



EMORY

LAW

MASTER OF LEGAL STUDIES

A flexible, immersive
Master of Legal Studies



Program Summary

Emory University School of Law gives professionals the opportunity to elevate their expertise through a comprehensive Master of Legal Studies (MLS) program. Graduates will learn to think critically, spot legal issues, and communicate effectively about the law in a diverse range of industries, including business, health care, technology, and human resources.

Delivered through practical coursework and discussion-based collaboration, the program ensures a deep understanding of legal frameworks, regulatory landscapes, and federal and state governance. Students graduate from one of the nation's top law schools as well-prepared professionals who can navigate industry environments and effectively communicate legal concepts to their organizations.



“My role within the Emory Police Department involves strengthening our relationships with students, faculty, and staff. It incorporates everything from legal concepts and data analysis to mediation and storytelling. Courses such as Dispute Resolution, Law and Legal Professionals, and Business Oversight and Compliance have enhanced my approach to the role. I’m better able to focus on the bigger picture as well as the immediate needs of our community.”

MORIEKA JOHNSON, DIRECTOR
OF COMMUNICATIONS IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF CAMPUS SAFETY

[Learn more about Morieka’s
experience in the program in our
student spotlight article.](#)

Emory University School of Law
ranked #17 in the *National Law Journal’s*
“Top 50 Go-To Law Schools: Big Law” 2025 list.



Program Benefits

Engage with coursework in a dynamic online learning environment

In our interactive coursework, students learn to navigate legal scenarios by applying theoretical knowledge to real-world situations. Each course will develop students' written and verbal communication skills through an advocacy component.

Choose from four concentration options to specialize your degree

Our program tailors the student learning experience through courses aligned with varied interest areas. We offer four concentrations: Business Law and Regulation; Health Care Law, Policy, and Regulation; Employment Law and Human Resources; and Cybersecurity, Privacy, and Technology Law.

Learn from a team of expert faculty who are invested in your success

Our faculty members have extensive experience in various areas of law, including business and employment, intellectual property, and health care law. Each faculty member ensures that students grasp the material through a combination of authentic engagement and guided instruction.

Earn your degree on your schedule with primarily flexible coursework

Our program combines the perks of asynchronous coursework with two virtual, synchronous experiences. Students benefit from unparalleled flexibility throughout the coursework they can complete on their schedule and the opportunity to connect with their peers and professors at the beginning and end of the program.

Career Outlook

A Master of Legal Studies offers valuable insights into US law for professionals who don't want to become lawyers—but do want to increase their legal knowledge, marketability, and salary potential. Labor market analytics authority Lightcast reports that legal studies master's graduates earn an average annual salary of \$84,700. In addition to preparing students with extensive legal knowledge and increasing their earning potential, our MLS degree equips professionals with the problem-solving and analytical thinking skills that employers seek.

A deep understanding of the law can be beneficial in a wide variety of industries, especially those that face complicated regulatory pressures. Our MLS graduates work in industries including:

- health care
- business
- education
- manufacturing
- financial services
- human resources
- hospitality
- non-profits

A Master of Legal Studies can open doors to opportunities and positions that require a strong grasp on foundational legal concepts. According to Lightcast, some of the top job opportunities for graduates of legal studies master's programs include titles such as:

- human resources manager
- health services manager
- education administrator
- general and operations manager
- labor relations specialist
- compliance officer



Curriculum

Our 30-credit MLS degree program can be completed on a flexible schedule, allowing working professionals and those with personal commitments to earn their degrees without sacrificing their responsibilities.

Students can choose one of four concentrations or build their own study plan with a variety of electives. Our concentration options include:

- Business Law and Regulation
- Health Care Law, Policy, and Regulation
- Employment Law and Human Resources
- Cybersecurity, Privacy, and Technology Law

FLEXIBLE COURSEWORK

Most of our coursework can be completed asynchronously on your schedule through flexible assignments, virtual office hours, and interactive discussion boards. However, our MLS incorporates three virtual synchronous experiences that allow students to connect with their peers and professors. At the beginning of the program, students first complete a 10-day course, MLS Law Foundations, and then take a virtual synchronous Bootcamp where they learn how to read, analyze, and brief a case. Students will also get an introduction to the first two core classes, (1) Introduction to the American Legal System and (2) Analysis, Research, and Communication (ARC) for Professionals.

If students choose to take the Dispute Resolution course, they can also participate in the Dispute Resolution Residency, a two-day online workshop where students engage with each other using the principles they learned in the class.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Graduates of this degree program will be able to do the following:

- identify, examine, and understand legal issues and regulatory frameworks and the potential impacts on a particular workplace or industry
- demonstrate the ability to collaborate effectively with legal professionals regarding issues and decisions related to the law
- demonstrate critical thinking, issue spotting, risk assessment, problem solving, and conflict resolution skills
- demonstrate clear, persuasive written and oral communication skills related to legal and business issues
- demonstrate knowledge of the sources of law and the distinction between federal and state governments and courts in the United States
- recognize the relevant practice limitations on non-lawyer professionals who engage with legal issues

COURSE LIST

Core courses – 4 courses (12 credit hours)

- Introduction to the American Legal System (3 hours)
- Analysis, Research, and Communications (ARC) for Professionals (3 hours)
- Contracts for Professionals (3 hours)
- Law and Legal Professionals (3 hours)

Electives – 6 courses (18 credit hours)

All purpose:

- Administrative Law (3 hours)
- Dispute Resolution Courses and Residency (3 hours)
- Legislative Advocacy (3 hours)

Health Care Law, Policy, and Regulation:

- Legal and Ethical Topics in Health Care (3 hours)
- Health Care Regulation (3 hours)
- Corporate Health Law (3 hours)
- Public Health Law (3 hours)

Business Law and Regulation:

- Business Associations for Professionals (3 hours)
- Business Transactions in Practice (3 hours)
- Business Compliance and Oversight (3 hours)
- Data Management, Privacy, and Cybersecurity (3 hours)



Employment Law and Human Resources:

- Employment Law for Professionals (3 hours)
- Employment Discrimination for Professionals (3 hours)

Students who choose the Employment Law and Human Resources concentration must also take two Business Law and Regulation electives.

Cybersecurity, Privacy, and Technology Law:

- IP Applications (3 hours)
- Foundations of Law and Artificial Intelligence (3 hours)

Students who choose the Cybersecurity, Privacy, and Technology Law concentration must also take two Business Law and Regulation electives.



Admission and Tuition

Students may start the MLS Program in either the fall or the spring semester. Courses are offered year-round.

ADMISSION CHECKLIST

- Completed application
- Resume or curriculum vitae (CV)
- Transcripts from each institution attended
- Personal statement
- Two letters of recommendation
- Interview

We review applications on a rolling basis, and students should receive an admission decision within 10 business days of submitting all required application materials and then completing an interview for admission.

TUITION AND FEES

Cost per credit hour	\$2,172
Total credits	30
Total tuition*	\$65,160
Additional fees per semester	\$656

*Tuition and fees are subject to change.

Tuition and fees do not include the cost of textbooks and materials; these costs vary by course. Students are provided with a list of required textbooks and materials upon registration.

FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Students enrolled in Emory Law’s MLS may request federal and state financial aid by [completing their FAFSA](#). **Emory’s FAFSA code is 001564.**

We are pleased to be able to offer merit-based scholarships to the applicants to the MLS Program. Applicants to the MLS Program are automatically considered for these scholarships. Learn more about our scholarship opportunities on our [tuition and financial aid page](#). For more information about funding your graduate education, contact us at gradfinaid@emory.edu or call toll-free at (800) 727-6039.

Veterans and their families are important to the Emory Law community. Because of this, we are proud to participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program and offer a Yellow Ribbon award of \$3,500 per academic year to active military service members, veterans, and their spouses. If you are eligible for and interested in participating in the Yellow Ribbon Program, please contact the admission team at mlsadmission@emory.edu to learn more.

About Emory University School of Law

Emory University School of Law is a preeminent graduate school of inquisitive learners, where faculty, staff, and students of any background can thrive and feel a sense of belonging. We educate and train principled, sophisticated legal professionals, people who can flourish in today's fast-paced, highly regulated work environment and who can lead anywhere.

The real-world landscape of law is about more than reading cases and statutes. We provide students with invaluable educational and cultural resources, involving them in clinical work, journals, competitions, and public service. Our students become integral to the communities where they live and work, listening to the problems people face and finding ways to engage the law to develop creative solutions.

ACCREDITATION STATEMENT

Emory University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award associate, baccalaureate, master's, doctorate, and professional degrees. Emory University also may offer credentials such as certificates and diplomas at approved degree levels. Questions about the accreditation of Emory University may be directed in writing to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097, by calling (404) 679.4500, or by using information available on SACSCOC's website (www.sacscoc.org).

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Emory is an equal opportunity employer, and qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, protected veteran status or other characteristics protected by state or federal law. Emory University does not discriminate in admissions, educational programs, or employment, including recruitment, hiring, promotions, transfers, discipline, terminations, wage and salary administration, benefits, and training. Students, faculty, and staff are assured of participation in university programs and in the use of facilities without such discrimination. Emory University complies with Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Vietnam Era Veteran's Readjustment Assistance Act, and applicable executive orders, federal and state regulations regarding nondiscrimination, equal opportunity, and affirmative action (for protected veterans and individuals with disabilities). Inquiries regarding this policy should be directed to the Emory University Department of Equity and Civil Rights Compliance, 201 Dowman Drive, Administration Building, Atlanta, GA 30322. Telephone: 404-727-9867 (V) | 404-712-2049 (TDD).





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