library. Posters of the food policy are located throughout the library.

### **Other Policies**

Be considerate and not use your cell phone to talk. Phone calls are permitted outside the law library and in the study rooms. Anyone engaging in telephone conversations other than those in a study room will be asked to leave the library to finish their phone call. After use, please leave books and other materials out for the library staff to re-shelve.

We urge you not to leave personal belongings, especially book bags, purses, laptops, and wallets, unattended in the library. Library staff cannot be responsible for belongings left unattended.

Please cooperate with the staff by showing your CWRU LAW ID card if you are asked to do so, for example during reading week and finals. Loud talking or rude, disruptive, or inappropriate behavior may result in a staff request that you leave the library.

Intentional disregard of library policies and procedures is an Honor Code violation and can result in disciplinary action, including suspension.

## Technology and Printing

### Technology Support

Students needing technology support should contact the UTech Service Desk at 368-4357 (i.e. 368-HELP) or [help@case.edu](mailto:help@case.edu). The Service Desk is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Walk-in assistance is available at the Kelvin Smith Library CARE Center. Care Center hours and more information is available at <http://help.case.edu>.

### Printing

Wepa kiosks are used for general student printing at the Law School. Wepa kiosks are located in the Law School as well as across campus. Law School locations are outside room 164, Law Library first floor, and Law Library third floor.

Students who are enrolled in the Law School receive a printing allowance for the fall, spring and summer semesters. The print allowance provides a limited amount of printing at Wepa kiosks at no additional cost to the student. Information on kiosk locations, print allowance amounts and dates, usage instructions and how to get support are available at: <https://my.case.edu/My/Services/Wepa/>

If a student exhausts the printing allocation provided by the school, the student may purchase additional print funds at a Wepa kiosk.

Read the Law School [printing policy](#).

### Special Circumstances

Student organizations, such as SBA, Mock Trial, etc., should contact Ms. Ashley D. Smith ([ads193@case.edu](mailto:ads193@case.edu)) to discuss how to receive funds for printing materials for their student organizations exclusively. It is the responsibility of each organization to prudently manage its own printing demands. An organization will not be refunded due to the misuse of the funds on non-organization related materials.

In the case of poor print quality, damaged print jobs, and print jobs that are charged but don't come out of the printer, students may [contact Wepa](#) support for a refund. Unused print allowances in the printing system are not refunded.

### Getting Help with Printing

Students needing assistance with the Wepa kiosks may contact Wepa ([website](#), 1-800-675-7639 or the Help option on the kiosk touchscreens) or the UTech Service Desk ([help@case.edu](mailto:help@case.edu), 216-368-4357).

## Career Development Office

### Mission Statement

The Career Development Office (CDO) is committed to assisting students and alumni in all aspects of their career development, from job search strategy and interview preparation to professional development and career satisfaction and success. We also actively engage with employers globally to promote the School of Law and to encourage them to consider our students when making hiring decisions.

## Services

Our staff includes attorney-advisors who provide students with individualized career counseling. We are available for individual consultations and general career advice; assistance with resume and cover letter drafting and review; interview skills and mock interviews; job search strategies; professional training; relationship-building with alumni; exploration of nontraditional uses of a law degree where the JD degree is a distinct advantage; and handling a wide range of other career-related issues and questions. We also host professional development programming and other networking events throughout the academic year that give students the opportunity to enhance their professional growth while building their own networks.

Our employer outreach efforts involve the CDO attorney-advisors meeting with employers of all sizes and types across the country, including private firms, corporations, government agencies, judges, and non-profit organizations, to advance employment opportunities for CWRU law students and alumni. CDO services are available to CWRU School of Law students and alumni. We also host robust Recruitment Programs/On-Campus Interviews which are available to currently enrolled students.

CDO services include:

- Individualized career advising, self-assessment and career exploration, feedback on resume and cover letter drafts, interviewing techniques, interpersonal skills, professional development, and job search strategies.
- Special programs to help first-year students understand the legal recruiting market and launch their job searches.  
An extensive job posting board that is updated daily with local and national positions.
- Weekly "CDO Announcements" newsletters that are custom-tailored for each class year and that notify students of upcoming events, career fairs, featured job opportunities, application procedures and deadlines, and more.
- Robust online resources, including law school-paid subscriptions to additional job posting boards, judicial clerkship guides, and other job search materials, as well as an electronic resource library containing information on job search strategies and various career paths.
- Recruitment of legal employers to participate in our annual CareerConnect employer fair and our Recruitment Programs/On-Campus Interviews for current students.  
Participation in national and regional off-campus job fairs and recruitment programs.  
Panel discussions and presentations by judges, practicing attorneys, legal recruiters, and other legal professionals on topics such as judicial clerkships, law firm practice areas, public interest and public sector opportunities, and emerging and "JD Advantage" careers.
- A professional development series covering topics such as networking, interview skills, succeeding as a summer intern, use of social media in the job search, creating healthy career habits, and other aspects of professional identity formation.
- Mock interviews with alumni, local attorneys, and members of the CDO staff.  
Case Connections, a searchable online database that offers students the opportunity to seek career advice from alumni practicing in their geographic or legal practice area of interest.
- Complimentary business cards and professional photos, paid for by the law school.
- Post-graduate career advising.

# UNIVERSITY SERVICES

## University Health and Counseling Services

Wellness. There are four dimensions of wellness, spiritual, emotional, physical, and social. Each plays a vital role in a person's overall health. Here at [Case Western Reserve University in University Health & Counseling Services \(UH&CS\)](#), we strive to focus on and support all four dimensions. When we practice wellness, we are taking a holistic approach that is invaluable to the improvement of health outcomes. For the benefit of students and the overall campus community UH&CS offer various programs and services that seek to mitigate risk, remove barriers to student success, encourage work-life balance, and create a diverse respectful environment in which all can learn. We welcome all undergraduate, graduate/professional, CIA, CIM, and KSU Podiatry students to attend our events and utilize our services.

UHCS provides medical and mental health care for students of Case Western Reserve University. Our interdisciplinary team includes physicians, psychiatrists, psychologists, nurse practitioners, social workers, counselors, nurses, medical assistants and for our varsity athletics, athletic trainers. We value a collaborative, holistic approach to treating the mind and body.

UH&CS is dedicated to fostering a community of belonging, where every individual is respected, valued and supported. UHCS remains committed to:

- Ensuring UH&CS is a place where all students receive high-quality, respectful care.
- Recruiting and retaining a staff that reflects the wide range of backgrounds and life experiences that make up our community.

Students looking for support are encouraged to schedule a same-day appointment by calling (216) 368-5872 or web-booking through [myhealthconnect.case.edu](https://myhealthconnect.case.edu). Students can also register for [Support Space](#) via [Campus Groups](#).

### Care Anytime

Students can continue to receive care outside of our business hours through the following options. **If you are experiencing an emergency dial 216.368.3333 if on campus or 911 if off campus.**

- Send a non-urgent message through [myhealthconnect.case.edu](https://myhealthconnect.case.edu).
- 24/7 virtual appointments through [TimelyCare](#) for mental health AND medical visits
- Nurse on-call (after hours and on weekends) [216.368.2450](tel:216.368.2450)
- Counselor on-call (after hours and on weekends) [216.368.5872](tel:216.368.5872)

### Location

University Health & Counseling Services is located in the [Dental Research Building at 2124 Cornell Rd.](#) (Corner of Cornell Rd and Circle Dr)

- Health Services, 1st floor
- Counseling Services, 2nd floor

Students can make appointments at [myhealthconnect.case.edu](https://myhealthconnect.case.edu).

### **Getting to UHCS (Dental Research Building)**

[Two Entrances](#)

[Campus Shuttles](#)

[Parking](#)

### **Contact UHCS**

#### **By Phone**

- Health Services: [216.368.2450](tel:216.368.2450)
- Counseling Services: [216.368.5872](tel:216.368.5872)
- Medical Plan: [216.368.3049](tel:216.368.3049)

#### **By Email**

- Health & Counseling Services: [uhcs@case.edu](mailto:uhcs@case.edu)
- Medical Plan: [medicalplan@case.edu](mailto:medicalplan@case.edu)
- Student Wellness: [studentwellness@case.edu](mailto:studentwellness@case.edu)
- Billing or records questions: [jxk1619@case.edu](mailto:jxk1619@case.edu)

#### **By Secure Fax**

- 1-833-645-0872

#### **Mailing Address**

Case Western Reserve University  
University Health & Counseling Services  
10900 Euclid Avenue  
Cleveland, OH 44106-4901

#### **Eligible students:**

- All Students enrolled in Spring Semester 2025 and returning in Fall Semester 2025
- New students enrolled for Summer Semester who will be continuing with their academic program in Fall 2025 AND who are living in on-campus housing.
- New students whose academic program starts in July 2025 (identified as Fall Semester 2025)



**Students who are not eligible for services:**

- Graduated students (no eligibility after Friday, May 16, 2025)
- Non degree students taking summer classes
- Students participating in non-credit hour summer programs not affiliated with continuation of Fall 2025 academic programs

**Medical and/or Mental Health Records**

- UHCS would be happy to transfer your medical and/or Mental Health records to a new medical provider. Please follow the instructions [here](#). Please contact [uhcs@case.edu](mailto:uhcs@case.edu) for more information.
- For more information, please contact Ms. Phillips in the Financial Services Office or the Dean of Students.

## UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Set out below are several important University policies and procedures. These policies and procedures and others apply to the Law School community and can be found at through the University's Office of Student Affairs or at <https://case.edu/studentlife/university-policies>. Law students who have questions about any of these policies are encouraged to talk with Dean Leilani Marshall.

**Complaints**

CWRU Law is committed to promoting the highest ideals of professionalism, including supporting an environment in which all members of the community feel like they belong, feel safe, and can thrive. We strive to protect, to the greatest extent possible, the confidentiality of all persons involved in the reporting of unprofessional behavior, pursuant to the School of Law Student Handbook, University Codes of Conduct, Federal law, State law, and ABA Standard 510 where applicable.

Any incidents of discrimination or violations related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, and the University Non-Discrimination Policy will be referred immediately to the CWRU Office of Equity and/or appropriate office. Please be advised that the individuals receiving these Incident Reports are Mandated Reporters and therefore obligated to share knowledge, notice and/or reports of sexual harassment or retaliation with the appropriate Title IX Coordinator.

Any incidents of violations of the University Code of Conduct will be referred immediately to the CWRU Office of Student Conduct and/or appropriate office.

Any incident invoking process pursuant to the CWRU Law Grievance Procedure described in Student Handbook, A.R. 17., will be handled as set forth in that provision.

Complaint Report. You may share as much information or as little information as you wish in this [Complaint Report](#) as appropriate. *NOTE: please do not use this form if your complaint pertains to the facilities within or immediately surrounding Gund Hall (the School of Law). Facilities complaints should be emailed directly to [lawfacilities@case.edu](mailto:lawfacilities@case.edu).*

## **Discrimination Policy**

### **Student**

Case Western Reserve University admits students of any race, religion, age, sex, color, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, and national or ethnic origin to all the rights and privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the University. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, age, sex, color, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or national or ethnic origin in administering its educational policies, admission policies, employment, promotion and compensation policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic or other University-administered programs.

### **General Policy**

Case Western Reserve University does not discriminate in recruitment, employment or policy administration on the basis of race, religion, age, sex, color, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, national or ethnic origin, political affiliation, or status as a disabled veteran or other protected veteran under U.S. Federal Law. In addition, the University expects all employees, students, vendors, and associates to participate in its program of nondiscrimination. The University intends to maintain an environment free of sexual harassment and will not tolerate any form of harassment of employees or students. Retaliation against persons raising concerns about sexual harassment or harassment of any kind is prohibited and will constitute separate grounds for disciplinary action up to and including discharge or expulsion from the University.

### **Compliance**

The [Office of Equity](#) coordinates compliance with Title III (age), Title VI (race), Title IX (sex), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (disability), and the Americans with Disabilities Act (disability) for the university.

### **Filing a complaint**

A student with a complaint on the basis of race, sex, age, or disability may contact either the [Office of Equity](#), Dental Research Building, Suite 0G60, 2124 Cornell Road, Cleveland, OH 44106 (216.368.3066) or the University [Office of Student Affairs](#) (216.368.2020). The Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students, or his/her designee, will investigate student complaints in collaboration with the Office of Equity. In resolving such discrimination complaints, the university will utilize the Grievance Process and/or the Disciplinary Process.

### **Notice of Nondiscrimination**

Case Western Reserve University prohibits sex- and gender-based discrimination in its education programs and activities, as well as retaliation for asserting the right to be free from such discrimination, in accordance with federal law, including Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. § 1681). Sex- and gender-based discrimination includes discrimination based on sex, pregnancy, parental status, gender identity or expression, transgender identity, and sexual orientation. Sex- or gender-based discrimination also includes sexual harassment, sexual assault, sex-based stalking, sexual exploitation, and dating violence or domestic violence.

The Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equity is responsible for implementing the policy prohibiting sex- and gender-based discrimination.

Anyone impacted by sex- or gender-based discrimination, or who knows of others impacted by sex- or gender-based discrimination, and who would like to report discrimination or seek support for themselves or others, may contact the Title IX Coordinator by telephone, email, text message, or in person during regular business hours, or through the online Office of Equity forms below.

Title IX Coordinator: Rachel E. Lutner

Main Office Phone: 216-368-3066

Text or Call Title IX Coordinator: 216.327.4160

Email: [titleix@case.edu](mailto:titleix@case.edu)

Online forms to report sex- or gender-based discrimination:

[Online form for CWRU community members to report and request support](#)

[Online form for CWRU community members to report anonymously](#)

[Online form for non-CWRU community members to report](#)

[Webpages for more information](#)

Campus Location: Dental Research Building, Suite 0G60

2124 Cornell Road, Cleveland, OH 44106

Mailing Address: 10900 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH 44106-7108

### **Persons with Disabilities**

Case Western Reserve University is committed to providing all students with opportunities to take full advantage of the University's educational programs. We recognize that students with documented disabilities may need assistance or accommodations to achieve this objective. Policies and procedures used to determine a student's eligibility for disability services are outlined at <https://case.edu/studentlife/disability/>. Law students with disabilities are encouraged to talk with the School of Law's Dean of Students about assistance and accommodations available for classes, examinations, clinics, and study aids.

### **Academic Record Privacy (FERPA)**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) contains several provisions that are important to students. First, the University may not release personally identifiable student records to a third party, with certain specific exceptions, unless the third party has requested the information in writing and the student has consented, again in writing, to its release. The University may release directory information about a student, however, unless the student submits a written request that any or all such information not be released. Second, a student may request, in writing, an opportunity to inspect and review the student's official files and records maintained by the University and may, if appropriate, challenge the accuracy of those records. The University is permitted a reasonable time, not to exceed 45 days, to respond to such a request. Third, a student may file with the Family Policy and Regulations Office of the U.S. Department of Education a complaint concerning what he or she believes to be the University's failure to comply with FERPA. Finally, a student may obtain from the Registrar a copy of this policy, which the University has adopted to meet the requirements of FERPA. The information below is presented in compliance with the provisions of FERPA, which require the

University to notify students annually of their rights and the University's policies and procedures. Specific procedures may vary slightly among the schools and colleges of the University, and each student is encouraged to inquire at his or her own dean's office if any question arises.

### **Access to Files**

A student may request, in writing, an opportunity to review the contents of the student's educational file. Certain materials are excluded from review as specified in FERPA. Among these are:

- Records kept in the sole possession of faculty, staff, and other personnel, used only as a personal memory aid, and not accessible to any other person except a temporary substitute for the maker of the record.
- Records created and maintained by law enforcement units solely for law enforcement purposes that are not maintained by persons other than law enforcement officials.
- Records created and maintained by a physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, or other professional or paraprofessional acting in that capacity in connection with the provision of treatment to a student. Such records can, of course, be reviewed by a physician or other appropriate professional of the student's choice. Employment records of a student made and maintained in the normal course of business. Such employment records may be obtained in the Student Employment Office or Human Resources under the policies applicable to those offices.
- Financial records of a student's parents, or any information contained therein.
- Confidential letters and statements of recommendation placed in the file before January 1, 1975.
- Records for which the student previously waived his or her right of access.
- Records that contain only information about a person after that person is no longer a student, such as alumni records.

The office to which the request is made will arrange an appointment within a reasonable period of time (not to exceed 45 days) for the student to review the file in the presence of a member of the office staff.

FERPA affords students certain rights with respect to their educational records. Students may ask the University to amend a record that the student believes is inaccurate or misleading. The student should write to the University official responsible for the record, clearly identifying the part of the record the student wants changed and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the University decides not to amend the record as requested by the student, the University will notify the student of the decision and advise the student of his or her right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the student when notified of the right to a hearing.

The student may request copies of those records to which he or she has access under the terms of FERPA. The student will be charged a nominal fee per page for these copies.

### **Release of Personally Identifiable Records**

FERPA affords the student the right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's educational records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is defined

as a person employed by the University in an administrative, supervisory, academic, or support staff position (including law enforcement unit and health staff); a person or company with whom the University has contracted (such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agent); a person serving on the Board of Trustees; or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Upon request, the University discloses education records without consent to officials of another school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll. The University also discloses education records to organizations conducting studies for educational agencies or institutions under certain circumstances.

### **Directory Information**

For the convenience of faculty and fellow students, FERPA provides for a category known as directory information which may be released without requesting the eligible student's specific prior consent. Rather, the act requires that students be notified annually of the types of information included in this category and be given an appropriate period in which to express, in writing, any preference that such information about themselves not be released. For this purpose, directory information is defined to include: Name (including both maiden name and married name, where applicable); Address, telephone listing, and electronic mail address; Date and place of birth; Major field of study; Anticipated graduation date; Enrollment Status (undergraduate or graduate, full-time or part-time); Dates of attendance; Degrees and awards received; Participation in officially recognized sports and activities; and Weight and height (members of athletic teams).

Any student who would prefer that the University not release such information about himself or herself can update their FERPA Restriction by going to the Student Information System (SIS) Student Center homepage, selecting Self Service, followed by Campus Personal Information, then selecting FERPA Restrictions.

### **Transcripts**

A transcript of grades will be released only upon written request of the student, either in person, using the online ordering process, or by mail. A fee is charged for each transcript copy. Transcripts will not be issued to, or on behalf of, students who have not discharged all delinquent obligations to the University.

### **Alcohol**

All federal and state regulations regarding alcohol use apply on campus and to all CWRU events. It is illegal in Ohio for alcoholic beverages to be made available by sale or otherwise to anyone under age 21. Failure to adhere to federal and state laws and/or campus policies will result in individuals or organizations being referred to the appropriate disciplinary or oversight process for review. Unacceptable alcohol-related behavior includes, but is not limited to the following: use of alcohol by an individual under the drinking age; possession of alcohol by an individual under the legal drinking age; distribution of alcohol to any individual under the legal drinking age; public intoxication by any individual; use or possession of alcohol in a public space; use of alcohol leading to illness or injury; use or possession of bulk quantity or common sources of alcohol including but not limited to kegs, large open containers, or a large number of individual servings likely for use as a common source; participating in drinking games or other high risk behavior including funneling or other binge-drinking activities; use or possession of alcohol in

residential colleges (first or second year housing) unless all assigned residents of the room are of legal drinking age; violation of other University alcohol policy; and use or possession of alcohol by an individual in substance-free University housing.

### **Alcohol Transports**

University community members are encouraged to seek assistance for students due to over-consumption of alcohol. While on campus, contact CWRU Public Safety. While off campus, contact local emergency services. Case Western Reserve University's Medical Amnesty Policy eliminates judicial consequences for students and/or organizations seeking assistance, for the assisted individual and others involved.

### **Alcohol Use and Guidelines**

The Alcohol Use Event Policy is applicable to any events sponsored by University recognized departments or organizations where alcohol service is a part of the event and students are present.

The University conforms to all state and local laws controlling the sale and use of alcoholic beverages. It is illegal to sell, provide, or serve beer, wine, or liquor to anyone who is under the legal age of 21. Servers of alcohol and sponsors of social events must be aware of and comply with all state statutes and with CWRU policies and procedures.

The University expects responsible behavior of students who choose to drink alcoholic beverages and requires an environment free of coercion for those who choose to abstain. Therefore, students must adhere to guidelines provided by the University for responsible and legal consumption of alcoholic beverages. Individual students must accept responsibility for their own behavior and should demonstrate a concern for the safety and well-being of others in the University community.

The following regulations apply:

1. **The sponsors of events where alcohol is served must file an Alcohol Use Report (AUR) on CampusGroups.** Student organizations must complete the AUR at least seven (7) days prior to the event, allowing time to meet with the appropriate office and receive final approval from the Office of Student Affairs. Contact the Law School Student Services office for assistance with filing this report. A copy of the approved form must be posted at approved on-campus events. The approved form must be provided to the key person or people on campus responsible for the event space or building staff.
2. Open containers of alcoholic beverages are generally prohibited in public places according to state law and are specifically restricted in some University areas including Harkness and Amasa Stone Chapels. Restrictions for alcohol inside other facilities may vary. **When alcohol is present at an outdoor public space, the space must be clearly defined by roping off the area and posting appropriate signage.**
3. At all events where alcohol is served, including BYOB and events with 3rd party vendors, an effective identification system (e.g. wristbands, stamps) must be established and adhered to for certifying those legally of age to drink. To obtain alcoholic beverages, a valid driver's license or other approved legal or University document showing proof of age and photo must be presented.

4. The amount of alcohol beverages provided should reflect the proportion of those attending the event who are legally eligible to drink. Therefore, the quantity of alcohol will be determined by using the following formula: **number of standard servings** (e.g. 12oz beer, 5oz wine, 1.5oz liquor) = **number of legal drinkers in attendance x hours of event**. Individuals should not consume more than one alcoholic beverage per hour.
5. When alcohol is sold, temporary F or F-2 permits will be required in accordance with state laws. The sale of alcohol is defined to include such methods for defraying the cost of the beverage or event as sale by the glass or container, advance ticket sales, and cover charges at the door. Please contact the Office of General Counsel for more information.
6. At all events where alcohol is served, **the sponsor of the event must provide an equal or greater number of non-alcoholic beverages**. The amount of non-alcoholic beverages provided should be sufficient to serve the number of people attending the event who are too young to drink alcohol or choose not to drink alcohol.
7. No one should be coerced, even subtly, to drink or overindulge, and the rights of those who choose to abstain must be respected. To that end, **drinking games are not allowed at any University or student group-sponsored events**.
8. When alcohol is served, a sufficient amount of food must be provided by the sponsor of the event throughout in adequate amounts to last through the event. At least half of the food available should be non-salty offerings, to help slow the absorption of alcohol. Non-salty offerings should be substantive, include no or very low sodium, and not increase dehydration. If food runs out, alcohol service must cease.
9. The kind and amount of security required for an on-campus event will be determined according to the Office of Public Safety guidelines. Factors to be used in determining the kind and amount of security are: the nature of the event, the number of people attending the event, whether alcoholic beverages are being served, and whether cash will be on hand. **At an off-campus event the kind and amount of security shall be determined by the third-party vendor providing the alcohol.**
10. **Advertising and marketing for events which encourage drinking or drunkenness as themes and the advertisement of such events are considered inappropriate and will not be permitted.** Be aware that neither the cost nor brand of an alcoholic beverage may be advertised in Ohio on marketing materials. The availability of non-alcoholic beverages at the event should be featured as prominently as alcoholic beverages in all marketing. Marketing should include that proper ID will be required.
11. When beer or malt-based beverages are provided, it must be served to individuals in single serving containers of 16 ounces or less. When wine or liquor is provided, it must also be served in appropriately sized glasses, no greater than six ounces for wine and two ounces of liquor per drink.
12. The serving of alcohol must cease at least one-half hour before the scheduled end of the event.
13. When entertainment is included in the event, the type of entertainment and the duration must be listed on the Alcohol Use Report.

14. The gift of alcohol as a reward for any student activity or contest is prohibited.
15. Individuals or groups violating state law or the University student alcohol policy will be subject to disciplinary action.
16. The Associate Dean of Students in the Office of Student Affairs, or a designee, has the discretion to approve, deny or otherwise modify the AUR; to limit the amount of alcohol purchased, to restrict the location of the event, and to restrict the time and/or manner in which alcohol is served.

### **Law School Alcohol Policy**

It is an administrative policy of the law school to discourage an open bar that includes hard liquor for events at which students are present.

### **Drugs**

The unlawful manufacture, sale, distribution, use or possession of drugs, except for the use or possession of drugs prescribed by a physician, is prohibited on property owned or operated by Case Western Reserve University or as part of any of its activities. The University provides full information to students about the use and effects of all drugs and makes available sources of counseling to those who are using or have used drugs. The following rules have been adopted by the University:

1. Illegal possession or consumption of drugs is a University offense, and a student's failure to abide by the University's drug and alcohol standards of conduct will result in disciplinary action. Depending on the nature of the offense, the University may impose any of the sanctions which are listed in the Handbook for Undergraduate Students, up to and including separation from the University and expulsion.
2. The illegal provision or merchandising of drugs will ordinarily result in expulsion. Students are reminded that a drug prescribed for one person may be harmful to another and are warned not to offer or provide their own medication to others.

In addition to alcohol, drugs to which these statements and rules apply are currently defined as including, but not limited to: Opiates (such as morphine, heroin, codeine, opium, demerol, and paregoric); Cocaine; Gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GHB); Methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA, Ecstasy); Marijuana; Hallucinogens (such as LSD, DMT, Mescaline, peyote, and psilocybin); Barbiturates (such as nembutal and seconal); Tranquilizers (such as benzodiazepines); Neuroleptics (such as phenothiazines); Amphetamines (such as benzedrine, methedrine, and dexadrine); Methamphetamine in any form.

### **Past-Due University Debts**

Students with outstanding debts to the University (advances, tuition, and other fees) may not register, obtain a transcript, or receive a diploma until the indebtedness has been cleared.

### **Pets in Building**

Dogs, cats, birds and other pets or animals are not permitted in any University-controlled building or on campus grounds, except for those animals that are specifically exempted by this policy. Specifically, animals are prohibited from being in offices, classrooms, hallways, and all other areas in any academic or administrative building.



For more information about exempted animals go to <https://case.edu/studentlife/university-policies/campus-and-resources/pet-policy>

### **Religious Holidays and Student Absence**

Any student who is unable to attend classes or participate in any examination, study, or work requirement on a particular day because of his or her religious beliefs is excused from any such activity. The student will be given the opportunity to make up the examination or work that is missed, provided that the make-up work does not create any unreasonable burden upon the University. When possible, students should give notice to instructors early in the semester about missing class because of a religious observance.

### **Severe Weather**

Every effort will be made to keep the University open during difficult weather conditions to allow for regularly scheduled classes, food service, residence hall support, ongoing research activities, and normal office and business operations. Case Western Reserve University will remain open unless official information to the contrary is disseminated. For up-to-date closing information, tune into Cleveland radio and television stations or go to the University homepage.

### **Sexual Conduct**

Case Western Reserve University is a community based upon trust and respect for its constituent members. Sexual misconduct is a violation of that trust and respect and will not be tolerated. Members of the Case Western Reserve community, guests, and visitors have the right to be free from sexual misconduct, as well as domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. All members of the community are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that does not infringe upon the rights of others. The purpose of the University's sexual misconduct policy is to define sexual misconduct and the procedures the University uses to investigate and take appropriate action on complaints of sexual misconduct. When complaints are reported, the University will act to end the discrimination, prevent its recurrence, and remedy the effects on both individuals and the University community. The policy and the accompanying procedures shall serve as the only internal University forum of resolution and appeal of sexual misconduct complaints.

The University's sexual misconduct policy applies to all members of the University community including all students, Post-Doctoral Fellows and Post- Doctoral Scholars, faculty, staff (including administrators), and other University officials, whether full or part-time, and guest lecturers, volunteers, contractors and visitors. The policy is applicable to a student on the date on which the student accepts admission to the University.

The policy governs University-sponsored activities occurring both on and off University property and applies to non-University sponsored or related events that occur off University property that may have a demonstrable and significant disruptive impact on a University community member or on the campus. The work or educational environment includes, but is not limited to: offices, classrooms and clinical settings; residence halls and Greek Houses; on-campus or off- campus interactions between University community members, whether personal or virtual; and all University-sponsored activities, programs, or events (including off-campus activities such as international travel programs).

Sexual misconduct may involve the behavior of a person(s) regardless of the person's gender identity or expression against a person(s) of the opposite or same gender or against a person who is transsexual or transgender.

The University does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its educational program and in other activities operated by the University and is required by Title IX, and specifically 34 C.F.R. Part 106.9, as well as Title VII, not to discriminate in such a manner. This extends to employees of and applicants for employment or admission to the University. Inquiries concerning the application of Title IX may be directed to the Title IX Coordinator for the University or to the Assistant Secretary for the Office of Civil Rights of the Department of Education.

### **Title IX Coordinator**

Rachel E. Lutner  
Senior Associate Vice President for Equity  
2120 Cornell Rd.  
Cleveland, OH 44106  
216-368-3066  
rachel.lutner@case.edu

The full policy can be found at <https://case.edu/equity/sexual-misconduct-title-ix/sexual-misconduct-policy>

### **Tobacco-Free Policy**

For purposes of this policy, the terms set forth below shall have the following meaning:

- “Tobacco” refers to any product containing tobacco in any form. Tobacco products include, but are not limited to, cigarettes (clove, bidis, kreteks, e-cigarettes); cigars and cigarillos; pipes; all forms of smokeless tobacco; any other smoking devices that use tobacco, such as hookahs; and any other existing or future smoking, tobacco or tobacco-related products.
- “CWRU Property” refers to all interior space owned, rented or leased by CWRU and all outside property or grounds owned or leased by CWRU, including parking areas and private vehicles while they are on CWRU property and CWRU vehicles.

This policy, effective as of July 1, 2017, applies to all persons on CWRU property, regardless of their purpose for being there (e.g., staff, faculty, students, patients, visitors, contractors, subcontractors, etc.).

- CWRU prohibits the use of tobacco products at all times on campus property.
- The University is committed to providing support to the entire population who wishes to stop using tobacco products. Faculty, staff and students should refer to the [Resources section](#) of this website if they need assistance with tobacco cessation.
- The success of this policy requires a collaborative effort of the entire CWRU community. Staff, faculty and students on campus will engage in positive and respectful communication and interactions in regard to this policy. Concerns will be addressed in a respectful and thoughtful manner.
- The sale, advertising, sampling and distribution of tobacco products and tobacco-related merchandise is prohibited on all CWRU property.
- Use of University funds for purchase of tobacco or tobacco-related products is prohibited,

unless such use is permitted under the exception stated below.

- Tobacco use may be permitted for authorized research with prior approval of the Office of the Provost, and, in the case of smoking, the review and recommendation of the University's Department of Environmental Health & Safety.

### **Weapons/Firearms**

Unauthorized carrying or possession on University property of any weapon with which injury, death, or destruction may be inflicted is prohibited. The University strictly prohibits the possession of firearms and the selling, discharging, igniting, or exploding of any type of fireworks. Unauthorized weapons and firearms include: air guns, BB guns, Airsoft type pellet guns, clubs, knives, kitchen utensils not used for their intended purpose, swords, ammunition, explosives of any sort, and chemicals. Possession of a weapon may lead to immediate removal from housing, interim separation or possible permanent expulsion from the University.

# CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

## ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2025 - 2026

### FALL SEMESTER 2025

<i>Regular Classes begin</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>August 25</i>
Late Registration fee charges begin	Tuesday	August 26
Deadline for registration and all schedule adjustments	Friday	August 29
<b>Labor Day holiday – no classes; school closed</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>September 1</b>
Tuition/fees payment deadline	Friday	September 5
Deadline to declare JD Writing Requirement	Monday	September 22
Deadline to apply for 1/2026 graduation	Monday	September 22
Midterm exam period	Monday-Friday	October 6 - 17
<b>Fall break – no law classes</b>	<b>Monday-Tuesday</b>	<b>October 20 - 21</b>
<i>Last day of classes</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>November 26</i>
<u>During the last week of classes:</u>		
Monday 11/24 and Tuesday 11/25 replace the days missed for Fall Break;		
Wednesday 11/26 replaces day missed for Labor Day ( <i>follow a Monday class schedule on Wednesday, November 26</i> )		
Thanksgiving holiday – no classes; school closed	Thursday-Friday	November 27 – 28
<b>Reading period – no classes</b>	<b>Saturday-Tuesday</b>	<b>November 29 – December 2</b>
<i>Final exams</i>	<i>Wednesday-Tuesday</i>	<i>December 3 - 16</i>
<b>Winter Break for students</b>	<b>Wednesday– Sunday</b>	<b>December 17 – January 11</b>
Winter Recess – school closed	Wednesday – Thursday	December 24 – January 1
Deadline for submitting grades for January grads	Monday	January 5
(all other grades are due 18 days from the exam administration date or last day of class)		
Fall 2025 degrees conferred	Friday	January 16

### SPRING SEMESTER 2026

<i>Regular Classes begin</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>January 12</i>
Late Registration fee charges begin	Tuesday	January 13
Deadline for registration and all schedule adjustments	Friday	January 16
<b>Martin Luther King holiday–no classes; school closed</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>January 19</b>
Tuition/fees payment deadline	Friday	January 23
Deadline to declare JD Writing Requirement	Monday	February 9
Deadline to apply for 5/2026 graduation	Monday	February 9
Midterm exam period	Monday-Friday	February 23 - March 6
<b>Spring break – no law classes</b>	<b>Saturday-Sunday</b>	<b>March 7 - 15</b>
<i>Last day of classes</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>April 20</i>
<b>Reading period – no classes</b>	<b>Tuesday-Wednesday</b>	<b>April 21-22</b>
<i>Final exams</i>	<i>Thursday-Friday</i>	<i>April 23-May 8</i>
Deadline for submitting grades for May grads	Friday	May 8
(all other grades are due 18 days from the exam administration date or last day of class)		
Spring 2026 degrees conferred	Friday	May 15
Law Diploma Ceremony ( <i>tentative</i> )	Saturday	May 16