

UCIrvine

School of Law

INSPIRE EMPOWER TRANSFORM

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A MESSAGE FROM

DEAN PARRISH

Dear prospective UC Irvine Law student,

Each year, extraordinary students from around the U.S. and the world join us in Irvine. Those students have options to attend any of the top law schools in the country, but we choose them and they choose us because they want to be part of a distinct, supportive and dynamic community. Above all, we prepare our students with the skills and mindset to be top advocates who can make a difference. In the following pages, you will get a glimpse of what makes our community special and how we empower our students to become exceptional lawyers who will change the world.

We are proud of our history. Opened in 2009, UC Irvine School of Law is still imbued with the palpable energy and excitement of our founding. The Law School was established by visionaries who wanted to reimagine legal education, while building a premier law school embedded in one of the most innovative public research universities. Because of that history, the Law School is unique in the emphasis we place on interdisciplinary and global perspectives, along with a deep commitment to public service and the public interest, justice and equity, skills training and experiential learning. It is this combination — where law students work hand-in-hand with brilliant faculty who are at the top of their fields — that fosters the environment that will challenge you and push you, while helping you succeed.

At UC Irvine Law, you dig in right from the start and don't have to wait to do real work. You will engage with clients in your first semester and over 90 percent of first-year students will do pro bono work in the first few months of law school. Experiential and innovative learning is also infused throughout the curriculum, including in our first-year Lawyering Skills Program, our first-year Legal Profession course, and our extensive clinical program, which is one of the finest in the nation. These hands-on experiences, combined with the learning that occurs in the classroom, will force you to think critically and responsibly about the law and the way it impacts individuals and society. Each year, UC Irvine Law students give back to the local community, and we have one of the largest pro bono programs in the United States. Also, through working with our centers, institutes, initiatives and programs, and through an array of student organizations, you will be actively engaged in helping others and working with scholars and practitioners. We are home to the renowned Fred T. Korematsu Center for Law and Equality, one of only three law schools in the United States with a Korea Law Center, one of the leaders in Law and Society, and home to many other centers and initiatives that make a unique difference (e.g., the UC Irvine Initiative to End Family Violence; our Center for Land, Environment, and Natural Resources; our Student Loan Law Initiative; our UC Irvine Center for Legal Philosophy; our Center for Empirical Legal Work on the Legal Profession and many more).

Our approach is reflected in UC Irvine Law's stellar national rankings for clinical training, practical experience, legal writing and public service. We are a top 10 school for all these things, and it makes for an exceptional education.

Community is paramount to us, too. You will find lifelong friends among your remarkable classmates who hail from all over the world, but you will also develop friendships working closely with faculty and staff. Part of what makes our community exceptional is our shared commitment to inclusive excellence. We have been ranked among the best law schools for serving first-generation and underrepresented groups since we opened. UC Irvine is a Minority Serving Institution, known for its Black Thriving Initiative and designated as an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution (AANAPISI) and as a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI). UC Irvine is also known as one of the best universities in the country for advancing upward mobility of its students. Students from all backgrounds and life experiences, including many first-generation students, are supported by a deeply committed and talented professional staff.

Our students and our graduates go on to do remarkable things. When you join UC Irvine School of Law, you walk in the footsteps of the proud alumni who came before you. In our law school, you can shine in the classroom, but also shine by participating in federal clerkships and judicial externships, or in New York City and Washington, D.C. summer and semester programs, or in programs abroad. Students benefit from interacting with visiting scholars from all over the world, and with graduate students in our highly regarded Graduate Tax and Global LL.M. programs. The depth and breadth of our students' experiences prepare them to hit the ground running as lawyers ready for any modern legal practice. UC Irvine Law graduates work locally in Orange County and Southern California, but they also hold jobs in every other major market across the United States. We are looking for students who want to be part of something bigger, and who wish to join us in the commitment to excellence that was woven into the Law School's DNA from its founding.

I look forward to meeting the next group of passionate leaders and lawyers-in-the-making who want to call UC Irvine Law home.

I hope to meet you soon,

Austen Parrish

Dean and Chancellor's Professor of Law

A COMMITMENT TO INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE



NO. 5 and

in the nation for the Greatest Resources for Minority Students (Princeton Review) (2024) NO. 18

in the nation – Most Diverse Law Schools (preLaw Magazine) (2023)

UC Irvine School of Law is committed to advancing equity, diversity and inclusion, which is central to our mission of training future leaders, who are prepared to tackle the world's most pressing problems and who reflect the society our legal system serves. We foster a welcoming and supportive environment in which students, faculty and staff from all walks of life, with different backgrounds, viewpoints, perspectives and life experiences, form an extraordinary academic community where we learn from each other.

UC Irvine Black Thriving Initiative

At UC Irvine Law, we believe in creating a campus culture in which Black people thrive – that same mission is carried through campus wide with the UC Irvine Black Thriving Initiative. The initiative strives to promote Black well-being and success. It recognizes and responds to systemic anti-Blackness as an existential threat to the mission of the university and calls on all members of the campus community to confront anti-Blackness. As part of the Black Thriving Initiative, the Law School is part of a University interdisciplinary team focused on race and infrastructure.

Inclusive Excellence

UC Irvine Law is consistently recognized as one of the best law schools in the nation for its commitment to diversity. A two-time recipient of the California State Bar Diversity Champion Award, the Law School has been ranked No. 1 for Asian students, No. 9 for Hispanic students, No. 25 for Black students and No. 17 for racial justice (preLaw Magazine).

Our commitment to diversity in legal education and in the legal profession dates back to our inception with nearly half of all UC Irvine Law's J.D. graduates identifying as people of color.

Race & Indigeneity Requirement

In 2021, UC Irvine Law became the first University of California law school — and one of just a few law schools nationally — to adopt a graduation requirement that students take a graded course with substantial content about "race and indigeneity, structural inequity and the historical bases for such inequity." The faculty remains committed to ensuring that students are exposed to critical concepts from a range of equity categories including race and indigeneity, dis/ability, gender and sexuality, socioeconomic background, survivors of family and domestic violence, system-involvement and veteran status. Students have a broad range of courses from which to choose to meet the new requirement.

Community Programs

UC Irvine Law's different pipeline programs encourage students from communities underrepresented in the legal profession to pursue careers in law.

Saturday Academy of Law (SAL)

More than 1,750 ninth-graders from economically challenged local communities have completed this six-week program since 2009. Students sharpen their reading, writing and critical thinking skills while learning about law and the legal profession in preparation for college careers.

Pre-Law Outreach Program (POP)

Serving primarily first-generation college students, this summer program gives undergraduates insight into the law school admissions process while also offering mentorship and guidance from UC Irvine Law faculty and staff, judges, law students and practicing attorneys. Since 2010, over 550 students have completed POP, with many of them enrolling in law school — including at UC Irvine.

Community College Pathway to Law School (formerly the 2+2+3) Initiative

Along with 29 California community colleges, 16 other undergraduate universities, and 14 other ABA-accredited California law school partners, UC Irvine School of Law is part of this innovative program that provides a clear educational pipeline for diverse students from high schools, community colleges and four-year institutions into law schools or law-related careers.

AN INNOVATIVE, MODERN CURRICULUM

At UC Irvine School of Law, our academic program differs from that at other law schools. At the Law School's founding, our innovative faculty were given a blank slate to develop a novel and highly effective approach to legal education.

First, students get hands-on legal experience from the beginning, with an emphasis on practical training to prepare students to hit the ground running. As part of the first-year Lawyering Skills course, students conduct client interviews in real matters, and all students can volunteer as part of our pro bono program to work with community partners in their first semester of law school.

Second, students learn not just how to think like a lawyer, lawyering skills and the history and substance of the nation's laws, but they also learn about the legal profession. That emphasis on professional identity ensures that our students are introduced to different legal practice areas and understand how the global legal profession is changing.

Third, being part of one of the nation's leading research universities, students are introduced to global and interdisciplinary perspectives, including issues related to artificial intelligence and emerging technologies. A very broad range of concurrent degree options are available, and students can spend time in New York and Washington, D.C.



in California



in the nation - Best Law Schools (TaxProf Blog analysis of Princeton Review) (2024)

First-Year Courses

First-year students learn how to apply legal concepts and think like a practicing lawyer in the following elective and required courses:

Required 1L Courses

- ➤ Common Law Analysis: Contracts
- ➤ Common Law Analysis: Torts
- ➤ Constitutional Analysis
- ➤ Lawyering Skills I
- ➤ Lawyering Skills II
- ▶ Legal Profession
- ▶ Legal Research Practicum
- ▶ Procedural Analysis
- ➤ Statutory Analysis: Criminal Law

Elective 1L Courses*

- ➤ Administrative Law/Legislation
- ▶ Business Associations
- ▶ International Legal Analysis
- Property
- ➤ A course that will satisfy the race and indigeneity requirement

*not all courses will be offered every year

Lawyering Skills Program

UC Irvine Law seeks to do the best job in the country of training students for the practice of law at the highest levels of the profession. Students take six credits of Lawyering Skills across two courses in the first year. In those courses, students gain a critical foundation in skills all attorneys use, including both predictive and persuasive legal writing, legal research, legal analysis, problem-solving and oral advocacy. The Lawyering Skills courses also introduce students to client counseling, client interviewing, negotiation, contract drafting and fact investigation.

Students then have the opportunity to take a range of upper-level courses to further develop these valuable skills.

Legal Profession

The first-year curriculum at UC Irvine Law includes Legal Profession, a course in which students learn about the variety of practice settings in which lawyers work and the professional opportunities and challenges of each. It also gives students tools to resolve the legal and ethical challenges that lawyers confront in practice and to navigate the enormous legal, cultural and economic forces that are reshaping the legal profession.

Lawyering Skills was my favorite class because it emphasized the role of storytelling in the law. It's much easier to understand and connect with someone's legal argument about how they were wronged when it's presented through the lens of a compelling story. The class made me realize that I enjoy writing legal briefs and puzzling information together to create a legal story. It was through my Lawyering Skills class that I knew I wanted to be a litigator. Finally, I loved the class so much that in my second year, I was selected to be a research fellow so that I could help first-year law students in their journey to become excellent legal writers.

Kanomé Jones UC Irvine Law '24, Fenwick & West I I P





Methods

UC Irvine Law students learn the areas of legal doctrine traditionally taught in the first year — constitutional law, contracts, torts, civil and criminal procedure — but in a unique way that focuses on methods of legal analysis and the skills that all lawyers use. In the Statutory Analysis class, for example, students examine statutes using criminal law to learn skills that translate well to other statute-based practice areas like tax law, employment law, environmental law or intellectual property law.

Concurrent Degree Program

(J.D./M.A.; J.D./M.B.A.; J.D./M.P.H.; J.D./M.S.; J.D./Ph.D.)

The University of California, Irvine prides itself on being interdisciplinary. Through the Program in Law & Graduate Studies (PLGS), students can pursue a J.D. concurrently with a master's or Ph.D. in practically any UC Irvine graduate program. Designed to be one of the broadest programs of its kind, PLGS gives students a chance to combine law with graduate research degrees in such areas as humanities, social sciences, life sciences, information and computer sciences, physical sciences and engineering, or with graduate professional degrees in business, urban planning, education and public health.







From the beginning of my law school search, UC Irvine Law stood out as a diverse, public service-oriented institution that valued experiential learning over a more "traditional" legal education. As a result, UC Irvine Law has attracted and turned out a group of students who are open to thinking about the law in creative ways to help their clients and communities, which is why I chose to come here. Of course, the weather doesn't hurt either.

Ce-Lai Powell Fong

UC Irvine Law '24, Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP

UC Irvine's Concurrent Degree Program has empowered me to seamlessly bridge theory and practice. The faculty have challenged me to engage in deep interdisciplinary examination through rigorous methodological, theoretical, and substantive training. Additionally, the program's flexibility offers abundant opportunities for experiential learning through clinics, internships and teaching assistant positions. This comprehensive approach strengthens my understanding of how the law impacts society and how it can be used for positive change. The program has equipped me with the agency and transferable skills necessary to achieve my career aspirations.

Andrew Hallak

UC Irvine Law 3L and Urban and Environmental Planning and Policy Ph.D. Candidate



REAL-WORLD **TRAINING**





NO. 2 and NO. 13

in California

in the nation for Practical Training (preLaw Magazine) (2024)



A TOP CLINICAL TRAINING PROGRAM IN THE NATION



In-House Law Clinics

UC Irvine Law's highly acclaimed clinical program provides the opportunity for students to engage in litigation, transactional, advocacy and/or policy work in a variety of critical areas. At UC Irvine Law, every student completes at least one semester of clinical education, often serving as the primary legal representative for clients, working under the close supervision of faculty. In addition to this required semester of participation in a core clinic (or, in rare circumstances, an approved Alternative Field Placement), UC Irvine Law offers elective clinics and advanced sections of core clinics for second- and third-year students.

Core Clinics

- ➤ Civil Rights Litigation Clinic
- ▶ Community & Economic Development Clinic
- ➤ Criminal Justice Clinic
- Domestic Violence Clinic
- ➤ Environmental Law Clinic
- ▶ Immigrant Rights Clinic
- ▶ Intellectual Property, Arts, and Technology Clinic
 - Press Freedom Project
- ▶ International Justice Clinic
- ➤ Ninth Circuit Appellate Litigation Clinic
- Workers, Law, and Organizing Clinic

Elective Clinics

- Appellate Tax Clinic
- ➤ California State Tax Clinic
- ➤ Consumer Law Clinic
- ▶ International Human Rights Clinic
- Reproductive Justice Clinic
- ➤ Startup and Small Business Clinic

Externships

UC Irvine Law's externship program provides academic credit for students doing legal work in field placements locally, nationally and even internationally. Externs work in judges' chambers, legal services offices or government agencies to learn how practicing lawyers and judges integrate theory and skill in real time. The program increases students' understanding of the fundamental values of the legal profession, including a commitment to promoting access to justice and the ethical practice of law. Our program encourages students to create their own placements, building on and applying the knowledge they have gained in their classes and clinics. Externships are an important component of the experiential learning opportunities at UC Irvine Law with many students participating in part-time externships year-round, including summers and full-time externships during the academic year.

Semester Program in Washington, D.C. (UCDC)

Unique to the University of California, this collaborative, full-semester externship program in Washington, D.C., combines a weekly seminar-style course with a full-time field placement. Law students have an unparalleled opportunity to learn how federal statutes, regulations and policies are made, changed and understood in the nation's capital. During four months of immersion in the theory and practice of Washington lawyering, students have contact with all three branches of the federal government, independent regulatory agencies and advocacy nonprofits.



UC Irvine Law in NYC

Launched in 2020, UC Irvine Law in NYC is an innovative program that supports students who are interested in exploring

career paths in New York. We are the first law school on the West Coast to offer a dedicated program focused on New York City. The program features three unique components:

- An on-the-ground summer program for students.
- Career and externship opportunities in New York, including for academic credit.
- Year-round programs and events, many of which feature UC Irvine Law faculty members.



UC Irvine Law faculty are some of the nation's top scholars and educators, who are active leaders in a vast array of fields. Ranked No. 2 in the nation for professors teaching (TaxProf Blog's analysis of Princeton Review's Best Law Schools of 2023), our stellar faculty contribute to the rich fabric of UC Irvine Law, developing new teaching strategies and enhancing our impact across every field. These highly regarded thought leaders are not only influencing policy, law and the legal profession, they are also dedicated mentors who are committed to their students' success at UC Irvine Law and beyond.

Ranked No. 14 in the nation for scholarly impact, UC Irvine Law faculty grapple with important issues facing our world today, from the profound moral, ethical and legal questions raised by emerging technologies, to the changing nature of the legal profession and the impact of health policy, environmental law, international law, tax law and more. At the heart of faculty scholarship is a deep understanding and appreciation for interdisciplinary work, bringing together law with such disciplines as political science, tax law, criminology, sociology, public health and business – UC Irvine Law is No. 5 in the nation in faculty interdisciplinary scholarly impact. Learn more about faculty scholarship and research interests at law.uci.edu/faculty.



Thought Leaders

The centers, institutes and initiatives at UC Irvine Law place an in-depth focus on some of the most important and difficult legal issues confronting the world. They are all interdisciplinary, bringing together UC Irvine Law faculty and students with professors from across campus and throughout the globe. We're not just part of the conversation, we're leading it.

Center for Empirical Research on the Legal Profession Center on Globalization, Law, and Society Center for Land, Environment, and Natural Resources Center on Law, Equality and Race Competition, Antitrust Law, and Innovation Forum **Initiative for Inclusive Civil Justice** Korea Law Center Fred T. Korematsu Center for Law and Equality Long U.S.-China Institute The Pay Equity Project Student Loan Law Initiative **UC Irvine Center for Legal Philosophy** UC Irvine Center in Law, Society and Culture **UC Irvine Cybersecurity Policy & Research Institute UC Irvine Initiative to End Family Violence**



My experience with the faculty at UC Irvine Law has been unexpectedly positive and transformative. I came into law school expecting cold demeanors and curt teaching styles, but for the most part, found quite the opposite. Nearly all faculty I have interacted with in the classroom have had an open-door policy and a genuine passion for teaching and engaging with their students. You can tell that they want to be there, and their dedication goes beyond merely imparting knowledge — they invest in their students' growth both professionally and personally. One professor, in particular, always stops to ask me how I am doing and actually waits for a genuine answer, even after I left their class.







My professors have been innovative, affirming and generous. Even though my Civil Procedure professor was the dean of the law school, he got to know everyone. He also assigned us ungraded, optional essays periodically which served as the perfect review of the previous weeks' concepts and the best opportunity to begin thinking about, and developing our own strategies to tackle, the beast that is the law school final exam format. Similarly, my Statutory Analysis professor set high expectations and gave us the tools we needed to meet them — from assigning us a free textbook to staying an hour beyond her scheduled time to thoroughly review hypos with us. Her years of experience as a Public Defender also brought gravity to class discussions. I cherish my 1L year in large part because of these and other fabulous professors.

Kirstin HenryUC Irvine Law 2L



Community

One unique aspect of UC Irvine School of Law is our strong sense of community. We have a small student body that is supportive of one another and a team of faculty, administrators and staff who are dedicated to student development. We promote the personal and professional success of our students. Whatever your interests, the Law School has a student group for you — or you can start your own. It's easy to get involved and build lifelong connections at UC Irvine Law.

I chose UC Irvine Law because it's a fantastic public interest institution, and every single conversation I had with students, alumni, faculty and administrators was above and beyond any interaction I had at any other school. Once I got here, I was looking for a strong sense of community and I found that in student organizations. Law school can be isolating for anybody, but especially if you're a first-generation law student. Finding peers who share my identity provided a sense of comfort.

Elizabeth Schatz Cordero

UC Irvine Law '23, Law Clerk, United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit



Student Organizations

Asian Pacific American Law Student Association

Black Law Students Association

Business Law Society

Chinese Law Student Society

Christian Legal Society

Consumer Law Organization

Entertainment & Sports Law Society

Environmental Law Society

Federal Bar Association

First Generation Professionals Program

If/When/How: Lawyering for Reproductive Justice

Intellectual Property Law Society

International Law Society

In Vino Veritas

Jewish Law Association

Labor & Work Law Society

Land Use and Real Estate Law Society

Latinx Law Students Association

Law Students for Educational Equity

Law Students for Immigrant Justice

Law Students for Justice in Palestine

Mental Health in Law Society

Middle Eastern and South Asian Law Student Association

Muslim Law Students Association

National Disabled Law Student Association

National Lawyers Guild

Native American Law Students Association

OutLaw

Public Interest Law Fund

Tax Law Society

The Federalist Society

Underrepresented Students Association

Veteran's Law Society

Women's Law Society

Co-Curricular Opportunities

Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition

UC Irvine Law Review

UC Irvine Journal of International, Transnational, and Comparative Law

Mock Trial Competition

Moot Court



Academic Skills Program

UC Irvine School of Law is committed to supporting and assisting every student from the beginning, when they decide to join our community to when they take and pass the bar exam. The Law School's Academic Skills Program (ASP) is an invaluable resource for students seeking to maximize their academic success — from identifying the keys to effective class preparation, solidifying legal analysis and legal writing skills, to demystifying the bar exam. Through one-on-one consultation, workshops, and advising, ASP provides critical skills instruction and support to help students excel in all stages of their legal education.

Student Affairs & Student Services

UC Irvine School of Law has a close-knit community with students, staff and faculty who care about others, and abundant resources to promote our students' well-being. The Offices of Student Affairs and Student Services provide students dedicated assistance on academic and non-academic matters. Students also have access to robust resources through the UC Irvine Counseling Center.



Walking into orientation as a first-gen law student, I was excited to begin this new chapter, but also very intimidated by the "beast" that everyone seemed to say law school was. I was so impressed at the level of detail the Academic Skills Program professors went into helping us prepare for succeeding in law school. I felt like every concern and worry I had about law school was replaced by knowledge, strategies and resources. The ASP Program at UC Irvine Law is truly remarkable and unparalleled.

Rachel Lee
UC Irvine Law 3L



What I enjoy most about UC Irvine School of Law is the Law School's ability to maintain an atmosphere of collegiality and professionalism. The warmth and competence of the faculty, admissions, career development office and library staff are of immeasurable value when it comes to your first year of law school.

Honna LiUC Irvine Law 3L

My favorite part about UC Irvine Law is the community. I love working with and learning from my fellow students because we all want to see each other succeed. I couldn't do law school without my fantastic peers.

Claire Foster

UC Irvine Law 3L





Changing the World

UC Irvine Law has a deeply embedded culture of public service, instilling in students the importance of using their legal skills to help underrepresented communities and to champion social justice for all. Since 2009, our students have provided more than 160,000 hours of legal services for the underserved through our award-winning Michael G. Ermer Pro Bono Program. In addition, each year UC Irvine Law students have provided tens of thousands of additional hours of legal services to underserved communities through our clinics and externship program. Our graduates, too, remain committed to making the world a better place, either through pro bono service in their private practice or as public interest attorneys.





Michael G. Ermer Pro Bono Program

More than 90 percent of UC Irvine Law J.D. students participate in the Michael G. Ermer Pro Bono Program, ensuring that legal services are provided to the most vulnerable among us, both locally and around the world. Students are strongly encouraged to participate as early as their first year of law school, developing legal skills while working with clients and advancing social justice.

Through the Pro Bono Program, UC Irvine Law students have volunteered to help support and protect people experiencing homelessness, immigrants, children in foster care, domestic violence survivors, incarcerated people, veterans and many more individuals. Each year, UC Irvine Law students continue their tradition of serving those most in need, maintaining ongoing collaborations with law firms and legal service providers across the nation and around the world.

UC Irvine Law offers over 100 pro bono projects each semester, including:

- Joining UC Irvine Law alumni in independent pro bono work to protect California's coast.
- Assisting service members at Camp Pendleton with civil issues including immigration, family law and consumer law.
- Researching options for reparations and other legal issues under the supervision of Law 4 Black Lives.
- Defending a fair election process in which every voice is heard and every vote counts.
- Researching issues impacting economic security, gender discrimination, violence against women and sexual harassment.
- Assisting the Giffords Law Center with gun safety research regarding the Second Amendment.
- Helping transgender clients match their legal name with their identity.
- Working with courtroom and appellate attorneys across the country on public defense issues.

- Advocating for affordable housing by assisting those facing eviction, the unhoused and those forced to live in homes that are unhealthy.
- Working alongside UC Irvine Law alumni to educate farmworkers in the Central Valley on their legal rights.
- Helping incarcerated individuals seeking fair treatment through letter writing for conditions monitoring.
- Working with Innocence OC to help those who have been wrongfully convicted.
- Assisting the ACLU by researching police use of force policies and deaths of inmates in custody.
- Mobilizing to assist underserved individuals in the U.S. and abroad who are fleeing persecution in their home country.
- Working with a national animal rights organization researching unlawful conduct in animal agriculture and research.

Financial Support for Public Service

UC Irvine Law provides a variety of financial support for students who aspire to serve the public good. These include federal loan repayment programs, scholarships that cover tuition, summer stipends and yearlong fellowships.

UC Irvine Law Public Interest Funding Opportunities

- Public Service Scholarships are available to select students
 who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to public
 service and plan to dedicate their legal career to working in
 the public interest sector.
- The Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP) is one
 of the most robust in the country, helping law graduates who
 pursue public service careers repay their student loans for up
 to 10 years, including undergraduate loans.
- The Public Interest Law Fund provides stipends for students doing summer work with public interest organizations and government agencies after their first and second years of law school.
- Bridge to Practice Funding supports select recent graduates pursuing careers in public defense or criminal prosecution by providing financial support while volunteering in qualifying unpaid post-bar programs.
- Post-Graduate Public Service Fellowships support select recent graduates pursuing yearlong volunteer placements at nonprofit organizations or government agencies.

UC Irvine School of Law constantly puts its students in a position to succeed. The Law School's practical emphasis, whether through clinic or pro bono work, creates practice-ready lawyers in every way. For me, pro bono was the most satisfying and rewarding experience that I had in law school. The work gave me a glimpse into the multitude of ways I can use my law degree to benefit others. But aside from helping others, pro bono is a great way to help yourself when speaking with prospective employers. No interviewer has ever asked me about my grades. Every single one has asked me about my pro bono work.

Ryan Ghassemi UC Irvine Law '24, Law Clerk, United

States Court of International Trade

I first learned about Alternative Spring
Break, including a pro bono opportunity
with the Mississippi Center for Justice,
at an Anteater Happy Hour event in San
Francisco that the Admissions team
hosted for newly admitted students
such as myself. I kept it in the back of
my mind, expecting to do a trip in my 2L
or 3L year. But I am so glad that I went
my 1L year — the eclectic schoolmates
I was with, the remarkable staff we
were working under, and the delightful
surprises Mississippi had in store for us
exceeded even my highest expectations.



55

LAUNCH YOUR LEGAL CAREER

UC Irvine Law students have secured summer and post-graduate employment all over the world, including placements at law firms of all sizes, public interest organizations, government agencies and major corporations in such sectors as technology, entertainment and finance.

Across the United States — including Alaska, California, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Washington, D.C. — federal and state judges have hired our students for post-graduate clerkships.



NO. 12

in the nation — and **No. 1** in California — for having the most 2023 J.D. graduates in full-time, long-term, bar passage-required jobs (Reuters) (2024)



97%

in full-time jobs that require bar passage or prefer a J.D., within 10 months of graduation (class of 2023)



in the nation for federal clerkships, **No. 2** in California (Law 360) (2024)



in the nation for percentage of 2023 graduates in the largest 100 law firms (Law.com's 2024 Go-To Law School Hiring Report)

UC Irvine Law Class of 2023 Employment*



Government

Education

^{*}Employment statistics are based off 126 out of 130 graduates employed 10 months after graduation.

Career Development

The Career Development Office (CDO) at UC Irvine Law hosts a modern, individualized approach to career counseling. Mirroring UC Irvine Law's commitment to experiential learning, the CDO's mission is to support and empower our students as they learn to navigate the legal market for the first time, UC Irvine Law is No. 20 in the nation for its stellar "Career Rating" (TaxProf Blog's analysis of Princeton Review's Best Law Schools of 2024).

Through the CDO, UC Irvine Law students:

- Learn the basics of the legal job search.
- Work individually with an attorney advisor to craft their personalized career path.
- Participate in on- and offcampus interviews, panels and networking receptions with employers.







The following are just a few examples of the many employers who have hired UC Irvine Law students:

Law Firms

Cooley LLP

Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP

Greenberg Traurig, LLP

Hogan Lovells US LLP

Irell & Manella LLP

Kirkland & Ellis LLP

Latham & Watkins LLP

Milbank LLP

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP

Morrison & Foerster LLP

Norton Rose Fulbright LLP

O'Melveny & Myers LLP

Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP

Ropes & Gray LLP

Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP

White & Case LLP

Public Interest and Nonprofits

American Civil Liberties Union

American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations

California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.

Community Legal Aid SoCal

Esperanza Immigrant Rights Project

Federal Defender of San Diego, Inc.

Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights
Under Law

Legal Services of Northern California

Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund

National Lawyers Guild

National Center for Youth Law

Public Advocates Inc.

Public Counsel Law Center

Public Defender's Offices

Public Law Center

Government

California Attorney General's Office

California Department of Fair Employment and Housing

District Attorney's Offices

Internal Revenue Service

National Labor Relations Board

Office of the County Counsel

Securities and Exchange Commission

State Water Resources Control Board

Office of Governor Gavin Newsom

U.S. Attorney's Office

U.S. Department of Education

U.S. Department of Justice

U.S. Department of Labor

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

U.S. Judge Advocate General Corps

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission





Fighting for Immigrant Survivors of Abuse:

Nafisa Ahmed, UC Irvine Law '20
Associate, Moritt, Hock & Hamroff LLP

Growing up Muslim American in the post-9/11 era, Nafisa Ahmed, UC Irvine Law '20, witnessed the extent to which her Los Angeles community relied on lawyers to protect their civil rights.

"I saw lawyers as people who understood how to use the law to protect our community, and I wanted to feel that same sort of safety through knowledge," Ahmed says.

By the time she finished high school, Ahmed knew she wanted to be a lawyer — even though no one in her extended Bengali family had ever gone to law school, and none of her female relatives had ever pursued a professional degree. After earning a bachelor's in political science from Cal Poly Pomona, Ahmed chose UC Irvine Law based on the recommendation of a friend who was an alumna, and her understanding that UC Irvine was the best public interest law school in the region.

As early as her first year at UC Irvine Law, Ahmed started focusing on serving immigrants who were survivors of domestic abuse. She received the Fran Kandel Public Interest Fellowship from the Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles (WLALA) which funded a summer project in which she held "know-your-rights" seminars for survivors of domestic violence, and distributed information in three languages at locations throughout Los Angeles.

The following year, Ahmed joined UC Irvine's Domestic Violence Clinic, working with immigrant clients to secure restraining orders and other legal remedies to protect families from abuse.

By the time she was in her final year of law school, Ahmed was focused on securing a coveted public interest fellowship. For help, she leaned on Assistant Dean for Career Development, Jasminder Deol, and Clinical Professor of Law, Jane Stoever, who helped her finalize applications, and faculty member Amy Wegener, who arranged a panel from her law firm for Ahmed to practice interviewing.

"UC Irvine Law is filled with professors who are willing to go above and beyond to help you out in things you're interested in," Ahmed says. "They also let you find ways to explore different areas, and find what you're actually passionate about in the law."

Ultimately, Ahmed received a 2020 Equal Justice Works Public Interest Fellowship funded by Cooley LLP and Uber Technologies, Inc. As a fellow, she served as legal counsel at the nonprofit agency Peace Over Violence, helping domestic violence survivors from Middle Eastern and South Asian communities with family law issues such as divorce, restraining orders and child custody.

"In the Domestic Violence Clinic, I did almost exactly the same things I did during the fellowship. It was the best preparation," says Ahmed, who now serves as an associate at Moritt, Hock & Hamroff LLP's not-for-profit group in New York.

Her advice to others interested in pursuing public interest law through a fellowship is to get as much real-world experience as possible.

"You want to show prospective fellowship funders that you have the capacity and experience to really understand the community you're trying to help," she says. Which, with her experiential training at UC Irvine Law, Ahmed has proven she does.



Serving in U.S. Government:

Micah Morris, UC Irvine Law '16 Counsel (Ethics), Federal Reserve Board

Micah Morris, UC Irvine Law '16, was putting his Stanford University master's in education to good use as an English teacher in the San Francisco Bay Area. But when he was asked to teach his school's AP government course, Morris became fascinated with the part of the curriculum that covered significant Supreme Court case law. After nearly a decade of teaching, suddenly he was considering a new career.

"At UC Irvine Law, I saw many of the characteristics I valued in the charter schools where I had taught, such as supporting first-generation students of color," says Morris. "And the kind of connections between teachers and students that I saw can only happen in that small school environment that nurtures students."

Morris earned a Public Service Scholarship to UC Irvine Law, and reveled in the wide range of opportunities available to him. He served as editor for the UC Irvine Law Review and volunteered in several clinics where he helped clients navigate workers' rights and immigration issues. He also helped transgender clients update their names and gender markers.

Morris' legal interests were broad — and he liked it that way.

"My strategy was to take courses from the very best professors teaching what they were most passionate about," Morris says. "I often took the hardest classes, but they opened up whole new areas of law to me that I had never conceived I'd be interested in."

This served Morris well in his job search. Early on, Morris knew he wanted a career in government. He took his first summer internship at the Department of Justice, and the following year participated in the Summer Honors Program at the Internal Revenue Service Office of Chief Counsel. At the end of that summer, Morris was offered a full-time job at the IRS, which enabled him to move back to Washington, D.C., where he had grown up and his family still lives.

Although he worked for the IRS, Morris was not a tax attorney. He was among a small group of lawyers who wrote opinions for the agency. providing guidance on everything from ethics to delegations of authority. It was a broad practice that fit his interests perfectly. Morris has since joined the Federal Reserve Board where he serves as ethics counsel.

"I was a public school teacher before, so I was used to being a public servant," says Morris. "And I saw government as a midway point between public interest law and big law."

Morris says UC Irvine Law prepared him for his career in two significant ways. First, his clinical experience working directly with clients trained him for his role offering legal advice to government staff. But equally important was the broad range of courses he took that prepared him to excel at doing extensive research.

"Most helpful in getting prepared for my career was the level of academic rigor at UC Irvine. I became good at delving into new topics," he says. "I'm not an expert in most of the areas I provide guidance on, so I have to be able to do quick legal research."

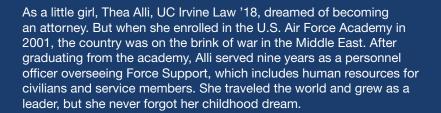
Since graduating, Morris has remained connected with UC Irvine Law. He regularly meets with UCDC participants, helping them network and explore the myriad job opportunities in the nation's capital.

"There are so many different ways to get involved, learn and grow at UC Irvine Law. I always encourage students to take full advantage of all of the opportunities available to them."

Flying from the Air Force to Big Law:

Thea Alli, UC Irvine Law '18

Associate, Schilling Law Group, PC



By 2015, Alli had nearly finalized her decision to attend another California law school when she came to UC Irvine's Admitted Students Weekend. There, she discovered the admissions dean knew her by name, the current students were engaging, the faculty welcoming and every lecture fascinating.

"I fell in love with UC Irvine Law that weekend," Alli says.

Although Alli commuted to Irvine from L.A. every day, she became deeply involved with the UC Irvine Law community. She served as president of the Veterans' Advocacy Society, chaired the Black Law Students Association, joined the Public Interest Law Fund as well as the Center on Law, Equality and Race. Today, she says, her closest friends are her law school classmates.

"I emphasize this to anybody looking to go to law school: be all in. Go to every lecture that sounds interesting, go to every event, take a class you never thought you'd like," Alli says. "I got the most out of my UC Irvine Law experience because I put a lot into it."

When Alli gave birth to her son during her third year, faculty and other students reached out with support and encouragement. Juggling family and law school wasn't easy, but Alli says, "I felt like people were invested in me, and they cared about whether I made it."



Building on her human resources experience, Alli decided to pursue labor and employment law and help make other workplaces better for employees. Today, as an associate at Schilling Law Group, PC, Alli often conducts HR investigations for large companies, which can lead her to advise a company on ways to improve their personnel practices, or alert a board of directors that their CEO's conduct is a liability.

She says her training through UC Irvine Law's Domestic Violence Clinic prepared her for the real work of being a lawyer.

"The first time I stood in a courtroom as counsel or submitted a pleading to a court, I was a student. You're fighting for a real client, and the stakes are real," says Alli. "So, by the time I had to do that for my firm, I was prepared."

UC Irvine Law also prepared Alli for an unexpected judicial clerkship. After speaking to the UCI Board of Visitors, a member of the audience was so impressed with Alli's remarks on diversity that he offered her a clerkship on the spot. It wasn't until Alli asked for his business card that she realized he was Judge Harris Hartz of the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. But Alli says UC Irvine Law's connections can make even the unusual happen.

After all, that's one of the reasons she chose UC Irvine Law. Alli says, "My experience showed me that anybody who is willing to put in the work and leverage the opportunities at UC Irvine can achieve their goals, whatever they may be."

WELCOME TO IRVINE AND OUR COMMUNITY

UC Irvine School of Law is located in the heart of Orange County, California – one hour from Los Angeles, one hour from San Diego, one hour from the snow and 10 minutes from the breathtaking beaches of Orange County that stretch along the 28-mile coastline. Money Magazine ranked UC Irvine the No. 1 college for beach lovers for good reason, citing the "...surfing at Huntington Beach, the boardwalk and pier at Newport Beach, peace and quiet at Corona del Mar, and the glamour of Laguna Beach."

The Graduate Housing Guarantee

UC Irvine guarantees an offer of on-campus housing to newly admitted, full-time fall 2024 J.D. students who meet application, Statement of Intent to Register and fee payment deadlines.

UC Irvine offers convenient and comfortable housing options in an environment that supports academic success. Housing offers will be made for one of seven graduate and family housing communities: Palo Verde, Verano Place, Campus Village, Vista del Campo, Vista del Campo Norte, Puerta del Sol or Plaza Verde. All apartments include internet and cable TV access, carpeting and major appliances. All on-campus housing communities are smoke-free.

Apartment offers are made throughout the summer and must be confirmed prior to the first day of classes. All communities offer fixed-term leases. Guaranteed students may renew their leases up to the term limits stated in their housing guarantee. Leases for nonguaranteed students may be renewable annually depending on student status and space availability. Graduate students who are not eligible for the guarantee may apply to be placed on the housing waitlist. Housing offers will be made as space becomes available.

ADA Accommodations

Students with housing-related needs based on a disability should register with the UCI Disability Services Center: dsc.uci.edu.



Military

Students who are eligible service members, reservists and veterans are guaranteed an offer of on-campus housing. Contact the UCI Veteran Services Center for information; veteran.uci.edu.

Forbes

UC Irvine is ranked No. 9 among public universities nationwide by Forbes.

The New Hork Times

The New York Times ranks UC Irvine No. 1 in the nation doing the most for the American dream.



Sierra magazine has named UC Irvine No. 2 "Coolest School" in the U.S., with 12 consecutive years in the top 10 for its

innovative sustainable practices. The magazine is the official publication of the Sierra Club, one of the nation's largest and most influential environmental organizations.



UC Irvine received the prestigious STARS platinum rating from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education.

FORTUNE

1/3 of all Fortune 500 companies have offices in Irvine.



Five UC Irvine researchers have won Nobel Prizes: F. Sherwood Rowland and Irwin Rose in chemistry, and Frederick Reines in physics. Mario Molina and David MacMillan also received Nobel Prizes in chemistry.



UC Irvine holds nine Guinness World Records, including: the largest dodgeball game, set in 2010; the largest water blaster fight, set in 2013; the largest game of capture the flag, set in 2015; the largest game of balloon tag, set in 2018; and the largest game of red light/green light, set in 2022.



UC Irvine has an annual economic impact on Orange County of \$7 billion and is a significant contributor to the region's talent-rich workforce.



Top law firms in Irvine (<5 mi.) and Los Angeles, including Century City (50 mi.), Santa Monica (55 mi.) and Beverly Hills (55 mi.)

State and federal courts in Orange County (<15 mi.), Riverside (40 mi.), Los Angeles (45 mi.) and San Diego (85 mi.)

Beaches, hiking and cycling trails in Newport Beach (<5 mi.), Corona del Mar State Beach (5 mi.), Laguna Beach (10 mi.), Huntington Beach (10 mi.), Dana Point Harbor (25 mi.) and Venice Beach (50 mi.)

Arts and entertainment in Balboa Island (<5 mi.), Segerstrom Center for the Arts (5 mi.), Disneyland (15 mi.), Angel Stadium of Anaheim (15 mi.) and Catalina Island (1 hr. by boat)

Airports in Santa Ana (<5 mi.), Long Beach (25 mi.), Los Angeles (45 mi.) and San Diego (85 mi.)



PATHWAYS TO UC IRVINE SCHOOL OF LAW

UC Irvine School of Law's strategic collaborations are designed to recruit talented students and alumni to the Law School from within UC Irvine's vibrant community, as well as select nonprofit organizations and universities. These collaborations underscore our commitment to interdisciplinary excellence and to providing affordable pathways for students to advance their law school career. Learn more about pathways to UC Irvine School of Law: law.uci.edu/pathways.

3+3 Articulated Pathway & Scholarship

Our 3+3 collaborations provide high-achieving students an accelerated pathway to earn both their Bachelor's and Juris Doctor degrees in six years, instead of the traditional seven, along with a \$90,000 tuition scholarship over three years.

- ➤ UC Irvine Campuswide Honors Collegium
- > UC Irvine Program in Public Health
- ➤ UC Irvine School of Humanities
- ➤ UC Irvine School of Social Ecology
- ➤ UC Irvine School of Social Sciences

Scholarship Initiatives

Successful applicants admitted to the Law School will receive a \$90,000 tuition scholarship over three years, available for both residents and nonresidents.

- ▶ UC Irvine Samueli School of Engineering
- ▶ Point Foundation
- ➤ Thrive Scholars

Structured Mentorship

To promote academic success and foster a sense of community and shared experiences, select collaborations offer participants program-specific Scholar designations and one-on-one support through a structured mentor program.



Although being a double Anteater wasn't always my plan when I first started thinking about going to college, I am very glad to be one. UC Irvine was my home for eight years. My experience in the School of Social Ecology and Campuswide Honors Collegium (CHC) helped make the transition to UC Irvine School of Law seamless and easy. For example, courses in the School of Social Ecology introduced me to Professor Elizabeth Loftus, one of the nation's leading experts on memory and how eyewitness testimony may be flawed, providing a primer to Evidence. My CHC honors courses and thesis project helped me develop the critical thinking skills and analytical acumen required for a law student to succeed. Although UC Irvine's new pathways collaborations did not yet exist when I was applying to law school, as a double Anteater and as a legal professional, I can wholeheartedly say they will give students a huge advantage in their legal education.

Lance S. Lee
UC Irvine Law, J.D. '23
UC Irvine, B.A. Psychology and Social Behavior, Campuswide Honors Collegium '19
Pacific Dental Services







I immediately felt a sense of community, home and belonging when I toured UC Irvine Law. After that, I knew I was sucked back in and would be a forever Anteater.

Nancy Sotomayor

UC Irvine Law, J.D. '16
UC Irvine, B.A. Women's Studies, and Psychology and Social Behavior '11
Akerman LLP

JOIN UC IRVINE SCHOOL OF LAW UC Irvine School of Law welcomes visitors to campus and offers virtual ways to interact with our community. Members of "Team Admissions and Aid" and our Admissions Ambassadors look forward to assisting you with the admissions process. Be sure to bookmark the admissions site (law.uci.edu/admission) for a list of our in-person or virtual recruitment activities, which include information sessions, recruitment fairs, virtual advising hours, 1:1 appointments, panels and more.

General Information

Application Fee

FREE; requests for a fee waiver are unnecessary.

Application Opens *September 1, 2024*

Application Deadlines

- Early Decision Deadline: November 15, 2024
- Priority Application Deadline: March 31, 2025

You may submit your J.D. application prior to the receipt of your standardized test score; however, we are unable to forward your application to our Admissions Committee for their review until your application is considered complete.

How to Apply

You should complete and submit your application using our secure online LSAC Electronic Application.



Application Requirements

- A bachelor's degree earned prior to the beginning of the Law School academic year from an accredited institution listed on the U.S.
 Department of Education's database (or an internationally earned degree equivalent to a U.S. bachelor's degree).
- Valid test results from either the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) or the Graduate Record Exam (GRE).
 - For Fall 2025 admission, the last LSAT score accepted is the April 2025 administration, and the GRE must be taken no later than April 20, 2025.
 - Please see the Apply page on the UC Irvine Law website for more information about the LSAT and GRE.
- A valid Law School Admission Council Credential Assembly Service (CAS) report. All applicants, regardless of which standardized test they apply with, are required to subscribe to and utilize the CAS Report for the submission of transcripts and letters of recommendation.
- The following must be submitted by the published deadline dates:
 - Completed LSAC Electronic Application form.

- Official transcripts.
 - All transcripts from post-secondary institutions should be submitted directly to LSAC.
 - International degree transcripts must be submitted to LSAC for evaluation.
- Two letters of recommendation (no more than three will be accepted).
 - Must be on file with LSAC and be assigned to UC Irvine School of Law.
 - Letters of recommendation should be from either academic or professional references.
- Required Statements.
 - Personal Statement (750-word limit).
 - "Why UC Irvine Law?" Statement (750-word limit).
- Current resume or CV.
- Optional Inclusive Excellence Essay (500-word limit).
- Optional Statements (two topics: standardized tests and/or GPA).
 - You may answer one or both prompts, but the total length must not exceed 500 words.



Information for all (regular or Early Decision) J.D. applicants

Notifications

- Applicants will receive a confirmation email containing credentials to the LSAC's Applicant Status Online system. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure the file is complete, but please contact the Admissions Office should you have questions about missing items.
- Be sure to update our office of any changes to your email, phone number and/or mailing address.
- If you are registered for a future standardized test administration as a regular decision applicant, you must email admissions@law.uci.edu when you submit your application if you want your file held from review.

Decisions

- Decisions will be available via LSAC's Applicant Status Online system and sent via email to your primary email address on file.
- Applicants who have a complete file by the March 31 priority deadline will receive a decision by May 15.

Seat Deposit

- In order to secure their spot in the Fall 2025 entering class, all admitted applicants will be required to submit both an affirmative Statement of Intent to Register (SIR-Y) and pay the nonrefundable seat deposit(s) no later than the date(s) indicated with their offer of admission.

Foreign-Educated Applicants

- A separate test of English proficiency is not required for admission into the J.D. program.
- You must submit your transcripts through LSAC's Credential Assembly Service. Applicants educated outside of the United States and Canada must use the LSAC's Authentication and Evaluation services with their CAS Report.

If you have questions about UC Irvine Law's admissions process, please visit our Frequently Asked Questions page at law.uci.edu/apply-fag.

If you still have questions after reviewing our FAQS or application instructions, email them to admissions@law.uci.edu.

Early Decision

- Early Decision Specific Information
 - In order to be considered under UC Irvine Law's binding early decision program, you must submit all the required application materials, including LSAT scores and LSAT Writing, AND your signed Early Decision Certification form by November 15th.
 - Applicants who apply Early Decision but do not have all the materials in by the deadline will be automatically rolled over to the regular decision admissions pool after the Early Decision deadline.
 - Since UC Irvine Law is still operating under a pilot with the GRE test, only applicants with a valid LSAT will be considered for our Early Decision program.
 - UC Irvine Law's Early Decision program is binding. You may not be an Early Decision candidate at any other law school with a binding Early Decision application.
- Early Decision Specific Decision Timeline
 - Successful Early Decision applicants will be notified by the end of December if they are admitted.
 - In order to reserve your seat in the class, you must commit to matriculating at UC Irvine Law and submit the nonrefundable seat deposit by the date(s) indicated with your offer of admission.
 - You must withdraw all of your applications to other law schools and refrain from initiating any new applications if and when you are notified of your acceptance through the Early Decision program.
 - Unsuccessful Early Decision applicants will be rolled over into the regular decision pool.



UCIrvine School of Law

Contact

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