Pacific Legal Scholars
An Accelerated Honors Law Program
Undergrad to Lawyer in Six Years
Legal Scholars are exposed to the legal profession through interaction with attorneys, judges and law professors in classes and special events.

Get real-world experience through mock trial competitions and internships in the legal field.

3+3
Complete your bachelor’s and law degrees in 6 years.
Become a Legal Scholar

Legal Scholars acquire the rewards of a highly personalized, student-centered education that will help them prepare for the rigors of law school and lay the foundation for successful careers in the law.

University of the Pacific is one of the only universities in California to offer an accelerated honors law program. The program works in cooperation with our law school, Pacific McGeorge School of Law, one of the top 100 law schools in the nation.
Personalized Program

You will work with the program director to design an individualized curriculum based on your major and program track. You can choose a major that fits your particular interests and career goals. The Legal Scholars Program is designed to work with any major to prepare students for advanced legal study. You also have the option to participate in Pacific’s prestigious Honors Program.

“The Legal Scholars program has enhanced my desire to pursue a career in law. From speaking with local lawyers, having classes with law professors and meeting Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy, this program has given me valuable exposure to the legal field. And the professors have been incredibly supportive.”

— Kyle Sasai ’14, Political Science
Preparation for a Career in the Law

The Pacific Legal Scholars program is designed to help you develop necessary skills in preparation for the rigors of law school. You can also increase your experiential opportunities through internships in the legal community, participation in student legal organizations, observing mock trial and other competitions, and community service outreach.

“The Legal Scholars Program taught me about law school when I knew nothing; gave me the opportunity to network when I knew no one; and helped me figure out if law school was really for me. Now, I am earning straight As at a top tier law school and already have a summer externship with a 9th Circuit Court of Appeals judge.” — Kelly Volkar ’11, English
Immersion in the Legal Field

As a Pacific Legal Scholar you will interact with the legal community throughout your program and right from your first year. In addition to coursework, you will have the opportunity to attend networking and other special events where you will meet attorneys and judges and hear from experts in the field. Unique one-unit seminars provide exploration of career options and interaction with law faculty, even as an undergraduate.

Accelerate Your Future

As a Legal Scholar, you have the option of a traditional 4+3 track or the accelerated 3+3 track. With the 3+3 track, you can complete your undergraduate degree in three years on the Stockton campus and your law degree in three more years at Pacific McGeorge School of Law, allowing you to complete both the bachelor's degree and JD degree a full year earlier. By completing certain requirements, you can receive guaranteed admission to Pacific McGeorge School of Law.

“Being part of the Legal Scholars program helped me determine the legal education that was right for me. My internship with the San Joaquin County Bar Association integrated my graphic design work with the law and allowed me to build valuable networking connections.”

— Anastasya Uskova ’11, Graphic Design
Admission requirements

For 3+3 program:
3.5 unweighted high school GPA; 1320 SAT (590 critical reading, 580 math) or 30 ACT

For 4+3 program:
3.5 unweighted, high school GPA; 1250 SAT (590 critical reading, 580 math) or 28 ACT

Complete undergraduate application for admission to University of the Pacific and a personal interview. Admission to the program is contingent upon admission to the University. Apply online at go.Pacific.edu/Apply.

For guaranteed admission to Pacific McGeorge School of Law JD Program:
Complete Stockton undergraduate portion of the program (see below). Apply to Pacific McGeorge and meet all admission criteria, including the median LSAT score and undergraduate GPA for the prior year’s matriculating students. (2011 medians were 158 LSAT, 3.5 GPA.)

Program Requirements

- Fulfill course requirements for the undergraduate major, including general education and basic skills requirements

  **Minimum unit requirement:**
  - 4+3 track — 124 undergraduate units, 60 on the Stockton campus
  - 3+3 track — 92 undergraduate units, 75 on the Stockton campus

- Complete three, one-unit seminar classes designed as law school preparation and a four-unit upper division law class

- Participate in at least five off-campus, law-related activities prior to law school

- Maintain a minimum 3.0 undergraduate GPA to stay in the program, and 3.5 for guaranteed admission to Pacific McGeorge
Frequently Asked Questions

What is the 3+3 track?

3+3 = 3 years BA/BS + 3 years JD

Students in the accelerated (3+3) track must attend McGeorge School of Law, where they will finish their bachelor’s degree after completing their first year at McGeorge School of Law.

Students in the 3+3 track can decelerate to the 4+3 track at any time.

What is the 4+3 track?

4+3 = 4 years BA/BS + 3 years JD

The traditional 4+3 track offers more flexibility to pursue extra-curricular opportunities, such as a double major, one or two minors, internships and study abroad.

This track is compatible with every major, and students are able to pursue a degree at any law school or decide not to attend law school at all.

Can any major be completed in the 3+3 track?

No, high-unit majors are NOT recommended for the 3+3 track (These include engineering, international studies, business, graphic design and music.)
Does this program mean I am majoring in law?

No, Pacific does not offer a major in pre-law. A student’s major provides a context in which to study the law. For example, an engineering student may become interested in studying patent law or intellectual property. The program director collaborates with each student and their advisor to customize a degree program that integrates their major and the law.

If I am in Legal Scholars, do I have to go to law school?

No, students can use Legal Scholars to learn more about legal careers and the rigors of law school in order to determine if law school is the right fit for them.

Am I bound to University of the Pacific by accepting an interview with Legal Scholars?

No, the University has non-binding admission processes. Your interview will only be used to determine your acceptance to the Legal Scholars Program and scholarship eligibility.

Is there an added cost associated with the program?

Yes, students must pay for a week-long, one-unit course in legal writing taken the summer before their junior year. The cost is approximately $700. This is the only extra cost of the program. The legal writing course is held in Sacramento at Pacific McGeorge, and the cost of housing, meals and transportation are covered by the program.

The cost of transportation for all other Legal Scholars sponsored events is covered by the program.

Go.Pacific.edu/LegalScholars
Fast-track Your Legal Education

Pacific Legal Scholars Program
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Scholarship Opportunities

• $3,000 Pacific Legal Scholarship
  Exceptional incoming students may be competitive for this renewable award.

• $10,000 Pacific McGeorge Scholarship
  One-year scholarship for study at McGeorge for 3+3-eligible Legal Scholars.

• Other McGeorge awards include one-year book stipends and housing fee reductions for 3+3 candidates only.

Contact the Outreach Coordinator for information on these and other scholarship opportunities.

Contact information:

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