follow the dream
Ideally situated in Northern California and housed in Martin Luther King Jr. Hall, UC Davis School of Law can help you fulfill your greatest ambitions. Whether the goal is corporate law or public service, UC Davis provides the knowledge, tools and connections, within a uniquely supportive and collegial learning environment.
Welcome to UC Davis School of Law, where we offer the highest quality of legal education to outstanding students from all backgrounds.

Consistently highly ranked among the nation’s top law schools, UC Davis Law views excellence as the standard. Yet the culture is friendly and inclusive.

Our world-class “majority-minority” faculty consists of teacher/scholars whose expertise ranges from constitutional and criminal law fundamentals to the latest takes on intellectual property and big data.

Underpinning any UC Davis Law education is a commitment to equality and justice befitting a law school housed in Martin Luther King Jr. Hall.

We also are committed to positioning our students as favorably as possible in the legal job market, through the many opportunities we provide for networking and acquiring real-world skills.

If you are admitted and come to UC Davis Law, you will join a community ready to help you succeed.

Kevin R. Johnson
Dean, Mabie-Apallas Professor of Public Interest Law, and professor of Chicana/o Studies

Message from the Dean
Professor David Horton teaches a UC Davis Law class outdoors.
Reza Harris was the graduate speaker at 2019’s commencement, and the artist behind a mural tribute to Martin Luther King Jr. painted on behalf of the Black Law Students Association. He’s starting his law career at Silicon Valley’s Cooley LLP.

The King Hall community: A shared vision

With more than 50 student groups and six student-run law journals, student life reflects the remarkable diversity of UC Davis Law. The pursuit of social justice and public service remains as avid as it was 50 years ago, when students lobbied successfully to name the then-new law school building after Martin Luther King Jr. UC Davis produces lawyers of conscience, regardless of their practice areas.
UC DAVIS LAW’S CLASS OF 2022:
Our first-year class is academically accomplished and the most diverse ever:

- 26% first-generation college students
- 40% will receive need-based aid
- 17% identify as LGBTQ
- 58% Women
- 57% Students of Color
- 57% Women
- 57% Students of Color
- 114 undergraduate schools represented
- 162 median LSAT score
- 3.61 median GPA
AN INCLUSIVE, ACCESSIBLE FACULTY

UC Davis School of Law is proud of its groundbreaking “majority-minority” faculty, ranked No. 23 in the nation in scholarly impact. The law school’s modest size and community feel allow for greater interaction among students and faculty than at other top-tier law schools.
A productive partnership

Aspiring public defender Kendra Clark ’19 spent two years as a research assistant to Professor Irene Joe, a former New Orleans public defender whose scholarship incorporates criminal procedure and legal ethics. “Kendra is extremely dedicated to life as a public defender and the work public defenders do with indigent defendants.” Joe said. “Having her come on to provide a fresh perspective was crucial.”

Joe helped Clark as well, when Clark was drafting an article that later would be published by the UC Davis Law Review and win the school’s prestigious Hopkins award. “Working for Professor Joe was really helpful in seeing what an academic paper is supposed to look like,” Clark said.
A degree from UC Davis School of Law opens doors to the United States’ premier law firms. We have alumni in the most desirable markets nationwide, with special concentrations in nearby — and red-hot — San Francisco and Silicon Valley. Southern California also is a hub.

Minutes from campus is Sacramento, California’s capital and one of the state’s most diverse and fastest-growing cities. An established Davis-Capitol pipeline helps graduates secure public service jobs.
90% of the class of 2018 was employed 10 months after graduation.

Our alumni work at these companies, among others:

Alison Lima
CLASS OF 1996

“At UC Davis School of Law, I got to know the professors really well, and when I expressed an interest in entertainment, I was able to carve out that area for myself by taking the types of courses that would lead me on this track: contracts, intellectual property, copyright... There was such a broad array of opportunities. I was able to explore interests if I had them, and also parlay the classes I took into getting a job.”

Lima at the Hollywood headquarters of Netflix, where she is vice president, business & legal affairs, original animation.
Realize your ambitions

UC Davis Law offers one of the finest, and most well-rounded, legal educations available. Students can gain hands-on experience through externships, internships and clerkships, skills classes, moot court and law reviews, and by helping represent underserved populations via public service fellowships and our law clinics. Our Career Services office helps create further connections by bringing employers to campus to meet students.

From Law Review to entertainment law

“My time on the UC Davis Law Review was very helpful, just in the attention to detail. Especially as a transactional lawyer – every word you use matters.”

Cheryl Wei, class of 2011, at Davis Wright Tremaine LLP in Los Angeles, where she represents studios, production companies and television networks.
Working for you

Our Career Services office brings more than 200 employers a year to campus for face-to-face meetings and interviews with students. Visitors include representatives from the nation’s largest law firms, small and midsize firms, and the government and public interest sectors.

Class of 2018 employment summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EMPLOYMENT SETTINGS</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private practice</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business/industry</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judicial clerkships</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public interest/legal services</td>
<td>7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic</td>
<td>3%</td>
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</table>
UC Davis School of Law students have served as externs for the Chief Justice of California, Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, from UC Davis Law’s class of 1984, and her fellow state Supreme Court Justices Goodwin Liu (left) and Mariano-Florentino Cuéllar (right).
“I did a lot of skills training – negotiations classes and competitions, and moot court. I use the negotiations techniques I learned on a daily basis. With moot court, the practice of standing up in front of people under pressure situations is really valuable, even if you are not in court.”

Hlatky at DLA Piper in Century City (Los Angeles), where he represents startups and venture capital interests.
Learning by doing

Jon Florentino ’21 (right) spent the summer working at Sacramento’s Weintraub Tobin law firm as a Sacramento County Bar Association Diversity Fellow. Florentino sometimes worked alongside fellow UC Davis Law student Anders Bostrom ’20, a summer associate at the firm.
Immigration Law Clinic

UC Davis School of Law’s Immigration Law Clinic often makes national headlines for its tireless work on behalf of detained migrant children and families and other immigrants in need. The clinic has received nearly $1.2 million, through donations and a grant, in 2019, allowing it to add more staff attorneys to work with students.
Public service is a foundation of UC Davis School of Law, which places students in government offices, the court system and nonprofits throughout the state and country through externships, the University of California Office of the President Public Service Law Fellowships and other programs.
UC Davis Law students received summer and post-grad public service fellowships in 2019.

MORE THAN HALF OF THE CLASS OF 2019 RECEIVED PUBLIC SERVICE LAW PROGRAM CERTIFICATES

Angela Yahaira Breining
CLASS OF 2019

She received a prestigious Skadden Fellowship, which provides two years of funding to help launch the careers of public interest lawyers. Breining is working with Centro Legal de la Raza.
Create the future

UC Davis Law alumni help shape the future, whether they are protecting copyrights of Silicon Valley tech entrepreneurs or safeguarding our waterways as environmental gatekeepers.

Kaitlyn Kalua
CLASS OF 2016

“I wanted to attend law school to better understand governance systems and the legal constraints in natural resource management.”

Before law school, Kalua worked at Ocean Conservancy, a Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit. Drawn to UC Davis Law’s outstanding environmental law program and opportunities to work in the state capital, Kalua externed with the Governor’s Office and State Water Resources Control Board. She is now a policy analyst for the California Coastkeeper Alliance.
Karen Johnson-McKewan  
CLASS OF 1985

A partner at Orrick in San Francisco, Johnson-McKewan has represented Netflix and Oracle in high-profile cases. In 2019, she was named to *The Hollywood Reporter*’s “Power Lawyers” list for the second consecutive year.

Alica Del Valle  
CLASS OF 2006

“There is no one singular definition of ‘lawyer’ today. If you have the skill set and confidence in your abilities, you can define ‘lawyer’ in a way that works for you.”

Del Valle at Airbnb in San Francisco, where she is global legal head of IP, marketing, communications, production & content.
At UC Davis Law, we are committed to helping provide equal access to a legal education. The King Hall Outreach Program helps undergraduates from underrepresented communities, and from throughout the state, prepare for the law school admissions process; Pathway to Law School targets law school hopefuls in community college; First Generation Advocates pairs first-generation UC Davis Law students with faculty mentors.
Second-year U.C. Davis Law student Benny Lima, a first-generation college graduate, plans to work with emerging companies and venture capital.
3RD

best public university in “contribution to the public good” (Washington Monthly, 2019)

5TH BEST

public university (Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education College Ranking 2019)

#3

“greenest” university in the world (GreenMetric World University Ranking)

LIGHT-FILLED AND AESTHETICALLY STRIKING.

Martin Luther King Jr. Hall sits in the loveliest part of the UC Davis campus, near the stately Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts and stunning Manetti Shrem Museum of Art.
STEPS AWAY FROM KING HALL

lies the lush UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden, a 3.5-mile literal pathway to environmental stewardship lined with carefully labeled trees and plants. The sustainability message carries throughout campus, where “zero waste” is the mandate.
FINANCIAL AID

At King Hall, we believe finances should not be a barrier to engaging in our high-quality public legal education.

We offer a wide variety of funding options, and our extraordinarily generous merit- and need-based gift aid ensures that UC Davis School of Law remains financially accessible.

In 2019, U.S. News & World Report ranked UC Davis School of Law #4 among public law schools awarding the most financial aid.

Financial assistance is available for students including: merit-based scholarships, need-based grants, early decision select scholars and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. public interest scholarships. The law school also offers financial aid for international students, veterans and undocumented students.

Detailed Financial Aid information & application instructions at law.ucdavis.edu/financial-aid.

Aaron Bonner
CLASS OF 2019

“Having a family, working two jobs and maintaining solid grades when I was an undergraduate was pretty challenging, and I knew I wasn’t going to be able to work while attending law school. The scholarships gave me the ability to focus more on my studies. I am very grateful for both scholarships.”

Bonner, recipient of the Dean’s Merit and Sue R. Wilkins scholarships, with his daughter Eryn. Bonner is also a King Hall Outreach Program alumnus.

Average cost of attendance

CALIFORNIA RESIDENT STUDENT COSTS (AVERAGE)

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<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition and fees</td>
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<td>Books and supplies</td>
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<td>Basic living</td>
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<td>Transportation</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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<td>Student Health: Insurance Plan (SHIP)</td>
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<td>Total with SHIP</td>
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NON-RESIDENT STUDENT COSTS (AVERAGE)

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<td>Total</td>
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<td>Student Health: Insurance Plan (SHIP)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total with SHIP</td>
<td>$83,229</td>
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* Non-residents pay an additional $9,251 in tuition and fees, which includes a non-resident supplemental tuition fee.

All tuition and fees are subject to the control of the UC Regents and California Legislature and may change without notice.

Please see the Office of Budget and Institutional Analysis for the most current information at budget.ucdavis.edu/studentfees.
what is your dream?
Apply

Required documents checklist for J.D. applicants

☐ Application for admission
   Electronic or disabled-accessible submission required

☐ Personal statement
   2 to 4 pages in length, double-spaced

☐ Résumé

☐ LSAC Credential Assembly Service (CAS) report

☐ Law School Admission Test (LSAT) or Graduate Record Examination (GRE) score

☐ Two letters of recommendation

Key dates

SEPT. 1, 2019
Application period opens for fall 2020
J.D. admission

NOV. 1, 2019
Deadline to submit Early Decision applications
(Applicants receive decisions on or before Nov. 30, 2019)

MARCH 15, 2020
Deadline to submit J.D. applications for fall 2020

There is no fee to apply.