



On-Campus Juris Master

Frequently Asked Questions

Why choose Emory Law?

Emory Law is a top-ranked law school offering a practical, disciplined approach to the study of law. We are known for:

- *faculty who are experts in their respective areas of law and dynamic teachers in the classroom*
- *a rigorous curriculum attuned to the needs of the legal profession*
- *countless opportunities for experiential learning through externships, clinics, and simulation course*
- *an environment of support and cooperation that encourages challenging the status quo*

Are courses for the JM degree taught by the same professors who teach courses for the Juris Doctor degree?

The same professors and industry professionals teach all JM courses. More than 60 full-time faculty, along with our adjunct faculty, teach more than 250 courses at Emory Law. Their focus on research means they are not only teaching you the law, they are also actively participating in shaping laws around the world.

What is the difference between a Juris Doctor (JD), a Juris Master (JM), and a paralegal degree?

A JD degree is a 90-credit-hour degree, also known as a Doctor of Jurisprudence, which prepares students to sit for the Bar Exam and practice law.

A JM degree is a 30-credit-hour master's degree in law. It is intended for individuals who want to learn the laws that govern their profession. JM recipients are not eligible to practice law.

No legal standards exist for paralegal education and training requirements. It is not a master's degree. A paralegal cannot practice law.

Can I practice law with a JM degree?

No, you cannot practice law with a JM degree.

Who is the JM program intended for?

The JM is intended for professionals or individuals who want to become more specialized in their fields and enhance their knowledge of the law. There are more than 20 concentrations available, with health law and business law available in the online format. Our students include HR directors, compliance officers, and aspiring healthcare administrators.

How do the on-campus and online formats of the JM differ?

The on-campus JM offers the greatest amount of course flexibility. This format can be completed in nine months with full-time study, or up to four years when completed part-time. In addition to more than a dozen course concentrations, you have the ability to create your own customized course of study.

The online JM is offered in two concentrations: Health Care Law, Policy, and Regulation; and Business Law and Regulation. This format can be completed in eighteen months or up to four years. Each course is delivered in an asynchronous format, in a series of seven-week modules.

How long will it take me to complete the on-campus JM program?

Full-time in nine months or part-time in up to four years.

What are the technical requirements of the on-campus format?

Emory Law students are required to own a computer. We recommend that you invest in a new notebook computer from a reputable manufacturer with a three-year warranty. Try to purchase a notebook computer that balances light weight and long battery life. Most exams are taken on computer and most faculty members permit students to take notes on computer in class. The law school supports both Mac and Windows systems.

How will I receive official communications from Emory Law?

All students are assigned an Emory email account, which is the official means of communications at Emory Law. You are expected to check your Emory email account daily.

How will I know which courses to take?

You will be assigned an academic advisor who will help you select your courses.

How do I register for courses?

You will receive course registration instructions during Orientation. When it's time to register for courses, you will receive communication from the Emory Law Registrar's office.

What kinds of support and services are available to JM students?

Emory Law provides numerous resources. You will be assigned an academic advisor. The Office of Academic Engagement and Success manages the Dean's Teaching Fellows and the Study Smarter Series. The law librarians are also a valuable resource.

What kinds of outcomes can I expect after earning a JM degree?

Some people use the JM degree to deepen their knowledge of the law in their chosen field, become more specialized, and acquire practical knowledge to become more valuable to their current employers.

Those same skills that offer people the opportunity to advance in their current careers, offer others the opportunity to pivot in their career, and pursue new or more attractive opportunities.

"The Juris Master program taught me how to look at international development through the lens of law and policy. Building on my previous studies, I was able to think through the creation of laws that could help empower women economically and educationally. The program was a great compliment to my previous degree and my classes were interesting and applicable to my long-term career goals."

– LaDarrien Gillette, JM, Community Engagement Fellow, UNICEF USA and a 2017 JM graduate

"The JM in Health Law was instrumental in helping me to obtain my residency. In fact, during my residency interviews, the first question was about my Juris Master degree. Interviewers loved the idea and expressed

interest in the program.”

– April Carter, MD, JM, MHA, Internal Medicine Physician, Schumacher Clinical Partners and a 2014 JM graduate

How much does the JM cost?

The on-campus format is \$2,354 per credit hour, or \$70,620 for the 30-credit-hour degree plus fees. This is the 2018-19 tuition cost; subject to change.

Are JM students eligible for financial aid and scholarships?

Yes.

Do you have any financial aid programs available for veterans or members of the military?

The Yellow Ribbon GI Education Enhancement Program is a provision of the Post 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008. If you are interested in participating in the Yellow Ribbon Program, please contact Farah Dharamshi at farah.dharamshi@emory.edu to learn more. Click [here](#) for more information on Veterans' Education Benefits.

Does Emory Law accept transfer credits from other schools?

Emory University does not accept transfer credits from other schools, but will accept up to six credit hours from other degree programs at Emory University.

Will any JM credits earned transfer to the Juris Doctor (JD)?

Per the ABA, courses completed during the juris master degree are not able to be transferred for credit towards the juris doctor degree.

What are the admissions deadlines?

For a fall semester start, early decision applications are due April 15, and general admission applications are due June 30.

For a spring semester start, early decision applications are due September 30, and general admission applications are due November 15.

Is the GRE, LSAT, or GMAT required?

A graduate entrance exam—GRE, GMAT, LSAT or MCAT—is required if an applicant does not hold a graduate degree when they apply for acceptance to the juris master program. Applicants without a graduate degree, but with significant professional experience, may apply for consideration for a graduate entrance exam waiver.

Do I need to take an English Language Proficiency Test?

The TOEFL is required for applicants whose primary language is not English, but we do not publish any score requirements.

Who do I contact with additional questions?

jmadmission@emory.edu