

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

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I. INTRODUCTION

The School of Law is an independent academic unit of Regent University and has its own policies and procedures that affect students and faculty. The purpose of this manual is to inform those associated with the School of Law of the policies, practices, and procedures concerning the governance and operation of the School of Law. This manual is provided to students and applicants for their general guidance only. It does not constitute a contract, either express or implied, and is subject to change at the university's discretion.

This manual offers additional information to that offered by other university policies and procedures (e.g., Regent University Student Handbook, University Graduate Catalog, etc.) to assist students with managing their academic programs. Faculty policies and procedures are housed on Canvas under "Law Faculty Resources." Some of the policies and procedures in this manual differ from university policies and procedures, and an effort has been made to highlight any distinctions. While every effort is made to ensure that there are no unintentional discrepancies between program/school handbooks and university policies, if unintentional discrepancies do occur, university policies take precedence.

Students in the J.D. program are the primary audience for this manual, although some policies and procedures may apply to students in the B.A., M.A., or LL.M. program. Any questions about the applicability of any particular policy or procedure to students in the B.A., M.A., or LL.M. program should be directed to the School of Law administration.

As new and additional policies are adopted, they will be posted and will be incorporated in future editions of this manual.

II. MISSION

The mission of the School of Law of Regent University is within the general mission of Regent University to bring glory to God and to His Son, Jesus Christ, through the Holy Spirit. The more specific mission of the School of Law is to bring to bear upon legal education and the legal profession the will of almighty God, our Creator. In particular, this mission includes:

- A. The education and training of students to become excellent lawyers within the standards of the legal profession;
- B. The grounding of students in Biblical foundations of law, legal institutions, and processes of conflict resolution; the recognition of questions of righteousness in the operation of law; and the pursuit of true justice through professional legal service;
- C. The nurture and encouragement of students toward becoming mature Christians exercising the gifts of the Holy Spirit and showing the fruit of the Holy Spirit in their personal and professional lives; and

D. The nurture and encouragement of other law students, practicing lawyers, judges, legislators, government officials, educators and others to recognize and to seek the Biblical foundations of law, to recognize questions of righteousness in the operation of the law; and to pursue true justice.

III. LAW SCHOOL GOVERNANCE

A. Administration and Accreditation

The School of Law is governed by the Dean and the law school faculty. The administrative structure of the School of Law can be found on the School of Law's website at www.regent.edu/acad/schlaw/faculty-staff/staff.cfm.

Note: wherever this manual refers to "Associate Dean" with no further designation, this term means the administrator who has been assigned by the Dean as having primary responsibility for student affairs and services, however titled.

The American Bar Association (ABA) approves law schools by determining if they meet its standards for curriculum, faculty, and services. As an ABA-approved law school, the School of Law has demonstrated that it is operating in compliance with each of the ABA Standards for Approval of Law Schools. Compliance with the ABA Standards is regularly monitored, and comprehensive reviews are conducted every tenth year. If a prospective, current, or former student has a concern about the School of Law's compliance with the ABA Standards, the student should submit the concern using the "Student Feedback" link on the School of Law's "ABA Required Disclosures" webpage: www.regent.edu/school-of-law/about-regent-law/aba-required-disclosures/. Students are encouraged to reference the specific ABA Standard(s) of concern. The student's complaint will be sent to the Associate Dean, who will acknowledge receipt of the student's concern within three business days of receipt and will relay the information to the administrator or faculty member working most closely with the situation. If the student requests a response, the Associate Dean or the administrator or faculty member involved will respond within ten business days to (1) request more information from the student; (2) inform the student of any action the School of Law is taking to resolve the matter; or (3) indicate that more time is needed to address the matter, with a specific indication of what steps are being taken. If more information is requested and provided, a response indicating what action the School of Law is taking to address the matter will be sent to the student within ten business days of receipt of the additional information. If a student is dissatisfied with the School of Law's response, the student may appeal to the Dean within ten business days of receiving the response.

B. Faculty

The School of Law has a diverse and distinguished faculty. Members of the faculty have published extensively, and all of them have legal experience in private practice, public interest legal work, corporate representation, and/or government service. The school is justly proud of the accomplishments of its faculty members. Collectively, the faculty

provides an outstanding and rich legal education for Regent students. Faculty members and their credentials are listed on the School of Law's website at www.regent.edu/school-of-law/faculty-directory/.

C. Faculty Committees

The following standing committees serve the School of Law:

- 1. ABA Self-Study Committee
- 2. Academic Policies Committee
- 3. Admissions Committee
- 4. AI Committee
- 5. Bar Examination Preparation Committee
- 6. Clerkship Committee
- 5. Curriculum Committee
- 6. Experiential Learning Committee
- 7. Faculty Appointments Committee
- 8. Finance Committee
- 9. Instruction & Assessment Committee
- 10. Library Committee
- 11. M.A./LL.M./B.A. in Law Committee
- 12. Promotion, Tenure, and Confirmation Committee

IV. ADMISSIONS

A. Transfer and Visiting Students

Regent University School of Law admits a limited number of transfer students. Regent University School of Law does not have any articulation agreements with any other law schools. No third-year transfer students will be accepted; however, a third-year student may apply to attend the School of Law on Visiting Student status. Any applicant for transfer must submit, along with the application for admission, a letter signed by the dean of the student's current law school certifying that the applicant is a student in good standing and eligible to return to that school. The applicant for transfer to the School of Law must state whether he or she is applying for admission to the traditional J.D. or flexible J.D. program.

A maximum of 32 semester credits or 45 quarter credits may be accepted for transfer credit. Only courses with grades of "C" (or equivalent) or better and which are equivalent to courses at Regent or which have acceptable course content will be accepted. The School of Law will not accept the transfer of the student's GPA from the previous law school for any reason.

The School of Law may grant J.D. credit for courses completed at another ABAapproved law school if the courses were undertaken as a J.D. student. The School of Law will not grant more than 30 credit hours toward a J.D. degree for any of the following (individually or in combination): (1) courses completed at a law school in the United States that is not approved by the ABA Council on Legal Education but has been granted the power to confer the J.D. degree by the appropriate governmental authority in the unapproved law school's jurisdiction, or if graduates of the unapproved law school are permitted to sit for the bar examination in the jurisdiction in which the unapproved law school is located, provided that the courses were undertaken as a J.D. degree student and the School of Law would have granted credit toward satisfaction of J.D. degree requirements if earned at the School of Law; (2) courses completed at a law school outside of the United States, provided that the School of Law would have granted credit toward satisfaction of J.D. degree requirements if earned at the School of Law; (3) credit hours earned in an LL.M. or other post-J.D. program at a law school outside the United States, provided that the student graduated from the law school, that study led to successful completion of a J.D. degree course or courses while the student was enrolled in a post-J.D. degree law program and the law school has a grading system for LL.M. students in J.D. courses that is comparable to the grading system for J.D. degree students in the course.

The School of Law may transfer credit hours for credit earned toward a graduate degree before the student's matriculation into the School of Law's J.D. program, provided that the student was enrolled in a joint degree program at a law school that would have allowed credit for the non-J.D. coursework had it been completed contemporaneously with the joint degree program, the credit would have counted toward the J.D. degree had the student been enrolled in the joint degree program at the time the credits were earned, and the credit was earned no more than three years prior to the student's matriculation

into the School of Law's J.D. program. The non-J.D. coursework can be completed in another department, school, or college of the university with which the School of Law is affiliated or at another institution of higher learning, provided that the courses are ones the School of Law would have allowed credit for had they been taken as part of its joint J.D. program.

The School of Law will not grant credit toward a J.D. degree for work taken in a preadmission program.

As with all Regent law students, transfer students must complete a total of six credits of constitutional law to fulfill the School of Law J.D. curriculum. Credits of constitutional law taken at a previous law school may count towards the six credits. The balance of credits needed must be taken from LAW 683 Constitutional Law I and LAW 684 Constitutional Law II offered at Regent. The appropriate course will be determined in the discretion of the Associate Dean in consultation with the current constitutional law instructors based on the coverage of issues taught by the previous law school. Students may therefore end up completing more than six credits of constitutional law. Additional hours may still be accepted for transfer as elective hours.

Students interested in attending Regent University School of Law as a Visiting Student must submit (1) an application for admission; (2) the nonrefundable application fee; (3) a personal statement explaining why he or she desires to be a Visiting Student; (4) a letter of good academic standing from the current law school authorizing the student to enroll at the School of Law as a Visiting Student; (5) at least one academic letter of recommendation from a law faculty member and either a spiritual letter of recommendation (preferred) or a general/employer recommendation; and (6) official undergraduate, graduate (non-law), and law school transcripts (including fall and spring grades for each year attended), as applicable. (Regarding transcripts, an updated Credential Assembly Service (CAS) report, to include the official undergraduate transcript on file at LSAC, must show conferral of the student's degree. Official transcripts for any graduate work (non-law) should also be on file at LSAC, and if a graduate degree was granted, the transcript must show conferral of the student's degree. A student's LSAC account is active for 5 years. If the student's LSAC account is still active, Regent will obtain the CAS report from LSAC; however, if the student's LSAC account is no longer active, the student will need to request a copy of his or her CAS report from the current law school and send it to Regent at apply@regent.edu.)

B. Non-Degree Student Status

1. Regular Applicant

Persons who are not students at Regent University may apply for admission to the School of Law on a non-degree status. Such a person must make application by the normal university application procedures described in the Graduate Catalog. A person who earns credit in the School of Law on a non-degree status, however, may not later apply such credit toward a J.D. degree if that student applies for degree-seeking status.

2. Virginia Law Reader Program Applicant

A special policy is applied to non-degree applicants who are participating in the Virginia Law Reader Program or similar programs. The School of Law will not follow the regular university standards and procedures in such cases. Rather, admission of such applicants to non-degree student status shall be governed by the following criteria:

- a. Same formal admission eligibility requirements as are required for a degree-seeking student;
- b. A limit of 9 semester hours of courses per semester with no more than 2 classes per semester;
- c. Full class participation, including the taking of examinations (or other evaluation instrument) for a grade;
- d. Maintain a 2.200 cumulative law GPA at the end of each semester;
- e. A program of study emphasizing methods of legal reasoning and Biblical foundations of law;
- f. Admission of individual students will be made by the full faculty upon recommendation of the Admissions Committee.

C. Readmission After Voluntary Withdrawal/Failure to Enroll/Mid-Semester Administrative Withdrawal

1. Notice of Policy for Readmission Given at time of Voluntary Withdrawal

Each student who is going to voluntarily withdraw shall be counseled by the Associate Dean of the School of Law. The student will be advised of the readmission policies. No advance approval for readmission will be given, except in exceptional cases and then only by the Dean of the School of Law.

2. Procedure and Requirements: Petitions for Readmission

- a. Notwithstanding any university policy to the contrary, students desiring readmission after they have voluntarily withdrawn or failed to enroll or after they have been administratively withdrawn mid-semester must petition the Dean for readmission, even if they had a passing cumulative law GPA at the time of voluntary withdrawal, failure to enroll, or mid-semester administrative withdrawal.
- b. Students desiring readmission after they have voluntarily withdrawn or failed to enroll or after they have been administratively withdrawn midsemester must also contact the university Registrar's Office for readmission requirements if they have been separated from the School of Law for more than one academic year. Students petitioning for reinstatement into a term that is more than one full academic year after their withdrawal or failure to enroll may be required to complete new law

school application materials or provide other information requested by the School of Law's Dean of Admissions. If readmitted, students who have not been enrolled for more than one academic year must meet the degree requirements in the catalog year of readmission.

- c. The Dean of the School of Law shall determine the disposition of all petitions for readmission. Reinstatement may be conditioned upon successful completion of certain academic or other requirements.
- d. Petitions for readmission shall be judged by the following standards:
 - i. A student who voluntarily withdraws or is administratively withdrawn prior to the completion of one semester may be granted readmission in the discretion of the Dean.
 - ii. A student who voluntarily withdraws or fails to enroll after completing at least one semester, or is administratively withdrawn mid-semester after having completed at least one semester, and who has a cumulative law GPA of 2.000 or greater (2.200 or greater for students matriculating in Fall 2023 or later) must show that the circumstances which led to the student's withdrawal or failure to enroll no longer exist.
 - iii. A student who voluntarily withdraws or fails to enroll after completing at least one semester, or is administratively withdrawn mid-semester after having completed at least one semester, and who has a cumulative law GPA below 2.000 (2.200 for students matriculating in Fall 2023 or later) must show that there is a strong likelihood the student possesses the motivation and capacity to complete successfully the J.D. program and pass a bar examination.
- e. Students petitioning for readmission must state whether they are petitioning for traditional J.D. or flexible J.D. student status.
- f. Petitions for reinstatement following a student's dismissal/administrative withdrawal at the end of a semester shall not be governed by these procedures. Petitions following dismissal/administrative withdrawal at the end of a semester shall be governed by the procedures outlined in the Academic Probation and Dismissal/Administrative Withdrawal policy.

D. Leave of Absence

Notwithstanding any university policy to the contrary, the Associate Dean has discretion to allow students to take a leave of absence from their law studies for up to one year for good cause shown. The Associate Dean will not grant requests for a longer leave of

absence unless the student demonstrates exigent circumstances. Students who take a leave of absence must still comply with Section V.C, which provides that absent extraordinary circumstances (e.g., unexpected active duty service in the United States military), traditional J.D. students must meet all credit hour, curricular, and grade requirements within five calendar years from the date of entry into the School of Law and that flexible J.D. students (or previously traditional J.D. students switching to the flexible J.D. program) must meet such requirements within six calendar years from the date of entry into the School of Law.

E. Financial Assistance

1. Types of Awards

Regent University has many forms of financial aid available, including scholarships, grants, tuition discounts for military and participation in the federal student loan program. Financial aid awards available to law students include grants in recognition of outstanding leadership or work in public service, and academic merit, endowed, and restricted scholarships. Academic merit scholarships are awarded to students whose LSAT scores and previous undergraduate academic record demonstrate strong potential for law school achievement. The maximum amount for financial aid awards cannot exceed 100% of tuition, while the total financial aid package may cover tuition, fees, and a modest living allowance. Complete descriptions and criteria for all financial aid awards are available on the School of Law financial aid website.

2. Availability of Loans

In addition to a student's financial aid award, Regent University students may participate in the Title IV federally guaranteed student loan program offering the Unsubsidized Stafford loan up to a predetermined amount per academic year and the Grad PLUS loan offering up to the full cost of attendance. The cost of attendance covers tuition, fees, and a modest living allowance while in law school. Students may apply for federal loans as of January 1 each year by submitting the FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov and selecting Regent University. Eligibility for the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford loan is based upon the student's default history on prior student loans; while eligibility for the federal Grad PLUS loan is based upon whether a student has adverse credit history. Therefore, students are strongly advised to examine current credit reports and to correct any issues found therein to ensure eligibility for federal loans prior to attending law school. For additional information regarding federal loans, please contact the university's Financial Aid Office at 757-352-4385 or email finaid@regent.edu.

3. Administration of Financial Aid

Incoming students are automatically considered for law scholarship and grants based upon their admission file and do not need to complete a separate financial

aid application. Scholarships do not stack, but students are awarded the highest and best award for which they are eligible. Generally, scholarships and grants are *not* available for the summer term. However, federal loans are available for summer classes as long as the student is enrolled in at least 3 summer credit hours. For continuing law students, financial aid awards are assessed annually after spring grades are released. Scholarships and grants are presumed to renew at the existing level each year assuming all renewal criteria are met, including remaining as a student in good disciplinary standing and that the student does not qualify for a higher award.

Receipt of any School of Law award is contingent on the student's adherence to the Regent University Honor Code and School of Law Academic Integrity Standards, the university's Standard of Personal Conduct, and assumes continuous enrollment for the entire semester. All awards are subject to availability of funds. All School of Law awards may be applied only up to a total of 90 credit hours (83 hours for joint degrees candidates). All School of Law awards to traditional J.D. students may be applied only over three years. Any student wishing to apply a School of Law award to more than 90 credit hours may petition the Associate Dean for permission. Financial aid is available only for students taking classes for academic credit; no aid is available for students auditing courses or for visiting students. Students must complete an application by March 1 each year in order to be considered for a university endowed scholarship. Scholarships and grants are awarded at the discretion of the School of Law and may be discontinued or revised at any time.

Students with scholarship and grant concerns or loan questions should contact the Office of Law Admissions & Financial Aid at 757-352-4584 or email lawschool@regent.edu with your student number. More information regarding financial aid can be found through the School of Law's website at https://www.regent.edu/school-of-law/law-admissions-requirements/financing-your-education/# and the university's Financial Aid website at www.regent.edu/tuition-aid/financial-aid/.

Students are encouraged to explore funding from sources outside of the university. Information is available on the university's Financial Aid website (www.regent.edu/tuition-aid/financial-aid/) as well as www.fastweb.com and www.wiredscholar.com.

F. Non-Discrimination Policy

Regent University School of Law, motivated by the Christian character of the university of which it is an integral part, recognizes the inherent value and dignity of all members of the human family and celebrates diversity both within and among institutions. The School prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, gender, age, disability, military status or status as a veteran or disabled veteran. The School maintains its Christian character, but does not discriminate on the basis of religion, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression except to the extent that

applicable law respects its right to act in furtherance of its religious objective. The School fully accepts the teaching of the traditional biblical view with regard to marriage, gender, and sexual conduct outside the bonds of matrimony. Consistent with those teachings, the School does not discriminate purely on the basis of an individual's professed sexual orientation or gender identity, but only with regard to accompanying conduct or other actions that undermine the University's Christian character. All Regent University employees and Regent Representatives are expected to share and model the religious commitments and beliefs set forth in the University's Statement of Faith and Christian Community and Mission Policy.

V. PROGRAM ENROLLMENT, DEGREE REQUIREMENTS, AND ACADEMIC ADVISING

A. Traditional J.D. and Flexible J.D. Student Status/Course Load

The School of Law offers both a traditional and flexible J.D. program.

- 1. At the time of application, prospective students must indicate whether application is being made for the flexible or the traditional program. First-year traditional J.D. students must enroll in all courses that are required for the first year, and traditional J.D. students are expected to graduate in three years (requiring a typical semester course load of 14-16 academic credit hours). After acceptance, but before enrollment, students may change their status (from flexible to traditional or vice-versa) only with the permission of the Admissions Committee. Acceptance to the traditional program does not in any sense guarantee acceptance to the flexible program, nor does acceptance into the flexible program guarantee acceptance to the traditional program.
- 2. Absent exceptional circumstances (as determined by the Associate Dean) and until successful completion of all 1L coursework, all students must remain in the program (traditional or flexible) to which they were admitted. In exceptional circumstances after petition to the Associate Dean, a first-year student may be permitted to drop one or more courses after enrollment and take fewer than the required first-year courses in an academic semester.
- 3. After completion of all 1L coursework, traditional J.D. students who seek to enroll in or drop to fewer than twelve credit hours in any semester must submit a petition to the Associate Dean and present good cause for doing so.
- 4. Flexible program.
 - a. All first-year flexible J.D. students must take Foundations of Law (2) in the first semester, Foundations of Practice (1) in the second semester, and Legal Analysis, Research & Writing I & II (3,3) in the first and second semesters, respectively. In addition, in the first year, students will take two of the following course sequences: Contracts I, II (3,2); Property I, II (3,3); Torts I, II (2,3); Civil Procedure I, II (2,3). Depending on the courses chosen, this will result in a first-semester course load of nine, ten, or eleven hours. In the second semester, all flexible J.D. students will have a minimum of nine hours (Legal Analysis, Research & Writing II, Foundations of Practice, plus the second semester of two doctrinal course sequences). In addition, second-semester first-year flexible J.D. students may enroll in Criminal Law.
 - b. In the second year, students will enroll in and complete the two basic doctrinal courses not taken in the first year (Torts, Contracts, Property, Civil Procedure).

5. Academic Success Program

Regent conducts an Academic Success Program (ASP) designed to help students achieve academic success in law school. The ASP has three components:

- a. A summer program that provides an intensive class designed to develop critical reading, analytical, study, and test-taking skills. The Office of Admissions and Admissions Committee select admitted students to participate in the summer program if they possess a strong likelihood of success in law school, but due to their LSAT scores, undergraduate GPAs, or other factors, would benefit from an extended Orientation. Students who are not selected to participate also have the option to participate voluntarily. Students participating in the summer program will be registered for the Strategies for Academic Success course in the fall semester for 1 credit hour. (This additional credit will mean that the total number of semester credit hours carried by these students in their first year will vary from total semester credit hour numbers stated elsewhere in this manual.)
- b. Study skills workshops held during the school year designed to supplement the summer program and academic Orientation material and addressing topics such as techniques for briefing cases, outlining courses, solving legal problems, and preparing for and taking law school examinations.
- c. One-on-one advising by ASP faculty and peers to mentor students in a series of meetings designed to facilitate academic success.

B. Academic Advising

All students will be assigned a faculty mentor in the students' first year to assist them in developing career objectives and choosing academic courses. As students begin to develop career objectives and personal preferences, they may change mentors to the faculty member of their choice as long as they obtain permission of their current mentor and new, intended mentor and notify the Student Affairs and Records Office.

It is the student's responsibility to meet the requirements of the degree as established by the faculty, administration, and Board of Trustees and as set forth in the Regent University Graduate Catalog and this manual, and it is important that the student meet with his or her mentor and/or with the administration concerning course selection, sequential courses, and prerequisite courses. Mentors are available to assist students during the registration process and throughout the year, but students shall be responsible for taking the initiative to obtain advising. Starting in the spring of 1L year, students are required to obtain academic advising every semester. Students must complete a Certificate of Advising and Degree Program Checklist, both signed by their mentor,

before registering each semester for the following semester. In the fall of their 3L year, students must also complete an update to their 1L Foundations of Practice Discernment Plan, signed by their mentor, that specifically addresses post-graduation job plans and steps to obtain a job, if one has not yet been secured.

If a student fails to submit to the Student Affairs and Records Office a completed Certificate of Advising and Degree Program Checklist with the student's mentor's signature, a hold will be placed on the student's account and the student will be unable to view grades for the preceding academic term or to register for future academic terms. Likewise, 3L students who fail to submit the update to their Discernment Plan in the fall will have a hold placed on their account.

A student who desires to take more than 16 credit hours during any fall or spring semester (or more than 8 credit hours during any summer semester) must complete an academic petition and have the petition approved by Associate Dean. No student, however, will be allowed to take more than 18 law credit hours in any one term.

C. GPA Requirement, Credit Hours, and Time Limits for Coursework

The J.D. degree requires a minimum of 90 credit hours; joint degrees students must earn a minimum of 83 credit hours. Absent extraordinary circumstances, traditional J.D. students must meet all credit hour, curricular, and grade requirements within five calendar years from the date of entry into the School of Law, and flexible J.D. students (or previously traditional J.D. students switching to the flexible J.D. program) must meet such requirements within six calendar years from the date of entry into the School of Law.

A "credit hour" is an amount of work that reasonably approximates: (1) not less than one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and two hours of out-of-class student work per week for fifteen weeks, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time; or (2) at least an equivalent amount of work as required in (1) for other academic activities as established by the School of Law, including simulation, field placement, clinical, co-curricular, and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours.

For each credit hour, each J.D. course requires the equivalent of 45 hours of classroom or direct faculty instruction and out-of-class student work. For each class, the instructor will consider in this determination projected classroom or direct faculty instruction and anticipated time investment for class preparation, assigned papers and projects, and assessment studying and administration.

The ABA views a 50-minute class as satisfying the weekly hour contemplated. Based on the fifty minutes of classroom or direct faculty instruction and two hours of out-of-class student work per week over the fifteen-week (or its equivalent) period, at least 42.5 hours of total in-class instruction and out-of-class student work is required per credit [15 x 50 minutes + 15 x 2 hours]. Time devoted to taking a required final examination may count toward the in-class time required, and time devoted to studying for a required final

examination may count toward the out-of-class time required. However, merely scheduling a general "exam week" or "exam weeks" does not permit allocating "exam time" to every class. To count time spent studying for and taking a final examination, an exam of appropriate length must be required for the particular class.

Ten minutes shall be added to each class session for the purpose of prayer and devotion. Prayer and devotion activities during a course shall not exceed an average of ten minutes per class session.

Candidates for the J.D. degree must, as a general rule, meet the credit hour, curricular, and grade requirements in effect at the time of their admission. Students who separate from the School of Law for any reason and later re-enter the School of Law after more than one calendar year has elapsed will be bound by the credit hour, curricular, and grade requirements in effect at the time of their readmission. A waiver of certain new or changed requirements may be granted only for good cause shown.

D. Curricular Requirements

The nature, content, and number of units awarded for courses are subject to change without notice. The J.D. curriculum is set forth below. Elective courses are offered according to faculty availability and student enrollment.

Traditional J.D. Program

First Year Required Courses

Fall Semester	·	15
	Foundations of Law	
LAW 521	Contracts I	3
	Torts I	
LAW 551	Civil Procedure I	2
LAW 552	Legal Analysis, Research & Writing I	3
LAW 561	Property I	3
Spring Semes	ster	15
	Foundations of Practice	
LAW 522	Contracts II	2
LAW 542	Torts II	3
LAW 553	Legal Analysis, Research & Writing II	3
	Civil Procedure II	
LAW 562	Property II	3
Flexible J.D.	Program	
First Year		
Fall Semester		9-11
LAW 511	Foundations of Law	2
LAW 552	Legal Analysis, Research & Writing I	3
Students w	vill take 2 of the following courses in the first semester:	

LAW 521 Contracts I	3
LAW 541 Torts I	2
LAW 551 Civil Procedure I	
LAW 561 Property I	3
Spring Semester9	-10
LAW 512 Foundations of Practice	1
LAW 553 Legal Analysis, Research & Writing II	3
Students will complete the second semester of the sequenced courses begun in the first	
semester:	
LAW 522 Contracts II	
LAW 542 Torts II	3
LAW 554 Civil Procedure II	3
LAW 562 Property II	
In addition, second-semester first-year flexible J.D. students also may enroll in Criminal Law	

NOTE: In the second year, flexible J.D. students must take the remaining first year courses. In addition, second-year flexible J.D. students will complete their schedule with upper-level courses.

Upper Level Required Courses (For Students Matriculating Fall 2022 or Before)

(1) Common	Core (9 or 10 courses/25 or 27 hours required)	
LAW 531	Criminal Law	3
LAW 602	Business Structures & Agency	3
	Sales	
LAW 631	Constitutional Criminal Procedure I*	2
	Evidence	
LAW 683	Constitutional Law I	3
LAW 684	Constitutional Law II	3
LAW 691	Professional Responsibility**	3
LAW 737	Comparative Written Legal Analysis*** OR	2
LAW 738	Virginia Written Legal Analysis***	
LAW 739	Advanced Analytical Legal Methods***	2
(2) Limited e	electives****Choose at least three of the following courses:	
	Secured Transactions (UCC II)	
LAW 661	Family Law	3
LAW 662	Wills, Trusts & Estates	3
LAW 746	Virginia Procedure****	3
LAW 783	Conflict of Laws	2

^{*} Beginning Spring 2025, students may satisfy this 2-credit requirement by taking LAW 638 (Constitutional Criminal Procedure) for 3 credits.

See Section V.I. below for the qualifications to become an Honors Student.

^{**}Professional Responsibility must be taken during a student's second year, for traditional J.D. students, or during a student's second or third year, for flexible J.D. students.

^{***} LAW 739 is mandatory for all students <u>in their final spring semester on campus</u>. Students with a cumulative law GPA below 3.000 at the end of their first year, for traditional J.D. students, or at the end of their second year, for flexible J.D. students, must also take LAW 737 or 738, depending on which bar examination they intend to take, <u>in their final fall semester on campus</u>. Any student may take any of these courses as electives.

^{****} Honors Students are exempted from the requirements in (2).

^{*****} Virginia Procedure is required for any non-Honors student, except Honors Students, to be certified by the School of Law to take the Virginia Bar Examination.

Experiential/Oral Skills Requirement

Students must take at least one course from the list of Experiential and Oral Skills menu and a second course from either the Experiential and Oral Skills menu or the Additional Experiential menu, for a total of no fewer than six hours.

LAW 655 Negotiations 3 LAW 656 General Mediation 3 LAW 658 Civil Practice Clinic 3 LAW 660 Client Interviewing & Counseling 3 LAW 667 Family Mediation 3 LAW 744 Advanced Trial Practice I 1-2 LAW 745 Advanced Trial Practice II 1-2 LAW 778 Advanced Appellate Advocacy I* 1-3 LAW 779 Advanced Appellate Advocacy II* 1-3 Additional Experiential 4-10 LAW 595 Apprenticeship 4-10 LAW 780 Right to Work Practicum 1-3 LAW 781 Estate Planning 3 LAW 782 Civil Litigation Practicum 2-3 LAW 780 Civil Litigation Practicum 2-3 LAW 780 Child Advocacy Clinic 1-3 LAW 780 Externship 1-3 LAW 795 Externship 1-5 Rigorous Written Skills Requirement At least one hour is required of all students. LAW 590 Independent Study** 1-2 LAW 650 Appellate Advocacy* 3 LAW 748 Academic Legal Scholarship** 2 LAW 748 Advanced Legal Research & Writing 3 LAW 778 Advanced Appellate Advocacy I*	Experiential and Oral Skills
LAW 655 Negotiations 3 LAW 656 General Mediation 3 LAW 658 Civil Practice Clinic 3 LAW 660 Client Interviewing & Counseling 3 LAW 667 Family Mediation 3 LAW 744 Advanced Trial Practice I 1-2 LAW 745 Advanced Trial Practice II 1-2 LAW 778 Advanced Appellate Advocacy I* 1-3 LAW 779 Advanced Appellate Advocacy II* 1-3 Additional Experiential 4-10 LAW 595 Apprenticeship 4-10 LAW 780 Right to Work Practicum 1-3 LAW 781 Estate Planning 3 LAW 782 Civil Litigation Practicum 2-3 LAW 780 Civil Litigation Practicum 2-3 LAW 780 Child Advocacy Clinic 1-3 LAW 780 Externship 1-3 LAW 795 Externship 1-5 Rigorous Written Skills Requirement At least one hour is required of all students. LAW 590 Independent Study** 1-2 LAW 650 Appellate Advocacy* 3 LAW 748 Academic Legal Scholarship** 2 LAW 748 Advanced Legal Research & Writing 3 LAW 778 Advanced Appellate Advocacy I*	LAW 650 Appellate Advocacy*
LAW 656 General Mediation 3 LAW 658 Civil Practice Clinic 3 LAW 660 Client Interviewing & Counseling 3 LAW 667 Family Mediation 3 LAW 744 Advanced Trial Practice I 1-2 LAW 745 Advanced Trial Practice II 1-2 LAW 778 Advanced Appellate Advocacy I* 1-3 LAW 779 Advanced Appellate Advocacy II* 1-3 Additional Experiential 4-10 LAW 595 Apprenticeship 4-10 LAW 798 Right to Work Practicum 1-3 LAW 757 Drafting Contracts 3 LAW 763 Estate Planning 3 LAW 780 Civil Litigation Practicum 2-3 LAW 780 Civil Litigation Practicum 2-3 LAW 780IM Immigration Law Practicum 1-3 LAW 795 Externship 1-5 Rigorous Written Skills Requirement At least one hour is required of all students. LAW 590 Independent Study** 1-2 LAW 650 Appellate Advocacy* 3 LAW 748 Academic Legal Scholarship** 2 LAW 755/756 Advanced Legal Research & Writing 3 LAW 779 Advanced Appellate Advocacy I* 1-3 LAW 779 Adv	LAW 654 Trial Practice
LAW 658 Civil Practice Clinic 3 LAW 660 Client Interviewing & Counseling 3 LAW 667 Family Mediation 3 LAW 744 Advanced Trial Practice I 1-2 LAW 745 Advanced Trial Practice II 1-2 LAW 778 Advanced Appellate Advocacy I* 1-3 LAW 779 Advanced Appellate Advocacy II* 1-3 Additional Experiential 4-10 LAW 595 Apprenticeship 4-10 LAW 708 Right to Work Practicum 1-3 LAW 757 Drafting Contracts 3 LAW 763 Estate Planning 3 LAW 780 Civil Litigation Practicum 2-3 LAW 780CA Child Advocacy Clinic 1-3 LAW 780IM Immigration Law Practicum 1-3 LAW 795 Externship 1-5 Rigorous Written Skills Requirement At least one hour is required of all students. LAW 590 Independent Study** 1-2 LAW 650 Appellate Advocacy* 1-3 LAW 748 Academic Legal Scholarship** 2 LAW 748 Advanced Legal Research & Writing 3 LAW 775 Advanced Appellate Advocacy I* 1-3 LAW 779 Advanced Appellate Advocacy II* 1-3 <th>LAW 655 Negotiations</th>	LAW 655 Negotiations
LAW 660 Client Interviewing & Counseling. 3 LAW 667 Family Mediation 3 LAW 744 Advanced Trial Practice I 1-2 LAW 745 Advanced Appellate Advocacy I* 1-3 LAW 779 Advanced Appellate Advocacy II* 1-3 Additional Experiential 3 LAW 595 Apprenticeship. 4-10 LAW 708 Right to Work Practicum 1-3 LAW 757 Drafting Contracts 3 LAW 763 Estate Planning 3 LAW 780 Civil Litigation Practicum. 2-3 LAW 780 Civil Litigation Practicum 2-3 LAW 780IM Immigration Law Practicum 1-3 LAW 795 Externship 1-5 Rigorous Written Skills Requirement At least one hour is required of all students. LAW 590 Independent Study** 1-5 LAW 590 Independent Clegal Scholarship** 2 LAW 748 Academic Legal Scholarship** 2 LAW 755/756 Advanced Legal Research & Writing 3 LAW 778 Advanced Appellate Advocacy I* 1-3 LAW 779 Advanced Appellate Advocacy II* 1-3	
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LAW 779 Advanced Appellate Advocacy II* 1-3 Additional Experiential 4-10 LAW 595 Apprenticeship 4-10 LAW 708 Right to Work Practicum 1-3 LAW 757 Drafting Contracts 3 LAW 763 Estate Planning 3 LAW 780 Civil Litigation Practicum 2-3 LAW 780CA Child Advocacy Clinic 1-3 LAW 780IM Immigration Law Practicum 1-3 LAW 795 Externship 1-5 Rigorous Written Skills Requirement At least one hour is required of all students. LAW 590 Independent Study** 1-2 LAW 650 Appellate Advocacy* 3 LAW 748 Academic Legal Scholarship** 2 LAW 755/756 Advanced Legal Research & Writing 3 LAW 778 Advanced Appellate Advocacy I* 1-3 LAW 779 Advanced Appellate Advocacy II* 1-3	
Additional Experiential 4-10 LAW 595 Apprenticeship. 1-3 LAW 708 Right to Work Practicum 1-3 LAW 757 Drafting Contracts 3 LAW 763 Estate Planning 3 LAW 780 Civil Litigation Practicum 2-3 LAW 780CA Child Advocacy Clinic 1-3 LAW 780IM Immigration Law Practicum 1-3 LAW 795 Externship 1-5 Rigorous Written Skills Requirement At least one hour is required of all students. LAW 590 Independent Study** 1-2 LAW 650 Appellate Advocacy* 3 LAW 748 Academic Legal Scholarship** 2 LAW 755/756 Advanced Legal Research & Writing 3 LAW 778 Advanced Appellate Advocacy I* 1-3 LAW 779 Advanced Appellate Advocacy II* 1-3	
LAW 595 Apprenticeship. 4-10 LAW 708 Right to Work Practicum 1-3 LAW 757 Drafting Contracts 3 LAW 763 Estate Planning 3 LAW 780 Civil Litigation Practicum 2-3 LAW 780CA Child Advocacy Clinic 1-3 LAW 780IM Immigration Law Practicum 1-3 LAW 795 Externship 1-5 Rigorous Written Skills Requirement 1-5 At least one hour is required of all students. 1-2 LAW 590 Independent Study** 1-2 LAW 650 Appellate Advocacy* 3 LAW 748 Academic Legal Scholarship** 2 LAW 755/756 Advanced Legal Research & Writing 3 LAW 778 Advanced Appellate Advocacy I* 1-3 LAW 779 Advanced Appellate Advocacy II* 1-3	LAW 779 Advanced Appellate Advocacy II*1-3
LAW 595 Apprenticeship. 4-10 LAW 708 Right to Work Practicum 1-3 LAW 757 Drafting Contracts 3 LAW 763 Estate Planning 3 LAW 780 Civil Litigation Practicum 2-3 LAW 780CA Child Advocacy Clinic 1-3 LAW 780IM Immigration Law Practicum 1-3 LAW 795 Externship 1-5 Rigorous Written Skills Requirement 1-5 At least one hour is required of all students. 1-2 LAW 590 Independent Study** 1-2 LAW 650 Appellate Advocacy* 3 LAW 748 Academic Legal Scholarship** 2 LAW 755/756 Advanced Legal Research & Writing 3 LAW 778 Advanced Appellate Advocacy I* 1-3 LAW 779 Advanced Appellate Advocacy II* 1-3	Additional Experiential
LAW 708 Right to Work Practicum 1-3 LAW 757 Drafting Contracts 3 LAW 763 Estate Planning 3 LAW 780 Civil Litigation Practicum 2-3 LAW 780CA Child Advocacy Clinic 1-3 LAW 780IM Immigration Law Practicum 1-3 LAW 795 Externship 1-5 Rigorous Written Skills Requirement At least one hour is required of all students. LAW 590 Independent Study** 1-2 LAW 650 Appellate Advocacy* 3 LAW 748 Academic Legal Scholarship** 2 LAW 755/756 Advanced Legal Research & Writing 3 LAW 778 Advanced Appellate Advocacy I* 1-3 LAW 779 Advanced Appellate Advocacy II* 1-3 LAW 779 Advanced Appellate Advocacy II* 1-3	
LAW 763 Estate Planning	LAW 708 Right to Work Practicum1-3
LAW 780 Civil Litigation Practicum	LAW 757 Drafting Contracts
LAW 780CA Child Advocacy Clinic	LAW 763 Estate Planning
LAW 780IM Immigration Law Practicum	LAW 780 Civil Litigation Practicum2-3
LAW 795 Externship	LAW 780CA Child Advocacy Clinic
Rigorous Written Skills Requirement At least one hour is required of all students. LAW 590 Independent Study**	LAW 780IM Immigration Law Practicum
At least one hour is required of all students. LAW 590 Independent Study**	LAW 795 Externship1-5
LAW 590 Independent Study**	Rigorous Written Skills Requirement
LAW 650 Appellate Advocacy*	At least one hour is required of all students.
LAW 650 Appellate Advocacy*	LAW 590 Independent Study**
LAW 748 Academic Legal Scholarship**	
LAW 755/756 Advanced Legal Research & Writing	
LAW 778 Advanced Appellate Advocacy I*	
LAW 779 Advanced Appellate Advocacy II*1-3	
**	LAW 779 Advanced Appellate Advocacy II*1-3
	LAW Seminar/Other Course Designated to Satisfy1-3

^{*}Appellate Advocacy and Advanced Appellate Advocacy can be used to satisfy either the Experiential/Oral Skills requirement or the Written Rigorous Skills requirement, but a single course cannot be used to satisfy both.

^{**}If a student intends to fulfill the rigorous writing requirement via an Independent Study or Academic Legal Scholarship, he or she must register for the Independent Study or Academic Legal Scholarship in a semester prior to the final semester before graduation.

Upper Level Required Courses (For Students Matriculating Fall 2023 or After)

(1) Common Core (7 or 9 courses/22 or 26 hours required) LAW 738 Virginia Written Legal Analysis** (2) Limited electives*** Choose at least three of the following courses:

See Section V.I. below for the qualifications to become an Honors Student.

^{*} Professional Responsibility must be taken during a student's second year, for traditional J.D. students, or during a student's second or third year, for flexible J.D. students.

^{**} Although any of these courses may be taken by any student as an elective, these courses are mandatory only for students with a cumulative law GPA below 3.000 at the end of their first year, for traditional J.D. students, or at the end of their second year, for flexible J.D. students. Students must take LAW 739 in the final spring semester on campus. Students must take LAW 737 or 738, depending on which bar examination they intend to take, in their final fall semester on campus.

^{***} Honors Students are exempted from the requirements in (2).

^{****} Virginia Procedure is required for any student, except Honors Students, to be certified by the School of Law to take the Virginia Bar Examination.

Experiential/Oral Skills Requirement

Students must take at least one course from the list of Experiential and Oral Skills menu and a second course from either the Experiential and Oral Skills menu or the Additional Experiential menu, for a total of no fewer than six hours.

Experiential and Oral Skills
LAW 650 Appellate Advocacy*
LAW 654 Trial Practice
LAW 655 Negotiations
LAW 656 General Mediation
LAW 658 Civil Practice Clinic
LAW 660 Client Interviewing & Counseling
LAW 667 Family Mediation
LAW 744 Advanced Trial Practice I
LAW 745 Advanced Trial Practice II
LAW 778 Advanced Appellate Advocacy I*1-3
LAW 779 Advanced Appellate Advocacy II*1-3
Additional Experiential
LAW 595 Apprenticeship4-10
LAW 708 Right to Work Practicum1-3
LAW 757 Drafting Contracts
LAW 763 Estate Planning
LAW 780 Civil Litigation Practicum2-3
LAW 780CA Child Advocacy Clinic
LAW 780IM Immigration Law Practicum1-3
LAW 795 Externship
Rigorous Written Skills Requirement
At least one hour is required of all students.
LAW 590 Independent Study**1-2
LAW 650 Appellate Advocacy*
LAW 748 Academic Legal Scholarship**2
LAW 755/756 Advanced Legal Research & Writing
LAW 778 Advanced Appellate Advocacy I*1-3
LAW 779 Advanced Appellate Advocacy II*1-3
LAW Seminar/Other Course Designated to Satisfy1-3

^{*}Appellate Advocacy and Advanced Appellate Advocacy can be used to satisfy either the Experiential/Oral Skills requirement or the Written Rigorous Skills requirement, but a single course cannot be used to satisfy both.

^{**}If a student intends to fulfill the rigorous writing requirement via an Independent Study or Academic Legal Scholarship, he or she must register for the Independent Study or Academic Legal Scholarship in a semester prior to the final semester before graduation.

E. Elective Courses

Students will complete their credit hour requirement by choosing from among any of the courses offered by the School of Law for which they have met the necessary prerequisites. Students should be aware that in order to be eligible to sit for the bar examination in certain jurisdictions, particular coursework is required. Students are responsible for researching the curricular requirements for the bar examination(s) they plan to take and for ensuring they take any required courses. Further, in accordance with ABA Standard 311(a), students must complete a minimum of 64 credit hours in courses that require attendance in regularly scheduled classrooms sessions or direct faculty instruction, so students should choose electives accordingly. The 64 credit hours may include participation in simulation courses, law clinics, and distance education courses but do not include participation in field placements (externships/apprenticeships) and other study outside the classroom; participation in co-curricular activities such as law journals, moot court, and trial advocacy; participation in coursework taken through another department, school, or college of the university with which the School of Law is affiliated or at another institution of higher learning; or participation in studies or activities in a country outside the United States in compliance for studies or activities that are not law-related.

F. Degree Program Checklist

A degree program checklist has been developed to help each student plan and know his or her progress in his or her degree program each semester. The checklist is available online on the Student Resources webpage on the myRegent portal.

- 1. Each time a student meets with the student's mentor for academic advising, the student must bring a completed and signed checklist that indicates the courses the student has taken to that point. It is the responsibility of the student to keep an accurate checklist, to know his or her degree requirements, and to enroll in the appropriate courses to meet all graduation requirements.
- 2. Prior to the final academic semester, each student must prepare a completed and signed checklist and submit it to the Student Affairs and Records Office. The checklist will be verified with the student's transcript and will be used to identify what graduation requirements the student has yet to complete.

G. Joint-Degrees Programs

1. General Information

The law faculty has approved joint-degrees programs which require law students to complete 83 semester hours of law classes to earn a J.D. degree. Students may petition to become a joint-degrees student only during their first year of study at Regent. To obtain all 83 semester hours of credit and still preserve some ability to pick law electives, students may enroll in a course which is cross-listed in the School of Law and the other degree granting school, and count the course toward the required 83 hours of law courses and, if the other school allows, toward the

fulfillment of the other degree, as well. All joint-degrees students must complete the same course requirements as single-degree students, including completing the required first-year and upper-level courses and completing the oral and rigorous written skills requirement. Only the elective hours are reduced.

Each joint-degrees program has an approved program which may have additional law school requirements. Joint-degrees students must carefully monitor their courses in both schools to ensure that all degree requirements are satisfied.

Joint-degrees students will find it most helpful to complete their J.D. coursework after completing most of the coursework for their other degree so that they finish their J.D. studies as close as possible to the bar examination. Joint-degrees students may not take courses from other schools while completing their first year of legal studies. After completing all first-year required courses, joint-degrees students may petition the Associate Dean for permission to take courses in other schools while taking law courses. Cross-listed courses, however, may only be taken once. Permission to take an overload (more than 16 hours in both schools combined) requires an appropriate GPA in both schools and limited work hours.

Joint-degrees students may only receive financial aid from one school at a time. Normally, the aid comes from the school in which the students are taking the majority of their hours. For specific information, students should contact the Office of Financial Aid.

Joint-degrees students must be admitted to both schools. Joint-degrees students are awarded both degrees upon completion of the requirements for both degrees. A law student enrolled in a joint-degrees program will not be certified for a bar examination until all course work is completed in the other school and the dean of that school has certified the student has completed all graduation requirements. If a law student withdraws from the other school, that student must satisfy all normal degree requirements for law students.

Joint-degrees students will be assigned an advisor in both schools.

2. Specific Joint Degrees Offered

For more information on the joint degrees offered and the specific requirements of each, see the University Graduate Catalog.

H. Independent Study/Law Journal/Academic Legal Scholarship

1. Traditional/Non-Traditional Independent Study

A law student may request approval from the Associate Dean to conduct an Independent Study under the supervision of a full-time faculty member for elective course credit. An Independent Study proposal must include the name of the faculty supervisor, the nature and goals of the Independent Study, the number

of credit hours requested, and the supervising faculty member's signature indicating approval of the proposal. Upon approval, a student may register for credit for an Independent Study (course code LAW 590) by using the J.D. Course Approval Form found at www.regent.edu/it/ESign/jd_course_appr_entry.cfm. The Form can be accessed only through the myRegent portal.

There are two basic types of projects that qualify for credit as an Independent Study. The first involves research and writing in a subject matter that is traditionally legal in scope or closely related to a traditional legal subject. This contemplates the type of research and writing that would be involved in a scholarly article for a law review or law journal or for a public policy or other professional journal. The article would be the result of substantial research and analysis and multiple drafts will be required.

The second type involves subject and project areas that are not traditional legal scholarship, such as research and writing necessary for preparation of substantial pleadings in a hypothetical or expected real case, including memoranda supporting the pleadings; or the pursuit of empirical study and research together with related doctrinal scholarly research, all to produce a substantial written report, article, or other document.

Either traditional or non-traditional legal research and writing may be used to satisfy the Independent Study. If a student elects a traditional Independent Study under the direction and supervision of a member of the law faculty, it shall be independent of any course in which the student would be currently enrolled but may involve the subject matter of current courses. The number of credit hours to be earned by the student should be determined by the faculty member, subject to the approval of the Associate Dean. In setting the number of credit hours, substantial weight will be given to the anticipated length of the final scholarly paper to be produced. An Independent Study for 1 semester hour of credit would require a paper with a minimum of 18 pages; for 2 semester hours of credit, the paper would have to be a minimum of 30 pages. All papers must be double spaced, 8 ½" x 11" in size, and the minimum length includes either footnotes or endnotes. A paper shorter than 18 pages will generally be insufficient to indicate a rigorous and good experience in research and writing.

For a non-traditional Independent Study, a student shall present to the Associate Dean a petition describing the proposed Independent Study which requests a specific number of credit hours. The petition must be supported by a written commitment from a School of Law faculty member to supervise the Independent Study. Upon approval, the student may enroll in an Independent Study by using the J.D. Course Approval Form referenced above.

A student shall be permitted to earn a maximum of two credit hours by Independent Study. Students may earn an additional two credit hours by completing the Academic Legal Scholarship course and an additional two credit hours by completing the Law Journal course, for up to a maximum of six credit hours. In accordance with ABA Standard 311(a), however, students must complete a minimum of 64 credit hours in courses that require attendance in regularly scheduled classrooms sessions or directly faculty instruction.

For all student work in an Independent Study for academic credit, the student shall be assigned a final letter grade according to the grading policies of the School of Law, or an allowable temporary grade under university policy by the faculty member under appropriate circumstances.

A student may not normally use a previously written paper for credit in an Independent Study. The supervising faculty member may consider allowing previous work to serve as the basis of an Independent Study only if substantial research and writing would still be required within the Independent Study project.

If a student wishes to do an Independent Study under the supervision of an adjunct faculty member, he must state the reasons in a petition. Such an Independent Study will be permitted only after approval of the Associate Dean and the Curriculum Committee.

If a student intends to fulfill the rigorous writing requirement via an Independent Study, he or she must register for the Independent Study in a semester prior to the final semester before graduation.

2. Law Journal Participation

A student on a Board of an approved law journal may register for the Law Journal course and receive 1-2 academic hours of Independent Study credit for journal-related responsibilities in that semester. For one credit hour, a student must spend a minimum of two hours per week in the Journal suite, absent extraordinary circumstances, and must complete and document in Excel at least 100 hours of editorial and supervisory duties related to the journal. For two credit hours, a student must spend a minimum of two hours per week in the Journal suite, absent extraordinary circumstances, and must complete and document in Excel at least 140 hours of editorial and supervisory duties related to the journal. Editorial duties vary according to respective board positions as defined by the respective journals, but upon completion of their journal work, students should be able to demonstrate the following:

- a. Superior skill in editing scholarly legal writings, including essays, articles, notes, comments, and lectures by members of the legal community;
- b. The ability to lead others in a legal setting and cooperate with fellow members in a firm-like environment; and
- c. The performance of work that lawyers perform in the context of real-life situations and deadlines by recording their work and time and activities on time sheets.

Board members will focus on a segment of text to edit for substance, grammar, style, and clarity. Board members will offer valuable input into the structure and readability of an article. Board members will be responsible for ensuring published material conforms to the *Bluebook*. Certain board members will format articles for publication and will have the opportunity to work directly with authors while transforming an article during the editing process.

The faculty advisor to the journal must approve the request by a Board member to register for the Law Journal course and must set the number of credit hours. Upon approval, a student may register for credit by using the J.D. Course Approval Form found at www.regent.edu/it/ESign/jd_course_appr_entry.cfm. The form can be accessed only through the myRegent portal. At the conclusion of the semester, after reviewing the documentation supporting the requisite hours, the faculty advisor to the journal will assign a "Pass," "Low Pass," or "No Pass" for the student's effort.

In addition to the two credit hours students may earn in the Law Journal course, students may earn an additional two credit hours by completing an Independent Study and an additional two credit hours by completing the Academic Legal Scholarship course, for up to a maximum of six credit hours. In accordance with ABA Standard 311(a), however, students must complete a minimum of 64 credit hours in courses that require attendance in regularly scheduled classrooms sessions or direct faculty instruction.

3. Academic Legal Scholarship

The Academic Legal Scholarship course allows a law review or journal student to research and write a scholarly student note or law review-style article of publishable quality of approximately 30 pages. The note or article would be the result of substantial research and analysis and multiple drafts will be required. All papers must be double spaced, 8 ½" x 11" in size, and the target length includes either footnotes or endnotes. The note or article must contain a thoughtful and carefully planned thesis that encompasses some aspect of law and its conflict with facts or circumstances. The note or article should address a legal dilemma; analyze the law surrounding that dilemma with case law, statutory analysis, statistical analysis (if appropriate), and biblical principles; and should offer a legal solution to the dilemma.

A student may not normally use a previously written paper for credit in Academic Legal Scholarship. The supervising faculty member may consider allowing previous work to serve as the basis of Academic Legal Scholarship only if substantial research and writing would still be required within the Academic Legal Scholarship project.

If a student wishes to do Academic Legal Scholarship under the supervision of an adjunct faculty member, he must state the reasons in a petition. Supervision by an

adjunct faculty member will be permitted only after approval of the Associate Dean and the Curriculum Committee.

The student enrolled in Academic Legal Scholarship shall be assigned a final letter grade according to the grading policies of the School of Law, or an allowable temporary grade under university policy by the supervising faculty member under appropriate circumstances. Students enrolled in Academic Legal Scholarship are encouraged to submit their completed note or article for publication to School of Law publications or throughout the nation.

If a student intends to fulfill the rigorous writing requirement via Academic Legal Scholarship, he or she must register for Academic Legal Scholarship in a semester prior to the final semester before graduation.

I. Honors Program

Under the Honors Program, at least one of the first-year common law doctrinal courses is taught in smaller sections, with one section (of each course) being designated as an Honors section, populated only by students in the Honors Program. One section of Foundations of Law is also similarly designated as an Honors section. In addition to small first-year sections, Honors Students typically are offered a small-section upper-level experience. Honors Students shall not be permitted to drop or withdraw from an Honors section of any course absent extenuating circumstances. They also benefit from special speakers and programs throughout their time at the School of Law. Finally, as noted in Section V.D. above, Honors Students are exempted from certain curricular requirements.

Admission to the Honors Program is primarily based on an applicant's LSAT score(s), cumulative undergraduate GPA (UGPA), and overall academic record. Students become Honors Students in the following ways:

- 1. Admitted students with a 160 LSAT score and a 3.7 cumulative UGPA are offered admission to the Honors Program. Other admitted students with a LSAT score of at least 157 and other strong academic indicators also will receive consideration. Space is limited, however, so students are encouraged to apply early.
- 2. Rising second-year traditional J.D. students can enter the Honors Program by finishing in the top 25% of their class at the end of the spring semester of their first year of law school. All students must maintain a cumulative law school GPA of 3.000 (3.200 for students matriculating in Fall 2023 or later) to continue in the Honors Program.
- 3. Flexible J.D. students may grade into the Honors Program at the end of the spring semester of their second year of law school if their cumulative GPA at that time would place them in the top 25% of the traditional J.D. class that finished their first year of law school that same spring semester, calculated as of the end of that semester.

To remain in the Honors Program, Honors Students must maintain a cumulative law GPA of 3.000 or higher (3.200 or higher for students matriculating in Fall 2023 or later) at the end of (1) the spring semester of the 1L year (2L year for flexible J.D. students); (2) the spring semester of the 2L year (3L year for flexible J.D. students); and (3) the course of study in the J.D. program.

An Honors Student who is academically dismissed from the Honors Program after the spring semester of the 1L year (2L year for flexible J.D. students) will be readmitted to the program if the student earns:

- 1. At least 60 credits by the end of the spring semester of the 2L year (3L year for flexible J.D. students); and
- 2. An overall cumulative law GPA of 3.000 or higher (3.200 or higher for students matriculating in Fall 2023 or later) at the end of the spring semester of the 2L year (3L year for flexible J.D. students).

Any student who is academically dismissed from the Honors Program after the spring semester of the 1L year (2L year for flexible J.D. students) and who does not meet these requirements will be ineligible for later readmission to the Program.

An Honors student who is academically dismissed from the Honors Program after the spring semester of the 2L year (3L year for flexible J.D. students) will graduate as an Honors student if the student earns an overall cumulative law GPA of 3.000 or higher (3.200 or higher for students matriculating in Fall 2023 or later) at the end of the course of study in the J.D. program.

J. Capstone in Financial Planning

Regent Law offers an opportunity for J.D. students to include a Certified Financial Planning (CFP®) element in their degree by taking the *Capstone in Financial Planning* course. This 3-credit course will assist law students in qualifying to sit for the CFP® Exam once they become licensed to practice law. This course involves case analysis and integration of financial planning, insurance planning, investment planning, taxation, retirement and employee benefits, and estate tax planning in comprehensive personal financial planning. Students will learn how to manage case scenarios to identify issues, analyze client financial situations, and make and implement recommendations.

Enrollment in the course is subject to instructor approval by course application. Recommended (but not required) prerequisites include Wills, Trusts & Estates, Federal Income Tax, Insurance Law, Professional Responsibility, Elder Law, and Estate and Gift Tax Planning. A previous background in financial planning is very helpful but not required. J.D. students may also take up to an additional 4 credits in courses from the M.A. in Wealth Management and Financial Planning program (e.g. Financial Planning, Financial Analysis, or Portfolio Analysis) to count as an elective toward their J.D. degree completion if they wish to pursue the *Capstone in Financial Planning* course. To be

adequately prepared to sit for the CFP \circledR exam, students are also encouraged to take a CFPข prep course prior to sitting for the CFPv exam.

VI. COURSE ENROLLMENT

The goal of the School of Law is to offer an educational program that prepares students for the practice of law. Priority enrollment is given to J.D. students in any course required for the J.D. degree, needed for bar examination preparation, or required for bar admission, unless otherwise provided by law.

A. Law Students in Non-Law Courses

Law students may normally enroll for law credit in courses taught by faculty from other Regent schools only if those courses have been cross-listed in the School of Law. If a law student desires to take a course offered by another school for law credit, but it is not cross-listed in the School of Law, the student must petition for approval to take the course for law credit using the form found at cdn.regent.edu/app/uploads/2020/03/RO-Graduate-Approval-to-Enroll-in-a-Class-in-Another-School.pdf. These petitions are reviewed by the Curriculum Committee.

B. Non-Law Students in Law Courses

Permission for non-law students to enroll in a course offered in the School of Law will be granted only upon approval of the student's academic advisor, Dean of the school in which the student is enrolled, the instructor of the course, and the Dean of the School of Law. This procedure is designed to ensure that the enrollment of the student is consistent with the student's educational program and does not disrupt the School of Law's educational objectives.

C. Auditing Courses

Notwithstanding any university policy to the contrary, a law student who wishes to enroll in a class on a noncredit basis must submit a Petition to audit the class using the Graduate Academic Petition Form found at

www.regent.edu/it/ESign/academic_petition_entry_v2.cfm. Students taking courses for credit are given enrollment priority over auditors. Persons auditing a course will pay one-half the regular tuition. Persons not enrolled as students in Regent University may audit School of Law courses only upon permission from the Dean of the School of Law.

D. Externships and Apprenticeships

A. Educational Objectives of the Externship and Apprenticeship Programs

After completing 30 hours of J.D. academic credit, students may earn up to 5 credit hours for Externships and may enroll for up to 5 hours in any one term (ACLJ Externships require a minimum enrollment of 2 credit hours). Once they have completed 60 hours of J.D. academic credit, Honors students or students possessing at least a 3.000 cumulative law GPA (or other students by petition) are eligible to earn between 4 and 10 credit hours in an Apprenticeship. They may enroll for up to 10 credit hours in any one term. No student may enroll in more than 10

Externship/Apprenticeship hours in any one semester. The primary educational objectives of the Externship/Apprenticeship programs are as follows:

- a. To expose students to, and acquaint them with, the reality of law practice. Students who learn the law only in a classroom setting have limited exposure to the actual practice of law. Another vital element of learning the law is exposure to what real lawyers do on a day-to-day basis in the office, in the courtroom, and elsewhere. Learning criminal law and criminal procedure within the protected classroom environment, for example, does not yield the same benefit as a student's conducting client interviews or observing how a prosecutor manages her caseload, how defense counsel prepares for court, and how an attorney tries his cases. The School of Law structures its Externships and Apprenticeships to provide students with this useful practice perspective.
- b. To provide opportunities for students to engage in proper legal research and writing in the context of real-life legal problems. All law students can benefit from additional practice in proper legal research and writing. Externships and Apprenticeships provide that opportunity in a setting where the student can receive close supervision and constructive feedback in a timely fashion. Actual legal research and writing is based on real people's problems, with real deadlines, and in contexts where the results make a significant difference in the lives of clients, attorneys, and externs. Thus, students have ample opportunity not only to hone their legal research and writing skills, but also to improve their time management skills.
- c. To allow students to pursue in-depth substantive learning in specific areas of the law. By necessity, instructors must treat some subjects in the School of Law curriculum briefly. An Externship/Apprenticeship gives students an opportunity to engage in deeper study of a particular legal field or topic. For example, a student interested in criminal law can gain a significant amount of substantive knowledge on that subject by working with a prosecutor or public defender.

B. Externship/Apprenticeship Policies and Procedures

- a. Students in an Externship/Apprenticeship earn one academic credit hour for each 50 hours of field work. Externships/Apprenticeships also entail a classroom component and/or regular meetings with the Faculty Supervisor.
- b. Externships/apprenticeships are approved on a case-by-case basis. Prior site approval is required, so if a proposed Externship/Apprenticeship site is not on the School of Law's pre-approved list (www.regent.edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Regent-Law-Approved-Site-List-for-Externships-Apprenticeships.xlsx), students must submit a New Site Proposal Form

- (www.regent.edu/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Regent-Law-New-Site-Proposal-Form.docx) and apply sufficiently in advance of the registration period to permit the faculty supervisor to vet the proposed site.
- c. To qualify for academic credit, hours of field work must be performed between the first and last days of the semester, as determined by the academic calendar.
- d. Academic credit hours for an Externship/Apprenticeship cannot be adjusted after the add/drop period is over.
- e. Students who desire to participate in an Externship/Apprenticeship should first consult with the Faculty Supervisor. The student must then complete an application packet that is available at www.regent.edu/it/ESign/jd_extern_entry.cfm containing the elements set forth below. Once approved by the Faculty Supervisor and the Associate Dean, the student will be registered for the Externship/Apprenticeship just as he or she would for a class.
- f. Students do not qualify for an Externship/Apprenticeship until they have successfully completed Legal Analysis, Research, & Writing I & II. Students may not register for an Externship/Apprenticeship if they are on academic probation.
- g. To be considered for approval, proposed Externship/Apprenticeship study programs shall meet the following conditions:
 - i. Each petition for a proposed program shall supply the following information:
 - (a) The specific educational objectives of the program, consistent with the objectives set forth above. The educational objectives shall be stated in sufficient detail to provide direction in the activities of the program.
 - (b) A statement describing the time and effort expected from the student in pursuing the educational objectives during the program.
 - (c) A statement of the educational benefit expected to be acquired by the student.
 - (d) A statement of specific tasks expected to be involved in pursuit of the program.
 - (e) A description of work products expected to be produced by the student.
 - (f) The designation of a practicing attorney or current judicial officer who will supervise the activities of the student during the program, who shall be hereinafter referred to as the "field supervisor."

- (g) A statement about whether any monetary compensation will be paid to the student for any work in the program for which he or she receives academic credit.
- ii. The Faculty Supervisor conducts a periodic review of the Externship/Apprenticeship, including
 - (a) Time devoted by the student.
 - (b) Tasks assigned to the student.
 - (c) Selected work products of the student.
 - (d) The field supervisor's regular detailed evaluation of the student's field experience.
- iii. Upon completion of the program, the Faculty Supervisor will assign a grade of "Pass," "Low Pass," or "No Pass" for the student's effort. Failure to submit all required paperwork may result in a "No Pass" grade being assigned. Failure to submit all required paperwork in a timely manner may result in a "Low Pass" grade being assigned.

E. Regent Students Visiting at Another Law School

After matriculation at Regent University School of Law, a student may only transfer credits earned while a visiting student at another ABA-approved law school with advance permission of the Academic Policies Committee and the Curriculum Committee. Students should file a petition to be a visiting student and transfer credits from another law school at least two months before the deadline to apply at the other school in order to guarantee a timely response.

Petitions to be a visiting student during a summer term at another ABA-approved law school will be reviewed by the Academic Policies Committee on the basis of the appropriateness of the petition, taking into account the student's academic standing, and by the Curriculum Committee with regard to the specific courses proposed. Petitions to transfer credits earned while a visiting student at a foreign law school in an existing Regent-approved student-exchange program will be reviewed by the Curriculum Committee with regard to the specific courses proposed.

Petitions to be a visiting student during one or more fall or spring semesters at another ABA-approved law school will be granted only in extraordinary circumstances. A determination of "extraordinary circumstances" will be made by the Academic Policies Committee on the basis of all relevant factors, including, but not limited to, whether the circumstances were unforeseeable at the time the student first enrolled at Regent, the nature of the circumstances, the number of credit hours already completed at Regent, the number of credit hours and specific courses proposed for the other law school, and the student's academic standing. In general, reasons related to finances, bar preparation, employment, or networking do not constitute "extraordinary circumstances." In any case, the granting of any petition is also subject to approval by the Curriculum Committee of the specific courses proposed to be taken at the other law school.

Only courses with grades of "C" (or equivalent) or better are eligible for transfer credit. No credit will be awarded for pass/fail courses taken as a visiting student.

Any Regent student who plans to be a visiting student and transfer credits earned at another ABA-approved law school during his or her final semester of law school must concurrently enroll that semester in a course offered by Regent University School of Law. At least one academic credit hour must be earned through Regent University School of Law in a student's final semester of law school.

F. Registration

J.D. students will be given preference in registration for J.D. courses over non-J.D. students. All first-year J.D. students and second-year flexible J.D. students will have their registration completed by the Student Affairs and Records Office. If the School of Law does not have a J.D. student's official degree-conferring transcript by October 15 of the student's first semester, the student will be unable to enroll in any subsequent semester until the transcript is on file with the School of Law.

Beginning with the academic term in which a student first becomes eligible to register for elective courses, the student must obtain academic advising from his or her mentor every semester. Students must complete a Certificate of Advising and Degree Program Checklist, both signed by their mentor, before registering each semester for the following semester. In the fall of their 3L year, students must also complete an update to their 1L Foundations of Practice Discernment Plan, signed by their mentor, that specifically addresses post-graduation job plans and steps to obtain a job, if one has not yet been secured.

If a student fails to submit to the Student Affairs and Records Office a timely and completed Certificate of Advising and Degree Program Checklist with the student's mentor's signature, a hold will be placed on the student's account and the student will be unable to view grades for the preceding academic term or to register for future academic terms. Likewise, 3L students who fail to submit the update to their Discernment Plan in the fall will have a hold placed on their account.

Upper-class registration is based upon randomly assigned registration priority groups. The procedure will be modified by the Associate Dean as needed to resolve unexpected difficulties, but the general approach is as follows:

- 1. Third-year traditional J.D. students will be given priority over second year J.D. students, and fourth-year flexible J.D. students will be given priority over second-and third-year J.D. students, unless otherwise indicated for a specific course.
- 2. Each upper-class student is randomly assigned to a registration priority group. Each group is assigned a specific period of time during which to register.

- 3. Pre-registration will take place over at least a two-week period, allowing each student to register only on designated days according to their priority group and class.
- 4. If a student fails to pre-register during the designated day for his or her group, the student will lose his or her priority and will not be allowed to pre-register until all other students have been given the opportunity to pre-register. Thus, students who wait until after pre-registration is completed will be given no priority, but will be registered on a first come, first served basis.
- 5. Registration for courses will proceed until the course limit is reached. Once a course is full, students may place themselves on a wait list.
- 6. Should illness, death in the family, or other extenuating circumstances prevent a student from pre-registering for classes during the designated days, a student may file an Academic Petition to maintain his or her priority position.
- 7. Students will not be able to register online for courses that either require the professor's approval for registration or that require an application process. Those courses include, but are not limited to, Advanced Appellate Advocacy, Advanced Trial Practice, Clinics, Practicums, Externships, Apprenticeships, Independent Studies, Law Journal, and Academic Legal Scholarship. Registration for Advanced Appellate Advocacy, Advanced Trial Practice, Clinics, Practicums, Independent Studies, Law Journal, and Academic Legal Scholarship requires online submission of a J.D. Course Approval Form (www.regent.edu/it/ESign/jd course appr entry.cfm). Students seeking to register for courses that have an application process will be able to upload documents to the electronic form. Once a student submits the form, it will be routed to the instructor for review and approval and then routed for any other necessary administrative approvals. Once all approvals and required paperwork are received, the Student Affairs & Law Records Office will register the student for the course. Externships and Apprenticeships require completion of an application packet that is available at www.regent.edu/it/ESign/jd extern entry.cfm. The packet must be submitted to the Faculty Supervisor for approval. Once approved, the packet must be approved by the Associate Dean. Once all approvals are obtained, the Student Affairs & Records Office will register the student for the Externship/Apprenticeship. Students also will not be able to register online for courses that are hardscheduled (all IL courses, Evidence, Constitutional Law I, and Criminal Law). Please see the Student Affairs and Records Office for further details about registering for these courses.
- 8. Pre-registration alone does not guarantee a position in any course, and a favorable priority number alone does not guarantee placement in a requested section of a course. Students generally will be enrolled in a course according to priority number until the course limit is reached. At that point, students desiring to take the course will be placed on a wait list. Priority for a specific section of a course

in which there are two or more sections will be based to the extent possible on priority numbers, but adjustments in section assignments may be made at the discretion of the Associate Dean in order to maintain the availability of desired courses for as many students as possible.

- 9. A few days before classes begin, and during the Add/Drop period, any vacancies in a course having a wait list will be filled by those students who pre-registered on their designated days but were placed on the wait list. Any student moved off the wait list and placed in the course will be contacted concerning his or her change of status.
- 10. Students may change their schedule during the Final Registration and Add/Drop periods by completing an Add/Drop form.
- 11. The course enrollment limit may be changed to allow more students into a course only by the Associate Dean in consultation with the instructor.

G. Attendance

Notwithstanding any university policy to the contrary, attendance at all classes is mandatory. Each faculty member may impose sanctions, up to and including exclusion from the class and giving of the grade "WF" (withdrew/failing) for excessive absences.

Instructors will not record class sessions for absent J.D. students or allow J.D. students to attend in-person class sessions via Zoom or other electronic means except in extraordinary circumstances involving serious illnesses, injuries, or other personal situations that require absences on multiple days and make keeping up with course material impracticable without either remote attendance or recording class sessions. Permission to attend in-person class sessions remotely or to obtain recordings of class sessions must be requested in writing at the earliest possible date of the Associate Dean and supported by medical or other related documentation. Depending on the circumstances presented, students may be required to seek remote attendance or class session recordings as a medical accommodation from the university's Disability Services Office or may be counseled to take a temporary leave of absence until the circumstances resolve.

This policy does not preclude an instructor at any time from recording class sessions and making the recordings available to the entire class.

Because an instructor controls the content and decorum of the classroom, students seeking to bring a child or other guest to class must obtain advance permission of the instructor teaching the course. The instructor retains discretion whether to allow the guest to sit in on the class.

H. Distance Education.

J.D. students may earn credit for courses offered through distance education, subject to the following conditions:

- 1. For distance education courses offered through law schools other than Regent, students must petition in advance for approval, pursuant to the policy herein titled, "Regent Students Visiting at Another Law School."
- 2. Students may earn a maximum of fifty percent of their required credit hours through distance education over their School of Law course of study.

For purposes of this policy, a "distance education" course means one in which students are separated from all faculty members for more than one-third of the instruction and the instruction involves the use of technology to support regular and substantive interaction between the students and all faculty members, either synchronously or asynchronously.

VII. EVALUATION, GRADING, AND REPORTING

A. Faculty Evaluation of Student Performance

Grades are largely based upon a final examination, except where otherwise stated in the course syllabus. Seminar, clinical, or problem-oriented courses are graded on a basis appropriate to the subject matter and methodology of instruction. The quality of a student's response to final examination questions is evaluated not only upon his or her mastery of the subject matter but also upon his or her ability to apply it to relevant issues in the examination questions. The student will be asked to analyze and justify conclusions on the basis of legal principles and policies applicable to the issues raised by the facts. Consideration in grading may also be given to class attendance, quality of classroom participation, and written work.

Notwithstanding any university policy to the contrary, any student who voluntarily withdraws from a course (i) at any time when the student's work in the course to date is of a failing nature or (ii) after the first Reading Day set forth in the academic calendar will be assigned a grade of Withdrew Failing ("WF") for the course. Likewise, any student who fails to appear for a final exam absent a valid emergency will be assigned a grade of Withdrew Failing ("WF") for the course.

Student exam materials will be retained for a minimum of three years.

B. Students With Disabilities

Students seeking accommodation for a disability should contact the Regent University Disability Services Office. Specifically, students are directed to the Regent University website on Disability Services (www.regent.edu/student-life/disability-services/) which outlines the process for requesting accommodations with the Regent University Disability Services Coordinator. As the website provides, in part:

A student's request for accommodation does not automatically guarantee the provision of such accommodation. A request for disability accommodations is an involved interactive process between the individual, medical providers, and disability services personnel. The individual should provide sufficient explanation and substantiation of the impairment caused by the specified and indicated barrier. In the event that a chosen accommodation is not deemed reasonable, and the request for such accommodation is denied, the Disability Services Office will work closely with the student to determine an alternative reasonable accommodation that is also effective. If a particular accommodation would be an undue hardship on the university, the university will try to find alternative accommodation that would not pose such a hardship. If cost is the cause of the undue hardship, the university will consider whether funding for the accommodation might be available from an outside agency. The individual will also be allowed to pay for the accommodation or any portion of the accommodation that might constitute an undue hardship on the university.

Regent University reserves the right to choose among reasonable accommodations, as long as the chosen accommodation is effective. If an individual refuses a reasonable accommodation, the university will be deemed to have complied with its obligation under the ADA. The student may choose to accept or deny the approved accommodations. Students, when approved by the Disability Services Office, are not required to use all of the accommodations offered to them. However, students are encouraged to reach out and begin the process sooner rather than later.

Once the Disability Services Coordinator determines an accommodations plan for a law student, the plan is sent to the School of Law's Student Affairs and Records Office. The Associate Dean communicates the plan to affected faculty members. Students may seek to adjust or modify disability accommodations at any time with proper supporting medical documentation.

Accommodation plans developed by Disability Services apply only in the academic setting while enrolled in School of Law; accommodation plans do not apply to field placements (externships, apprenticeships, etc.), clinical opportunities, or practicums while in law school, or in legal employment settings. Likewise, being granted a disability accommodation while a law student does not guarantee a student will receive an accommodation on a bar examination. Students are encouraged to research early the requirements to be granted disability accommodations on the bar examination in any jurisdiction in which they ultimately desire to practice law.

Accommodation plans take some time to develop and accommodations cannot be implemented retroactively, so students are encouraged to request accommodations as soon as possible. Also, accommodations do not carry over from one academic semester to the next; requests for accommodations must be made anew in each academic semester while a student remains enrolled.

Questions regarding implementation of any accommodation plan should be directed to the Disability Services Coordinator.

C. Rescheduling Examinations

A student may reschedule a final exam upon timely request within the time frame set by the School of Law Student Affairs and Records Office if the student has a conflict. A conflict is defined as two exams scheduled on the same day, an exam in the evening (beginning at 6:00 p.m. or later) followed by an exam the next morning, or exams scheduled for four or more consecutive calendar days. The date and time at which a rescheduled exam will be taken—and the determination of which exam will be rescheduled if rescheduling is due to a conflict—will be at the discretion of the Associate Dean.

Aside from rescheduling due to a conflict, as defined above, students may take examinations at times other than the written schedule only for extraordinary circumstances, and the student must receive approval from both the instructor and the

Associate Dean using the form on the myRegent portal:

www.regent.edu/it/ESign/jd_exam_conflict_entry.cfm. Examinations given at a time other than the regularly scheduled period will be administered to minimize the risk of unauthorized student access to the contents of the examination and therefore an exam may not be rescheduled for a date earlier than the regularly scheduled exam date except by agreement between the Associate Dean and the instructor.

D. Grading Scale

Completed course work will be assigned a letter grade which carries quality points according to the following scale:

```
A+
       4.33
Α
       4.00
A-
       3.67
B+
       3.33
В
       3.00
B-
       2.67
C+
       2.33
\mathbf{C}
       2.00
C-
       1.67
D+
       1.33
D
       1.00
D-
       0.67
F
       0.00
WF
       0.00
              Withdrew Failing
FX
       0.00
              Failure to make up an incomplete
       Low Pass (used for Pass/Low Pass/No Pass courses only)
LP
NP
       No Pass (used for Pass/Low Pass/No Pass courses only)
       Pass (used for Pass/Low Pass/No Pass courses only)
       Incomplete
I
W
       Withdrew
IP
       In Progress
AU
       Audit (no credit) (used for audit courses only)
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The cumulative law GPA is obtained by dividing the total number of quality points earned in J.D. coursework by the total number of J.D. hours attempted. Repeated courses are treated differently, see Repeating Courses below.

E. Anonymity in Grading

The School of Law, as a general practice, uses anonymous grading for exams. Prior to exams for each semester, the School of Law Student Affairs and Records Office will issue each student an exam number which he or she will use on all exams for that semester. A new number is assigned each semester for every student.

F. Grade and Ranks Communication

As a general practice, law school grades are available through the Student Profile on the MyRegent portal approximately three weeks after the last day of exams. Grades are not mailed to the student. Grades should not be requested from a faculty member, staff member, the School of Law Student Affairs and Records Office, or the University Registrar.

Unofficial transcripts are available onlint through the Student Profile. Official transcripts may be requested through the University Office of the Registrar. If, for some reason, a grade is not yet available at that time, the course will not appear on the student's grade report.

Class rankings will be calculated by the School of Law after each fall and spring semester once all grades are finalized and will be communicated by email to students by the Student Affairs and Records Office. Rankings should not be requested by students before that time. The following groups of students are ranked separately: traditional J.D. students in their first year, flexible J.D. students in their first year, and flexible J.D. students in their second year are ranked with flexible J.D. students in their third year, and traditional J.D. students in their third year are ranked with flexible J.D. students in their fourth or subsequent year.

G. Student Petitions to Review Course Grades

- 1. Notwithstanding any University policy to the contrary, unless they have just completed the final semester before their degree is conferred, students shall have a period of 14 days from the date grades are published to students by the University Registrar to initiate contact with the instructor (by email or in person) concerning a grade appeal. If they have just completed the final semester before their degree is conferred, students shall have a period of 7 days to initiate contact with the instructor concerning a grade appeal.
- 2. Before filing a petition for grade change, a student shall review the basis for his grade with the course instructor and seek to resolve all issues. The review with the instructor may be in person, over the phone, or via written communication. The review must take place within 7 days of initiating contact with the instructor concerning the grade appeal. Within 2 days of the review, the instructor must contact the student with his or her decision. The instructor may raise or lower the grade if there was a mechanical or clerical error such as a misread Scantron sheet, arithmetic error, or the wrong grade box clicked on the Faculty Dashboard when entering final grades. The instructor may not change the grade, up or down, based on re-evaluation of any graded course component.
- 3. If the student believes that an issue has not been satisfactorily resolved with the instructor, if a review does not take place within 7 days of contacting the instructor, and/or if the instructor does not communicate a decision to the student within 2 days of the review, the student may file (using the available online

graduate form) a petition for grade change with the Dean of the School of Law. The petition must be filed within 7 days from the instructor's decision (or 14 days from initiating contact with the instructor if a review does not take place or a decision by the instructor has not been communicated by that date), and must include a detailed explanation justifying the student's position on why the grade should be changed. If the instructor is not notified of a potential grade appeal by the student in a timely manner or a petition to the Dean is not timely filed or does not comply with these requirements, the grade will be considered final. Students filing a petition to change a grade received in their final semester before their degree is conferred risk delaying the conferral of their degree and being disqualified from sitting for a bar examination.

- 4. Petitions to change grades given by adjunct faculty members shall be considered, and granted or denied, by the Dean in consultation with the adjunct faculty member. The Dean's decision is final. The instructor's grade bears a very high presumption of validity, so the grade will only be changed if there is clear and convincing evidence that the original grade falls outside of a reasonable grade range for the student's work in that course. For all other grades, paragraphs (5) and (6) below apply.
- 5. Petitions to change grades shall initially be considered by the Dean of the School of Law and course instructor together with one faculty member of the School of Law appointed by the Dean with the approval of the course instructor. The purpose of this consideration shall be to attempt to achieve an agreement among the Dean, the reviewing faculty member, and the course instructor as to the proper resolution. The instructor's grade bears a very high presumption of validity, so the grade will only be changed if there is clear and convincing evidence that the original grade falls outside of a reasonable grade range for the student's work in that course.
- 6. In the event that the course instructor, Dean, and reviewing faculty member cannot agree on the disposition of a petition, the instructor's original grade will stand.
- 7. At the discretion of the Dean, the Associate Dean may act on the Dean's behalf, and in the Dean's place, in all matters pertaining to grade appeals.
- 8. Whether made by the Dean or the Associate Dean on the Dean's behalf, a decision on a petition to change a grade is final and not appealable.

H. Repeating Courses

Notwithstanding any university policy to the contrary, a student who voluntarily withdraws or is withdrawn from a required course or receives a grade of "F" in a required course must repeat the course in order to graduate. A student who voluntarily withdraws or is withdrawn from or receives a "D-" grade in a required nonsequential course must repeat the course prior to graduation. A student who receives a "D-" grade in a required

sequential course or courses (e.g., Contracts I and II) must repeat the course(s) except upon the granting of a petition showing good cause that the course or courses need not be repeated. A student may elect to repeat a required course in which a grade of "C-" or below is received. Except upon the granting of permission by the Academic Policies Committee upon good cause shown, courses are to be repeated the next time they are offered.

A student who is required to repeat a course due to having received a "WF," "D-," or "F" pursuant to the above policy will be academically dismissed if the student does not receive a grade of "D" or higher in the retaken course or if the student receives a "WF" in the retaken course. See Section VII.I. ("Academic Probation and Dismissal/Administrative Withdrawal Policy") below.

When a student repeats a course, the transcript, hours earned, and grade point average will be affected as follows:

- 1. The total quality points earned for both courses will be divided by the total credit hours for the two courses to obtain the average quality points.
- 2. The average quality points (expressed in hundredths, not rounded) will be assigned as the quality points for each credit hour for the repeated course; however, the average quality points per credit hour shall not exceed 2.00 ("C" grade).
- 3. When the average quality points are assigned to the final repeat credit hours, the total course quality points will be reflected in thousandths.
- 4. The student will receive no credit hours or quality points for the prior taking of the course, and that information shall be removed from the transcript. However, all grade entries on the transcript remain a permanent part of the student's academic record.

I. Academic Probation and Dismissal/Administrative Withdrawal

Notwithstanding any university policy to the contrary, a J.D. student is required to have a cumulative law GPA of at least 2.000 (2.200 for students matriculating in Fall 2023 or later) to graduate. The following policies govern academic dismissal/administrative withdrawal and probation. For the purposes of these policies, "credit hours" include all law courses that appear on the student's transcript with a grade ranging from "A+" to "F" or, in the case of a Pass/Low Pass/No Pass course, a grade of either "Pass," "Low Pass," or "No Pass."

1. A traditional J.D. student will be academically dismissed/administratively withdrawn if he or she

- a. Has completed 13-18 law credit hours at the end of a semester and has a cumulative law GPA below 1.650 (1.850 for students matriculating in Fall 2023 or later); or
- b. Fails to maintain a cumulative law GPA of 2.000 or better (2.200 or better for students matriculating in Fall 2023 or later) at the end of the spring semester of his or her first year of law study, even if the student was in good standing at the end of the preceding fall semester; or
- c. Fails to maintain a cumulative law GPA of 2.000 (2.200 for students matriculating in Fall 2023 or later) at the end of any spring semester after his or her first year of law study, even if the student was in good academic standing at the end of the preceding fall semester; or
- d. Is reinstated pursuant to section (9) or (11) below and fails to achieve the higher of a cumulative law GPA of 2.000 (2.200 for students matriculating in Fall 2023 or later) or the cumulative law GPA otherwise set as a term of reinstatement by the end of his or her first semester after readmission; or
- e. Is required to retake a course pursuant to Section VII.H. above ("Repeating Courses") and either fails to receive a grade of "D" or higher in the retaken course or receives a "WF" in the retaken course(s).
- 2. A flexible J.D. student will be academically dismissed/administratively withdrawn if he or she
 - a. Has a cumulative law GPA below 1.650 (1.850 for students matriculating in Fall 2023 or later) at the end of the spring semester of his or her first year of law study, or at the end of the fall semester of his or her second year of law study; or
 - b. Fails to maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.000 or better (2.200 or better for students matriculating in Fall 2023 or later) at the end of the spring semester of his or her second year in the courses required in the first year of study for traditional J.D. students; or
 - c. Fails to maintain a cumulative law GPA of 2.000 or better (2.200 or better for students matriculating in Fall 2023 or later) at the end of any spring semester after his or her second year of law study, even if the student was in good standing at the end of the preceding fall semester; or
 - d. Is reinstated pursuant to section (9) or (11) below and fails to achieve the higher of a cumulative law GPA of 2.000 (2.200 for students matriculating in Fall 2023 or later) or the cumulative law GPA otherwise set as a term of reinstatement by the end of his or her first semester after readmission; or

e. Is required to retake a course pursuant to Section VII.H above ("Repeating Courses") and either fails to receive a grade of "D" or higher in the retaken course or receives a "WF" in the retaken course(s).

Any student who is academically dismissed/administratively withdrawn at the end of a semester is entitled to a full tuition refund for any courses for which the student has paid for the upcoming semester.

- 3. A law student will be placed on academic probation if he or she
 - a. Has completed fewer than 19 total law credit hours at the end of a semester and has a cumulative law GPA of less than 2.000 (2.200 for students matriculating in Fall 2023 or later), but is not subject to dismissal/administrative withdrawal under section (1) above; or
 - b. Is a flexible J.D. student and fails to maintain a cumulative law GPA of 2.000 (2.200 for students matriculating in Fall 2023 or later) at the end of the spring semester of his or her first year of law study; or
 - c. As a second-year traditional J.D. student, or as a third-year student or beyond, fails to maintain a cumulative law GPA of 2.000 (2.200 for students matriculating in Fall 2023 or later) at the end of the fall semester; or
 - d. Receives a "F," "D-," or "WF" in any first-year required class, but is not otherwise subject to dismissal/administrative withdrawal; or
 - e. Is reinstated pursuant to section (9) or (11) below.
- 4. Any student who is on Academic Probation
 - a. Will be referred to the Academic Success Program, must meet with the Director of the Academic Success Program and/or his/her designee as often as the Director deems necessary, and must complete any supplemental work the Director and/or his/her designee deems necessary (and any student who fails to complete these meetings and/or supplemental work requirements may be subject to student discipline); and
 - b. Will be enrolled in the Strategies for Academic Success course if the student is placed on probation after the student's first semester of law study (and will receive one credit hour for the course if the student has not previously received one credit hour for taking the course); and
 - c. Must register for and take only required courses (i.e., courses listed on the J.D. Degree Program Checklist as First-Year Required Courses or as Upper-Level Required Courses other than Skills courses) until all required

courses have been completed or repeated as required by the "Repeating Courses" policy in section VII.H. above.

- 5. Any first-year student who is not on Academic Probation but whose cumulative law GPA indicates a risk for academic dismissal/administrative withdrawal, as determined by the Director of the Academic Success Program, must meet with the Director and/or his/her designee as often as the Director deems necessary, and must complete any supplemental work the Director and/or his/her designee deems necessary. Any student who fails to complete these meetings and/or supplemental work requirements may be subject to student discipline.
- 6. Any first-year student who receives lower than a 2.250 cumulative law GPA (2.450 for students matriculating in Fall 2023 or later) after his or her first semester will be enrolled in the Strategies for Academic Success course (and will receive one credit hour for the course if the student has not previously received one credit hour for taking the course).
- 7. A student on academic probation after the fall semester may register for the next summer session only upon a petition granted by the Associate Dean. A student on academic probation after the spring semester who enrolled in coursework for the following summer session will be withdrawn from the summer coursework and their tuition refunded. To preserve their priority under the registration process, students on probation after the fall semester may pre-register for the following fall semester, and students on probation after the spring semester may pre-register for the following spring semester.
- 8. Students dismissed solely pursuant to section VII.H. above may immediately petition for reinstatement. All other students who are academically dismissed/administratively withdrawn can petition no earlier than nine months after dismissal/administrative withdrawal to be reinstated.
- 9. Students who petition for reinstatement into a term that is no more than one full academic year after their dismissal/administrative withdrawal will have their petitions considered by a faculty committee. The committee will be comprised of at least two full-time faculty who have taught the student seeking reinstatement. The committee will consider such petitions on an individual basis, and the committee's decision is final. Such petitions generally are not granted and must demonstrate, with clear and convincing evidence, that:
 - a. Exceptional circumstances caused the dismissal/administrative withdrawal;
 - b. The exceptional circumstances have been resolved; and
 - c. The petitioner has both the motivation and capacity to succeed in law school in the future and pass a bar examination.

- 10. Students reinstated under Section VII.I.9 will be placed on academic probation and by the end of their first semester after reinstatement, they must have the higher of a cumulative law GPA of 2.000 (2.200 for students matriculating in Fall 2023 or later) or the cumulative law GPA set by the faculty committee as a condition of reinstatement. Reinstatement under Section VII.I.9 may also be conditioned upon other requirements, such as repeating specified courses (even if the student would not otherwise be required to repeat the courses) and/or requiring the student to register for and complete a specified set of courses by a specified time. In some cases, a reinstated student may be required to retake the entire first year curriculum.
- 11. Students who petition to be reinstated into a term that is more than one full academic year after their dismissal/administrative withdrawal may be required to complete new law school application materials or provide other information requested by the School of Law's Dean of Admissions. In their petition and/or admission materials, such students should address the three factors noted above in Section VII.I.9. These re-applications will be submitted to the School of Law's Admissions Committee. In acting upon a re-application, the Admissions Committee shall (1) consider the student's academic indicators in light of the academic indicators of the most recent entering J.D. class to determine if the student would ordinarily be admitted under the most recent admissions standards; and (2) consult with faculty who taught the student while the student was enrolled at the School of Law to determine whether the standard in Section VII.I.9 is established by clear and convincing evidence. The Admissions Committee's decision is final. Such re-applications generally are not granted. If readmitted, students who have not been enrolled for more than one year must meet the degree requirements in the catalog year of readmission. Students readmitted under this section will be placed on academic probation and by the end of their first semester after readmission, they must have the higher of a cumulative law GPA of 2.000 (2.200 for students matriculating in Fall 2023 or later) or the cumulative law GPA set by the Admissions Committee as a condition of readmission. Readmission under this section may also be conditioned upon other requirements, such as repeating specified courses (even if the student would not otherwise be required to repeat the courses) and/or requiring the student to register for and complete a specified set of courses by a specified time. In some cases, a readmitted student may be required to retake the entire first year curriculum.
- 12. To be eligible for degree completion, any readmitted student must enroll in and complete a minimum of one (1) credit hour of coursework at Regent University following readmission.

J. Letters of Good Standing

Notwithstanding any university policy to the contrary, a student is in "good standing" in the School of Law when the student possesses at least the minimum cumulative law GPA to avoid academic dismissal/administrative withdrawal or academic probation, meets all requirements for enrollment in the School of Law, has fulfilled all financial and administrative obligations to Regent University and/or the School of Law, is not on academic or disciplinary probation, and is not otherwise currently subject to any other form of sanction or disciplinary censure imposed by Regent University and/or the School of Law. A request for a Letter of Good Standing, for any reason, from the School of Law will be provided upon all of the preceding conditions being met, and a student's request for a letter of good standing constitutes the student's authorization for the disclosure of information consistent with this policy. If a letter of good standing is unable to be provided, upon a student's request, the School of Law will provide a letter of standing explaining the student's status at the School of Law, including why the student is not in good standing according to this policy. A student's request for a letter of standing constitutes the student's authorization for the disclosure of information consistent with this policy.

K. Student Evaluations

At the end of every course, students are expected to evaluate the course and the course instructor. Evaluations are done online. Student evaluations are reviewed by the instructors only after course grades have been assigned. Student evaluations are also reviewed by the Dean.

L. Course Grade Norms

- 1. The mean range for J.D. students in all courses listed in Part A and Part B (1) & (2) of the most recent J.D. Program Checklist is 2.9 to 3.1. Each LARW section must meet this mean based on substantive grades, not including penalties or the grades of students repeating the course.
- 2. The mean range for J.D. students in all other courses, but not including field placements, independent study, Academic Legal Scholarship, clinic, and practicums, is +/-0.330 of the incoming collective mean GPA of the J.D. students in the course.
- 3. The calculation of the mean for a normed course shall not include the grades of WF or F assigned primarily for failure to submit assignments or attend class.
- 4. For courses with Honors sections, the mean must be met for all sections of the course offered in the same semester combined, not by each separate section of the course.
- 5. An A+ grade may not be assigned to more than one student in any section of any course. An A+ grade may be awarded only for performance clearly superior to that of all students who are not awarded an A+ in the course, including students in any other simultaneous section of the course.
- 6. The Dean has authority to waive grade norm requirements for a particular course upon timely request (at least two business days before final grades are due) of the

instructor teaching the course if the Dean determines that extraordinary circumstances justify the waiver. Extraordinary circumstances may include, without limitation, an extremely small class size or an unusual mix of students.

VIII. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STANDARDS

Regent University School of Law (RUSL) presumes that while pursuing a legal education, all RUSL students will honorably conduct themselves with honesty and integrity in all matters in accordance with the Regent University Honor Code. The following specific standards govern the conduct of J.D. and LL.M. students while enrolled at RUSL, and these standards explain and clarify the various violations listed in the Regent University Honor Code as applied to these students. Each J.D. and LL.M. student is responsible for knowing and complying with these standards.

A. Scope

These standards govern conduct that 1) occurs on-campus, 2) occurs off-campus, online, or through other electronic means and is directed toward, involves, or affects a member of the Regent Community, and/or 3) occurs at or in conjunction with an event sponsored or funded wholly or in part by Regent University or RUSL. RUSL retains jurisdiction over alleged violations provided that any such allegation is brought within 2 years of the accused's separation or degree conferral from RUSL.

B. Definitions

- 1. Accessory—An individual who provides assistance or aids a principal offender in the violation of one or more of these standards without directly partaking in a violation, including (but not limited to) helping a principal offender escape from punishment for a violation by concealing evidence or providing false testimony to an investigating authority.
- 2. Accomplice—An individual who voluntarily and with common intent unites with a principal offender in violating one or more of these standards.
- 3. Accused—An RUSL J.D. or LL.M. student accused of violating one of these standards.
- 4. Accuser—An individual who is adversely affected by, witnesses, or has other credible evidence of a potential violation of one or more of these standards and who reports an allegation against the Accused.
- 5. Administration—The RUSL Dean, Associate Deans, and/or Assistant Deans. The RUSL Dean, Associate Deans, and/or Assistant Deans also serve as faculty members.
- 6. Assessment—Any quiz, test, midterm, exam, or other graded evaluation of a student's knowledge and/or application of course material.
- 7. Day—Calendar day.

- 8. Frivolous Complaint—A complaint in support of which the accuser can present no rational argument based upon the evidence, these standards, and/or Regent University's Honor Code.
- 9. Instructor—Any individual who teaches a course at RUSL.
- 10. Faculty—All full-time instructors who are entitled to vote at RUSL faculty meetings.
- 11. Faculty Member—A member of the RUSL faculty.
- 12. Purposely—A student acts purposely regarding conduct or causing a result if it is the student's conscious objective to engage in conduct of that nature or to cause such a result.
- 13. Regent Community—All Regent University and RUSL administrators, faculty members, instructors, student body members, and staff members.
- 14. Student Body—All currently enrolled degree-seeking students and all other persons enrolled in an RUSL course.

C. Violations

The following actions are prohibited:

- 1. Lying to RUSL administration, faculty, instructors, or staff members about school-related matters (including (but not limited to) misrepresenting or attempting to misrepresent the attendance or online participation of any student; providing a false excuse for any student missing an assessment, assignment, or class; or providing false information on credentials sent to potential employers);
- 2. Cheating or attempting to cheat, including (but not limited to)
 - a. Submitting as one's work the work of another (Regent University expressly recognizes that RUSL does not distinguish between "levels" of plagiarism in considering whether a violation of this standard has occurred or in considering available sanctions for violating this standard);
 - b. Soliciting, accessing, and/or using, or attempting to solicit, access, and/or use, materials and/or other assistance in an assignment or assessment other than those specifically authorized by the instructor or other designated authority;
 - c. Soliciting, accessing, and/or using, or attempting to solicit, access, and/or use, materials and/or other assistance in an assignment or assessment that are prohibited by the instructor or other designated authority;
 - d. Bringing materials, devices, and/or other items to any assessment that are prohibited by the instructor or other designated authority (whether such

- materials, devices, and/or items are actually accessed, used, or attempted to be accessed or used);
- e. Soliciting, accessing, and/or using or attempting to use solutions/assignments/work product from online websites or other electronic platforms;
- f. Unauthorized collaboration;
- g. Negligently failing to keep one's work product secure from cheating or attempted cheating by others; or
- h. Providing unauthorized materials and/or assistance (including, but not limited to, transmitting and/or posting, or enabling of transmitting and/or posting, of assignments, assessments, class materials, and/or solutions on websites and/or other electronic platforms and/or via other electronic means);
- 3. Stealing or misusing, or attempting to steal or misuse, library property, including (but not limited to)
 - a. Marking, labeling, tearing, or otherwise mutilating library materials (even if to assist other students);
 - b. Removing materials from the library without proper authorization; or
 - c. Depriving students of the opportunity to use materials meant to be in the library for the use of all students by hiding or destroying those materials;
- 4. Stealing or attempting to steal the tangible or intangible property of another, including (but not limited to)
 - a. Accessing, taking, and/or reproducing another student's work product/course materials without permission;
 - b. Accessing and/or taking an assignment, assessment, or other academic work of an instructor or other designated authority from a classroom, testing space, the instructor or other designated authority's office, or space designated for student review of the material without permission; or
 - c. Taking photographs of or otherwise reproducing or replicating an instructor or other designated authority's assignment, assessment, or other academic work or the contents thereof without permission;
- 5. Abusing Honor Code processes, including, but not limited to, making a frivolous complaint or lying or purposely withholding relevant information during any investigation into an alleged violation of these standards;
- 6. Failing to report within 14 days a suspected violation of these standards to the Associate Dean or the University (via the online reporting form) when a student has reasonable cause to believe that such a violation has occurred;
- 7. Failing or refusing to comply with Section E. (student certification);
- 8. Failing or refusing to comply with Section F. (duties to cooperate and testify);

- 9. Acting, or attempting to act, as an accomplice or accessory to an act that violates one or more of these standards;
- 10. Communicating, in any place or in any manner or forum, after one has taken an assessment, the contents of that assessment to a person who has not yet taken that assessment in the current semester; or
- 11. Communicating, after one has taken an assessment, the contents of that assessment in any place or in any manner or forum where a reasonable person should know that the communication could be heard or discovered by another student who is scheduled to take the assessment but has not yet done so in the current semester.

D. Other Conduct Standards

The list of violations in Section C. is not intended to constitute an all-inclusive list of sanctionable academic dishonesty offenses but rather to give examples of the types of behavior punishable under the Honor Code. Any academic dishonesty deemed by the RUSL administration to violate the spirit of the Honor Code shall be dealt with as though it were expressly prohibited herein. The written course policies or instructions of an instructor or other designated authority also may supplement the provisions in Section C.

E. Student Certification

- 1. Students must write and sign the following certification on every submission for a grade or credit in a course or for any RUSL academic competition (e.g., writing on to Law Review or other journal, competing in an intramural moot court competition, etc.): "On my honor, I hereby certify that I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this [exam, paper, assignment, etc.]." Instructors, supervising faculty members, and/or other designated authorities have discretion to modify the wording of required certifications in their courses or in conjunction with extracurricular activities they supervise. If the document must be submitted anonymously, the student must write his/her exam or other identification number to substitute for the signature.
- 2. If a student does not provide this signed certification, the instructor, supervising faculty member, or other person receiving the submission must notify the student in writing to give the student an opportunity to submit a signed certification. If the student fails or refuses to do so within 3 days of being notified, no credit will be given for the submission, and the matter will be referred to the Associate Dean as an Honor Code violation.

F. Duties to Cooperate and Testify

1. All RUSL students must cooperate with any Honor Code investigation and provide full and truthful information. No common law or statutory spousal

- privilege applies to the testimony of an RUSL student in conjunction with the Honor Code.
- 2. If an accused fails to cooperate with any Honor Code investigation, the investigation will continue without the accused's participation, and a decision will be made about the alleged conduct in his or her absence. If an accused impedes and/or fails to comply with the investigative process, he or she automatically waives his/her right to any reconsideration or appeal from any decision reached on his/her conduct, including any sanction(s) imposed.
- 3. If an RUSL student fails to cooperate with any Honor Code investigation, fails to provide full and truthful information, and/or otherwise impedes or fails to comply with the policies and procedures of the Honor process, the investigating authority, in his/her sole discretion, may decide (i) to continue with the Honor process to a decision about the accused's conduct based on existing evidence and/or information provided by other individuals involved in the matter or (ii) to pause the process against the accused for such a period of time as to initiate, consolidate, and/or complete Honor proceedings against any student who has failed to cooperate with the investigation, failed to testify fully and truthfully, and/or failed to cooperate or comply with the policies and procedures of the Honor process.

IX. STUDENT EMPLOYMENT, COMPETITIONS, AND ORGANIZATIONS

A. Student Employment

Traditional J.D. students are expected to give their full professional attention to their studies, particularly during the first year. For each credit hour, each J.D. course requires the equivalent of 45 hours of classroom or direct faculty instruction and out-of-class student work. The flexible J.D. program is for students who have other significant responsibilities, including the need to work. Any traditional J.D. student who has significant outside responsibilities, including working, assumes the risk of academic probation or dismissal.

B. Interscholastic Competitions

Representing the School of Law in an interscholastic skills competition is an honor and privilege reserved for students who have demonstrated a mastery of the relevant skills. To ensure that only qualified students represent the School of Law, skills teams ordinarily will be sent out only by an approved skills board (*i.e.*, the Dispute Resolution and Client Counseling Board, Moot Court Board, or Trial Practice Board) under the supervision of that board's faculty advisor.

If any students want to represent the School of Law in an interscholastic skills competition without being sent out by an approved skills board under the supervision of the board's faculty advisor, the following process must be followed. The interested students must apply to the Director of Experiential Learning, who shall appoint a faculty committee, including the faculty advisor for the relevant board, if applicable, and the faculty members who teach in the relevant area. The faculty committee shall have the sole authority to determine if sufficient qualified students exist to compose a team and, if so, to select the team or determine the process by which the team will be selected. The faculty committee may give due consideration to input from any student organization interested in sending out a team, from any faculty members who are not on the committee, or from any instructors who are not full-time faculty members. The students requesting to compete bear the burden of showing, by clear and convincing evidence, their fitness to compete.

Any team selected by the faculty committee to compete must work with the relevant skills board and faculty advisors to obtain the relevant coaching assistance, which may include the preparation requirements of a competition-related course, and to coordinate practice sessions. Any team selected in a manner that does not comply with this policy or that fails to obtain coaching and practice assistance from the relevant skills board and faculty advisor shall not be allowed to compete. Compliance with this policy does not guarantee law school funding for any competition.

To represent or compete interscholastically on behalf of the School of Law, a student must have completed all required first-year courses and not be on academic probation.

C. Extracurricular Intramural Competitions

As used in this section, "extracurricular" competitions shall mean competitions that are voluntary, optional, and outside the required curriculum.

No student shall compete in an extracurricular intramural competition in the fall semester of the student's first year of law study who has received a letter grade of "D-" or "F" (or equivalent score) on any graded assignment during the fall semester.

No student shall compete in an extracurricular intramural competition who (1) is on academic probation; or (2) has a cumulative law GPA below 2.500.

D. Student Organizations and Leadership

The School of Law invites and encourages the establishment of a variety of student organizations for the purpose of meeting the varied interests and needs of the School of Law community. Student organizations provide opportunities for continuing education and social awareness; connection with classmates; leadership; spiritual, character, and skill development; and community involvement. All law school student organizations and their governing documents initially must be approved by both the university and the School of Law, and law school student organizations and their governing documents must comply with all applicable university and School of Law policies, procedures, guidelines, and directives. Although the views expressed and actions taken by such organizations and their members are not endorsed by the university or the School of Law, such organizations operate only under the authority of, and are at all times accountable to, the School of Law faculty and administration.

A law student is required to be in good academic and disciplinary standing before pursuing any leadership positions within student organizations and must remain in good academic and disciplinary standing to hold any such leadership positions. Students serving as law school chaplains or law school representatives to the Council of Graduate Students (COGS) are "Regent Representatives" who must agree with and adhere to Regent's Christian Community and Mission Policy found at www.regent.edu/admin/stusrv/docs/CommunityMissionPolicy.pdf. Highlights include (1) Modeling Regent's Christian beliefs for others, performing all duties as a service to God, and complying with the belief, conduct, and practice obligations in the CCMP; (2) Faithfully affirming your agreement with Regent's Statement of Faith and other Christian beliefs and not subscribing to or promoting any religious beliefs inconsistent with these beliefs; (3) At all times (on-campus, off-campus, and online), endeavoring to display conduct that affirms Biblical standards of conduct in accordance with Regent's Christian beliefs; (4) Being ready, willing, and able to lead or contribute to distinctly Christian activities, such as worship or prayer services.

No student is eligible to serve in a leadership position in a student organization (with the exception of COGS) while in the student's first year of law study.

X. FACILITIES, COMMUNICATIONS, AND DRESS CODE

A. Email and Online Services

Students are expected to check their Regent email account each day. Students may check email from any on-campus computer or from their home via a commercial internet provider.

1. Definitions

Electronic mail ("email") is defined as an office communications tool whereby electronic messages are prepared, sent and retrieved on personal computers.

Online services (i.e., the Internet, the web) are defined as a communications tool whereby business information, reference material and messages are sent and retrieved electronically on personal computers.

2. Regent University Email and Internet

Because of the unique nature of email and the Internet, and because of Regent University's desire to protect its interests with regard to its electronic records, the following rules have been established to apply to all agents of the university, including but not limited to employees, non-paid volunteers, adjunct faculty, and independent contractors.

- a. The Regent University email and Internet system is intended to be used for business purposes, including access from off-campus.
- b. The Regent University email and Internet system is the property of the university, and the employees of the university have no personal privacy rights with respect to messages created, received, or sent from the university's email system. The university reserves the right to monitor all email, and all email is subject to monitoring without notice. Further, the university must have access to the entire system for emergencies and maintenance.
- c. All email and Internet records are considered university records and should be transmitted only to individuals who have a business need to receive them. Additionally, as university records, email and Internet records are subject to disclosure to law enforcement or government officials or to other third parties through subpoena or other legal process. Consequently, employees should always ensure that the business information contained in email and Internet messages is accurate, appropriate and lawful. Regent University reserves the right to disclose employee email messages and Internet records to law enforcement or

government officials or to other third parties, without notification to or permission from the employees sending or receiving the messages.

- d. No email messages or Internet records should be created or sent which may constitute intimidating, hostile, or offensive material on the basis of sex, gender, race, color, religion, national origin, or disability. The university's policy against sexual or other harassment applies fully to the email and Internet system.
- e. The university's policy prohibiting use of university facilities, equipment and letterhead for partisan political purposes applies fully to the email and Internet system.
- f. Abuse of the email or Internet systems, through excessive personal use, or use in violation of law or university policies, will result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment. All persons to whom these rules are applicable, as stated above, are responsible for adhering to these rules. All supervisory personnel are responsible for ensuring that these rules are adhered to within their respective areas of responsibility.

3. Law School Student Listserve

Announcements will be communicated to the student body through a weekly email message normally sent to the all-student listserve on Friday afternoon. The listserve is reserved for the exclusive use of the School of Law administration.

All requests for announcements to be included in the weekly message should be sent as an email to the Assistant to the Dean by noon on Thursday.

Approved announcements will be included one time in the weekly email message and then archived for later reference. To request that an announcement be repeated, an email request must be sent to the Assistant to the Dean during each week that the announcement is desired to be repeated. To request that an announcement be sent to the student body at any time other than in the weekly email message, an email request must be sent to the Assistant to the Dean and the Associate Dean and the special announcement must be approved by both.

4. Student Organization Social Media/Internet Presence Policy.

Law school student organizations may neither create nor maintain an internet presence other than on Regent University's official website and on Instagram. In addition to sending announcements to the Dean's Office for inclusion in the weekly email distributed to the study body, student organizations are strongly encouraged to send all announcements relating to events, speakers, membership, elections, etc. to the Law School Student Affairs and Records Office (lawrecords@regent.edu) so that the announcements can be published through

appropriate official university channels (such as the Regent University website or Regent Law School Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube accounts) that reach a large and diverse audience. Any announcements sent to the Records Office must be sent at least 48 business hours in advance of the desired date of posting. Sending information to the Records Office does not guarantee that your organization's announcement will be posted on law school accounts, as there are many student organizations to accommodate, and the law school also posts its own content on its accounts.

Any student organization desiring a new presence or wishing to maintain an existing presence on Instagram in a given academic year must receive the written approval of the law school administration, the university's Office of Student Engagement, and Regent's Executive Vice President for Enrollment Services for each academic year. To receive this approval, the organization must agree to (1) appoint a member whose sole responsibility within the organization is to manage and maintain the Instagram account, post relevant material relevant to the organization, monitor content, and comport with university and law school policies and branding guidelines after being trained by university staff; (2) supply the name of the member responsible for maintaining the Instagram account, as well as the current administrative credentials to the Instagram account, to the Associate Dean no later than the final Friday in August; (3) use a Regent-supplied email address to create the account and not link the account to any Facebook profile; (4) post material relating to the organization at least once every two weeks during the academic year; (5) post only material that complies with all laws, as well as all law school and university policies, procedures, branding guidelines, and directives; (6) report any content posted by others in response to organizational posts that may be violative of any of these policies to the Associate Dean; (7) post the following statement on the Instagram site: "The information and views expressed by this organization and on this site are those of this organization and do not constitute official communication from Regent University or Regent University School of Law"; and (8) pass along administrative privileges and information each year to the incoming organizational leadership.

Except for an Instagram account approved by the law school administration and Office of Student Engagement (or in the case of an exemption requested by the organization and granted by the law school administration), all social media and/or other websites related to any law school student organization must be deleted. Before the start of an academic year, if an organization is aware of previous social media accounts or websites for the organization that the organization currently lacks the credentials to delete, the organization must notify the Associate Dean of each of those accounts and/or sites no later than the final Friday in August.

If an organization believes that due to its unique characteristics, there are extraordinary circumstances that require it to be exempt from one or more of the above requirements in a given academic year, it must send a proposal to the

Associate Dean no later than the final Friday in August explaining the extraordinary circumstances in detail and describing the specific relief sought.

Remember that when an organization is given the privilege of its own internet presence, the organization is representing Regent University and Regent University School of Law. All content, posts, comments, and actions on these sites can affect the reputation of the university and the law school, as well as other individuals affiliated with these institutions. When developing content, use good judgment and give careful thought to what is posted, knowing that content can reach anyone, may be misinterpreted, may show up outside of its original context, may be replicated quickly, and may remain public for an indeterminate amount of time. An organization must not delete comments simply because an organization disagrees with the point of view expressed or because the author has reacted negatively. However, if a comment exposes the private data of others or contains commercial solicitations, the organization should delete them. If an organization observes comments that it believes are off-topic, factually erroneous/libelous, or are threatening, abusive, or obscene, or if an organization suspects an account has been compromised, it should contact the Associate Dean immediately to determine the appropriate course of action.

Organizations must not post content that could raise actual or apparent conflicts of interest or jeopardize the university's non-profit tax-exempt status. Organizations must not express political opinions or engage in political activities. Confidentiality of proprietary or protected information (operating plans, vendor communications, donor information, financial data, internal presentations and correspondence, etc.) must be maintained. Organizations must not disclose personally identifiable information of students (health information, transcripts, grades, home addresses, social security numbers, student identification numbers, etc.). Organizations must be respectful of intellectual property rights of others; use of third-party copyrighted or trademarked material or use of a third person's likeness without permission may be illegal and may expose the university and law school to liability. Organizations are responsible for obtaining the necessary clearance for their use of intellectual property rights and a person's likeness in connection with their communications. If an organization is unsure about whether potential content may implicate any of these issues, contact the Associate Dean for guidance.

The law school and university reserve the right to remove any postings, comments, or other content that is determined to be in violation of any law or any university or law school policy, procedure, branding guidelines, or directive, or that substantially disrupts the function of the institution. Any organization found not to be in compliance with any of these requirements will lose the right to utilize any internet presence other than on the Regent University official website or other official university channels, and any individuals or organizations found not to be in compliance with any of these requirements may be subject to disciplinary action.

B. Law School Events

All law events must be sponsored by the School of Law or a law school student organization. All law school events organized by student organizations must be approved by the School of Law Student Affairs and Records Office before the event is submitted for university approval. All event requests must be made no later than 14 calendar days before the event. This requirement may be waived in writing by the Associate Dean only if the event involves an extremely high-profile speaker or if the sponsoring organization presents written proof of other extraordinary circumstances that prevented a timely request from being submitted.

Law school student organizations must send the proposed event details in writing to the Student Affairs and Records Office (lawrooms@regent.edu) for approval. Event details must include the date of the event and alternative date(s) for the event (in order of preference), starting and ending time, student organization(s) in charge of the event, names and mobile phone numbers of two points of contact for the event (main and alternate), title and purpose of the event, and target audience for the event (1L class, 2L class, 3L class, all law students, etc.). In general, no law events will be scheduled or advertised that conflict with an outside speaker already scheduled to come to campus, with events being sponsored by the School of Law administration, or with any event sponsored by another law school student organization that targets the same audience and already has received final approval from the university.

Once approved by the Student Affairs and Records Office, the organization will be granted permission to fill out the appropriate request form with Administrative Services. The Student Affairs and Records Office approval does not guarantee Administrative Services approval. Student organizations are prohibited from advertising any proposed event before final approval from Administrative Services. Once an event receives final approval, all event advertisement must be approved by the Associate Dean.

Any violation of this policy will result in the following penalties:

First violation: Each student leader of the organization in charge of the event will be notified of the violation and will be required to read, sign, and submit to the Student Affairs and Records Office a written copy of this policy. The submission must be made within 7 business days or a hold will be placed on the student's account.

Second violation: The student leadership of the organization in charge of the event will be required to meet jointly with the Associate Dean within 10 business days or a hold will be placed on the accounts of all student leaders of the organization.

Third violation: The student leadership of the organization in charge of the event will be required to meet with the organization's faculty advisor and the Dean for Administration within 10 business days or a hold will be placed on the accounts of all student leaders of the organization. The student organization further will be prohibited from sponsoring another event within 60 days of the date the violation was discovered.

C. Freedom of Expression

- 1. Regent University School of Law is a private Christian institution that values sharing knowledge, the search for truth, and students' social, intellectual, and spiritual development. Above all, the School of Law is committed to promoting virtues that glorify our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Effective legal education and the development of the law require the free, robust, and uninhibited sharing of ideas reflecting a wide range of viewpoints. Becoming an effective advocate or counselor requires learning how to conduct candid and civil discourse in respectful disagreement with others while advancing reasoned and evidence-based arguments. The expression of differing viewpoints is commonplace in academia; however, the expression of differing viewpoints must be conducted with intellectual integrity and in an orderly and peaceful manner. The School of Law holds the right of expression as necessary as the right of inquiry and that both must be preserved as essential to the pursuit and dissemination of knowledge and truth. Notwithstanding any University policy to the contrary, this right of expression allows School of Law faculty, students, and staff, as well as invited speakers to the School of Law, to communicate ideas that may be controversial or unpopular, except that speech of employees in non-faculty roles (e.g., staff, administrators) may not be protected when they are speaking within the scope of their official duties, consistent with applicable First Amendment law.
- 2. This policy does not create any contractual right, and nothing in this policy shall be construed as a waiver of the School of Law's rights under the United States or Virginia Constitution.
- 3. The School of Law specifically reserves the right to reasonably restrict the time, place, and manner of expression and to restrict expression that is contrary to its religious mission in accordance with the protection of the United States or Virginia Constitution.
- 4. The School of Law reserves the right to restrict expression that jeopardizes the tax-exempt status of the School of Law or the University, such as partisan political activity, and adopts and incorporates by reference the University policies and procedures in the Regent University Employee Handbook and Regent University Student Handbook regulating such expression.
- 5. School of Law faculty, students, and staff engaging in expression that violates this policy are subject to discipline in accordance with the conduct disciplinary and procedures outlined in the Regent University Employee Handbook or the Regent University Student Handbook, as applicable. Invited speakers and other individuals not affiliated with the School of Law who participate in law school functions, events, or activities, or who otherwise engage in expressive activities at the School of Law are expected to follow this policy, and the School of Law reserves the right to remove any individual who violates this policy from the School of Law or from the University Campus.

- 6. The following expression is expressly prohibited:
 - a. Expression that prevents, substantially disrupts, or interferes with law school functions or approved activities, including, but not limited to, classes, meetings, library services, interviews, ceremonies, chapel services, student events, competitions, and public events;
 - b. Expression that violates the law, is defamatory, is threatening or harassing, is physically coercive or intimidating, that unjustifiably invades substantial privacy or confidentiality interests, or that otherwise is unprotected by the law; and
 - c. Expression that jeopardizes the tax-exempt status of the School of Law or the University, as more fully described in the Regent University Employee Handbook and Regent University Student Handbook.

D. Food and Drink in Classrooms

To provide a clean, safe and attractive facility for everyone in which to work, study, and enjoy, no food or drink is allowed in the Shaw Chapel Sanctuary, Moot Courtroom, Library Auditorium, or Main Theatre of the Communications Building.

Food and drink is allowed in building lobbies, the Library second floor balcony, and classrooms during events and meetings; however, the event coordinator is responsible for clean up (removing all event items; cleaning tables and chairs of food residue; and taking trash to the nearest dumpster or compactor). For classes, the instructor either must take responsibility for clean up or designate a student.

Where drinks are permitted, they are permitted <u>only</u> when contained in cups with very tightly-fitting lids. No red liquids are permitted at any time. Where food is permitted, no food that is likely to cause a mess (i.e., food with sauces, gravies, etc.) is permitted. Box lunches and pizza are permitted. Any food or drink found in violation of these policies will be subject to confiscation and disposal.

When a spill or mess does occur, call Facility Services immediately at ext. 4445/4444 so the problem can be rectified as quickly as possible.

E. Student Lockers

There are 94 lockers in Robertson Hall which are available to students on a reserved basis. Priority is given to students without a library carrel reservation. Students must provide their own locks.

Locker measurements are:

15 inches wide

18 inches deep

36 inches tall

Lockers are non-transferable. Regent University reserves the right to inspect lockers if warranted. Perishable, hazardous, or dangerous materials may not be stored in lockers.

Lockers must be emptied and locks removed by the last day of spring semester law exams. Any items or locks remaining may be discarded and/or destroyed. December graduates must empty their lockers and remove their locks by the last day of fall semester law exams. Any violations of locker or other university or School of Law policies may result in locker forfeiture.

Regent University does not assume responsibility for the content of the lockers.

F. Computer and Wireless Access

Four computer labs are located on the Regent University campus, one each in the Law Library, Student Center, Classroom Building, and Communication and Performing Arts Center. The Law Library computer lab is available to students during library open hours, and the other labs are available during regular building hours, 7:00 a.m. to midnight, seven days a week. The PCs in these labs are upgraded every three years, and the software is kept current by the IT department.

Students with laptops or other wireless devices may connect to high-speed wireless Internet access in most areas of each building on campus. For more information on specific wireless access points, view the university's online wireless documentation at www.regent.edu/information-technology/#student-resources/regent-wifi

G. Dress Code

The School of Law desires to prepare students for the professional environment of the practice of law. Accordingly, in matters of dress, students should recognize that they are preparing for career placement and thus should present themselves in a manner consistent with professional standards. While modest casual dress is normally acceptable on campus, recreational and beach attire such as cropped, tank, or midriff shirts, hats, or short shorts are not in keeping with professional standards and are therefore prohibited.

Whenever a distinguished guest visits the School of Law or etiquette would otherwise require it, students will be required to wear professional attire. The Associate Dean will provide advance notice to the student body of when this standard applies. "Professional attire" is formal business attire that would be appropriate for court. All students should be in properly-fitting gray or dark-colored suits. Men should wear long-sleeve dress shirts, conservative ties, and polished dress shoes in good condition. Women may wear either a pant suit or a skirt suit with sheer or dark hosiery (provided that skirt length is at or below the knee). Women's blouses should not be low-cut, and women's shoes should be a conservative color, closed-toe, with no higher than 2-inch heels. Hair (including men's facial hair) should be neat, well-groomed, and professional in appearance. Jewelry and accessories should be tasteful and limited. Students should avoid excessive

cologne/perfume, extremely long or brightly painted nails, visible piercings or tattoos, or anything else distracting in appearance.

XI. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS, COMMENCEMENT, BAR EXAMINATION, AND THIRD YEAR PRACTICE

A. Juris Doctor Degree

To receive a Juris Doctor degree (J.D.) from Regent University, a student must complete a course of study of no fewer than 90 credit hours for single-degree students (83 credit hours for joint-degrees students) extending over a period of no less than twenty-four months.

Absent extraordinary circumstances (e.g., unexpected active duty service in the United States military), a traditional J.D. student must complete the credit hour, curricular, and grade requirements within five years from the date he or she entered the School of Law, and a flexible J.D. student (or a traditional J.D. student who later changes to a flexible J.D. student) must complete the credit hour, curricular, and grade requirements within six years from the date he or she entered the School of Law.

B. Joint Degrees

A joint degrees candidate must complete all the School of Law requirements and those of the other school before the J.D. or other degree will be granted. Students who are in the J.D./M.A. in Government degrees program must comply with the Internship and Directed Research requirements stated in the <u>Public Policy Program Guidebook</u> before they may participate in Commencement exercises.

C. Commencement

Regent University has only one commencement per year, normally in early May. Commencement involves several activities, in addition to the graduation ceremony. It is normally held on the Saturday following the last day of exams. Commencement-related activities may include a graduation banquet and individual school commissioning services.

Students must obtain approval to participate in Commencement. All students must have demonstrated their completion of all requirements toward graduation prior to participating in Commencement. Students who have not completed all requirements to participate in Commencement may participate only if they have no more than two courses remaining for graduation and these courses must be completed in the summer. (The summer coursework may include a field placement or practicum experience.) Participating in Commencement prior to completing all graduation requirements is a privilege and does not guarantee the student's right to graduate unless all requirements have been met. Any law student requesting permission to participate in Commencement who has not completed all graduation requirements but who is eligible to walk under the above criteria must

- 1. Receive certification from the Dean (through the School of Law Student Affairs and Records Office) that the student is eligible to participate in Commencement (to send to the Registrar's Office by March 1); and
- 2. Receive final written approval from the Registrar's Office that the student is eligible to participate in Commencement; and
- 3. Register and pay for coursework during summer registration.

D. Character and Fitness to Practice Law

After a law student applies to take a bar examination, the respective bar examiners in every jurisdiction have the School of Law provide an evaluation of that student's character and fitness to practice law. The School of Law therefore encourages each student to disclose fully any potential character and qualification issues pertaining to admission to the bar at several phases of the student's law school experience. Students are informed of the need for full disclosure at the application stage, upon matriculation, during their time in law school, and again as they near graduation.

In the Application Process. The School of Law's application form begins the process of apprising students of the need to secure information regarding character and other qualifications for admission to the bar.

The "CHARACTER & FITNESS" section for admission begins as follows:

In addition to a bar examination, there are character, fitness, and other qualifications for admission to the bar in every U.S. jurisdiction. Applicants are encouraged to determine the requirements for any jurisdiction in which they intend to seek admission by contacting the jurisdiction. Addresses for all relevant agencies are available through the National Conference of Bar Examiners.

After a law student applies to take a bar examination, the respective bar examiners require the School of Law to provide an evaluation of the student's character and fitness to practice law. Therefore, the School of Law performs an essential function in assessing a student's character and fitness to practice law when it considers an applicant for admission and poses the questions below. If you answer any of the following questions affirmatively, you must provide a complete explanation, including essential information (e.g., a thorough description, the date, the jurisdiction, the original charge, and the disposition).

Central to determining one's character and fitness to practice law is the act of voluntary disclosure. If the school learns that your answer to any of these questions is not accurate, your acceptance may be revoked, and the details surrounding your misrepresentation may be reported to LSAC. If you are already enrolled, you may be subject to disciplinary action, including dismissal. You are under a continuing duty to notify the School of Law of any changes in your answers to these questions.

The application then asks students to answer a series of questions which are germane to students' character and fitness for admission to the bar:

Have you ever been on academic or disciplinary warning, probation, suspension, or otherwise disciplined or sanctioned in any way by any postsecondary educational institution (i.e., after high school)?

Are there any academic or disciplinary charges, or financial claims from any academic institution pending against you?

Have you been charged, arrested, convicted, fined, jailed, placed on probation, ordered to do community service, or otherwise sanctioned in any way for the violation of any law, including traffic violations? (Note: This question includes, but is not limited to, juvenile offenses, deferred findings, charges that were ultimately dropped by the prosecuting entity (nolle prosequi) or dismissed by the court, violations of protective/restraining orders, and violations of terms of probation. The only charges that need not be disclosed are parking tickets and charges that have been formally expunged in accordance with the process provided in applicable state law. If a charge has been expunged, you must have an order of expungement from the court in your possession.)

Have you ever been the subject of a military demotion, military discipline, military non-judicial punishment, military court martial hearing, dishonorable discharge from the military, or administrative separation from military service with other than an honorable discharge?

Have you ever been discharged or asked to resign from employment or volunteer service as a result of an accusation that involved dishonesty, theft, discrimination, harassment, or a threatening and/or physical altercation, regardless of whether your employer or supervisor documented such accusation in writing?

Have you ever been a named party (as a plaintiff/complainant or defendant/respondent) to any civil lawsuit, other court proceeding, written complaint, or government administrative action or proceeding? (Note: This question includes, but is not limited to, proceedings involving divorce/child custody/adoption, bankruptcy, debt collection, landlord/tenant disputes, protective/restraining orders, worker's compensation, unemployment/disability/social security/other government benefits, civil rights, or employment discrimination/harassment/retaliation.)

Upon Matriculation and During Law School. During the week prior to the commencement of classes, all incoming first-year students are required to attend

Orientation. During the student affairs portion of Orientation, the Associate Dean discusses with the students the importance of their responding fully to the character and fitness questions. The Associate Dean reminds the students of the specific questions and of students' continuing obligation to notify the school of any character issues that were not previously disclosed on the application or that arise during their course of study. Students are instructed to use the online Character and Fitness to Practice Law Self-Disclosure Form at regentcentral.etrieve.cloud/Index#/form/151?focus=true to update their character and fitness information with all relevant details. Any new information students submit is placed in their student file. Students needing further assistance or counseling regarding character and fitness concerns are encouraged to consult the Associate Dean.

In addition to this discussion during Orientation, the Associate Dean during the spring semester conducts Orientation Part II, which is also required for first-year students. During this session, the Associate Dean again reminds students of their ongoing responsibility to disclose to the school all relevant character and fitness information.

Nearing Graduation. In the final semester of study, all graduating students are required to submit a Character and Fitness to Practice Law Self-Disclosure form to the Student Affairs and Records Office to ensure that office has complete up-to-date information on students' character and fitness. Students are asked to explain in detail any information not included on their law school application or not previously disclosed to the school during their course of study.

E. Registration and Application Procedures for Bar Examinations

- 1. Students are obligated to learn the registration and application procedures for the bar examination in the jurisdiction(s) of their interest. The *Comprehensive Guide to Bar Admission Requirements* is available from the Student Affairs and Records Office and on the Student Resources webpage. In addition, students may obtain this information from the National Council of Bar Examiners (reports.ncbex.org/comp-guide/) or the individual jurisdiction bar examiners' websites (addresses vary). Students should begin their applications for bar examinations at their earliest convenience. In many jurisdictions, application fees are discounted for early applications. In addition, gathering the requisite information and completing an application for a bar examination can take weeks. It is critical that students not wait until the last minute because no jurisdiction will accept late applications.
- 2. Virginia Bar Exam—3L February Bar Exam Certification Requirements and Procedures
 - a. Students who have completed at least five semesters of full-time study at an ABA-approved law school and received a signed certificate of legal studies may sit for the Virginia Bar Exam administered in February of their final semester of law school. *See* Va. Code Ann. § 54.1-3926 (2022) & Virginia Board of Bar Examiners Rules § IV.E.c. Students desiring to sit

- for the Virginia Bar Exam administered in February of their final semester must receive certification from the Law School.
- b. For a student to be eligible for certification to take the Virginia Bar Exam administered during February of his or her final semester of law school, a student must
 - i. Have a cumulative law GPA of 3.200 or higher;
 - ii. Have completed all J.D. curricular requirements listed on the B(1) and B(2) menus;
 - iii. Have completed the Rigorous Written Skills requirement; and
 - iv. Enroll in courses totaling no more than 10 credit hours in the final semester.
- c. By July 1 preceding an eligible student's final year of law school, an eligible student must complete an Application for Certification provided by the Law School (available on the Student Resources webpage) and be certified by the Law School in order to register for the Virginia Bar Exam. The Application must include the following information:
 - i. An updated résumé and law school transcript;
 - ii. The reason(s) the student believes it important to take the bar exam in the February of his or her final year of law school;
 - iii. A realistic proposed study schedule for the bar exam (beginning during the 3L Fall semester and including anticipated paid or unpaid outside employment or field placements);
 - iv. A proposed course schedule for the student's final semester;
 - v. An explanation of how the proposed course and study schedule will reasonably prepare the student to take the Virginia Bar Exam;
 - vi. An explanation of how the student plans to balance the responsibilities of any anticipated paid or unpaid outside employment or field placements with the time demands of the proposed study schedule and the student's courseload;
 - vii. Where the student plans to reside while studying for the bar exam and for the remainder of his or her final semester of law school;
 - viii. Whether the student has registered for a commercial bar preparation course or plans to do so, including the name of the company (or companies, if multiple), and if the student does not

- plan to use a commercial bar preparation course, a statement of the student's rationale for not doing so; and
- ix. Confirmation that the student has passed the Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam (MPRE) or a proposal detailing when the student will take the MPRE.
- The Application will be reviewed by the Associate Dean in consultation d. with members of the administration and/or faculty. A decision on certification will be reached and communicated to the student within 60 days, and the Associate Dean's decision is final and not appealable. A student may be certified without condition, conditionally certified, or not certified. The Associate Dean may request that the student provide additional or clarifying information and may require meeting(s) with the student before making a decision. The certification decision will be made based on a review of the student's entire proposal and academic history (including the contents of the Application and any supplemental information provided by the student upon request), as well as information provided by administration and faculty about the student's demonstrated motivation and capacity to succeed in passing the bar exam. It will be within the full discretion of the Associate Dean to determine whether the student is prepared to take the Virginia Bar Exam in February of his or her final semester of law school and whether, and on what conditions (if any), certification is appropriate. Certification may be conditioned on the satisfaction of certain additional requirements, including but not limited to
 - i. The student's registration in certain courses for the fall or spring semesters of the student's final year of study;
 - ii. Suspension of the student's participation in extracurricular activities, outside paid or unpaid employment, or other activities during January and February of the final semester; and/or
 - iii. Any additional requirements the Associate Dean determines necessary to ensure that the student has a comprehensive plan for preparing for, and successfully passing, the February Virginia Bar Exam while simultaneously completing the remainder of his or her law school education.
- e. Students who have received a conditional or unconditional certification must confirm with the Associate Dean by October 1 that they intend to register for the February Virginia Bar Exam. Students who have been certified to take the bar exam are responsible for all registration and other requirements of the Virginia Board of Bar Examiners.
- f. Students who have received a conditional or unconditional certification must confirm their spring schedule with the Associate Dean no later than

November 15. If a student plans to participate in a field placement (externship/apprenticeship) in the spring, the student must obtain the requisite approvals and present proof of the Law School's approval of the field placement. If a student plans to complete an Independent Study in the spring, the student must obtain the requisite approvals and present proof of the Law School's approval of the Independent Study.

g. By submission to the certification process, a student agrees that if, at any time, the Associate Dean, in consultation with members of the administration and/or faculty, determines that conditions of the certification are not being met or that the student otherwise is making inadequate progress in preparation for the bar exam, the student will postpone sitting for the bar exam no later than the Wednesday prior to the administration of the bar exam.

F. Virginia Third Year Practice

Under limited circumstances, third year law students, in the presence of a supervising lawyer, may appear in Virginia courts or administrative tribunals. The Third Year Student Practice Rule is found in the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia, Part 6, Section IV, Paragraph 15.

Students should have a reasonable expectation of completing all degree requirements within no more than two regular semesters after applying for Third Year Student Practice. To qualify, students must have completed Criminal Law, Professional Responsibility, Evidence, and Civil Procedure I and II.

A student must complete the J.D. Virginia Third Year Practice Certificate request (www.regent.edu/it/ESign/jd_third_yr_prac_cert_entry.cfm) to the Associate Dean to request permission to practice under the Third Year Student Practice Rule. Students may request certification under the Third Year Student Practice Rule after completing the curricular requirements and before the beginning of final examinations in their final semester. No requests are accepted from graduates.

Students interested in Third Year Student Practice need to read the relevant rule of the Supreme Court of Virginia to ensure they comply with its provisions. The Rule may be found at www.vacourts.gov/static/courts/scv/amendments/part_six_sect_iv_para_15.pdf.

XII. CAREER SERVICES

The Office of Career & Alumni Services assists law students in developing a personalized career plan to secure fulfilling post-graduate employment. Students are encouraged to start their career planning early and are eligible to meet with counselors from the Office of Career & Alumni Services in the fall of their first semester. The career counselors provide tailored services such as resume and cover letter review, personalized job search strategy, mock interviews, and alumni mentoring in order to best prepare students for the job market. The Office of Career & Alumni Services partners with faculty advisors and local bar and professional associations for a holistic approach to a self-directed career strategy.

In addition, the Office of Career & Alumni Services offers diverse programming, inviting prominent members of the judiciary and attorneys from multiple practice areas to share their expertise and instruct students on professionalism and networking. Samples of programming include Attorney Interview Workshops, Attorneys in Practice Panels, Judicial Clerkship Programs, JAG presentations, and DOJ Honors Application Workshops. The Office also provides hundreds of internship opportunities, resume collections, on-campus interviews, and externship sites throughout the academic year and during the summers for students to gain valuable career-related experiences and explore multiple areas of law.

The Office of Career & Alumni Services offers schedules in order to prepare students in each semester for securing meaningful employment. All of these steps help students prepare to be a workmen approved by God and men (Romans 14:18; II Timothy 2:15) and are critical in obtaining employment following graduation.