

JURIS DOCTOR (J.D.)

Overview

At its essence, the lawyering profession is one that seeks the truth, works to restore equity, and strives to make people and organizations whole again. The Penn State Dickinson Law J.D. Program — from our 1L curriculum that will introduce you to both lawyering skills and extralegal competencies to our upper-level curriculum that begins to shape your career with a concentrated focus on your chosen areas of legal practice — is a three-year, six semester course of study offered in both our Carlisle and University Park locations.

To receive the J.D. degree, a student must:

1. earn at least 88 credits, including all first-year required courses;
2. be in residence for six semesters;
3. meet good standing requirements;
4. complete an upper-level writing seminar with at least a C;
5. complete Professional Responsibility with at least a C;
6. complete the required credits for experiential learning; and
7. complete one course that satisfies ABA Standard 303(c) with at least a C.

Admission Requirements

A stronger future, together. Penn State Dickinson Law offers two vibrant locations (<https://dickinsonlaw.psu.edu/two-locations-stronger-future-together/>); boasts decades of leading legal education as one of the oldest law schools in the country; remains committed to supportive and intentionally small classes with individualized attention from professors who love practicing the law and shaping its future; and provides all the amazing resources and networks that come with being a Penn State student.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ADMISSIONS TO THE PENN STATE DICKINSON LAW J.D. PROGRAM (<https://dickinsonlaw.psu.edu/apply-jd/>)

Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
FIRST YEAR - FALL		
LWREQ 900	Civil Procedure	4
LWREQ 910	Criminal Law	3
LWREQ 912	Legal Analysis & Writing I	2
LWREQ 915	Pathways to Legal Success: Foundations, Skills, and Career Development	1
LWREQ 925	Torts	4
LWREQ 930	Race & Equal Protection of the Laws	0.5
FIRST YEAR - SPRING		
LWREQ 903	Constitutional Law I	3
LWREQ 905	Contracts	4
LWREQ 908	Legal Research	2
LWREQ 914	Legal Analysis & Writing II	2
LWREQ 920	Property	4
LWREQ 930	Race & Equal Protection of the Laws	0.5
SECOND OR THIRD YEAR		
LWREQ 934	Professional Responsibility	3
Required Upper-Level Writing Seminar Course		2-3

Required Experiential Learning Credits	9
Required ABA 303(c) Course	1-3
Elective Credits	40-43
Total Credits	88

Professional Licensure/Certification

Many U.S. states and territories require professional licensure/certification to be employed. If you plan to pursue employment in a licensed profession after completing this program, please visit the Professional Licensure/Certification Disclosures by State (<https://opair.psu.edu/plc/dashboard/>) interactive map.