

# Law

## What can I do with this degree?

Studying the discipline of law focuses on the principles and regulations in an established community, learning how legal problems are solved and learning that law is the antithesis of anarchy. There are many career opportunities in this field because it is always in high demand in all parts of the United States and the world.



### Law Skills

- Authoritative
- Advocacy
- Communication
- Comprehension of Written Language
- Critical Thinking
- Legal Analysis and Reasoning
- Negotiation
- Problem Solving
- Research
- Understanding Human Values

### AREAS OF SPECIALTY

#### ...in Business Law

##### Areas of Interest

- Antitrust
- Banking
- Bankruptcy/Reorganization
- Contracts (insurance, construction, franchising)
- Corporate (securities, mergers and acquisitions, and international commercial law)
- Entertainment
- Private Groups Contract
- Regulated Industries (utilities, food and drugs, communications and transportation)
- Securities Compliance
- Tax

##### Possible Work Settings

- Banks
- City and County Law Offices
- Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

##### Professional Organizations

- American Bar Association <http://www.americanbar.org/aba.html>
- National Organization of Black Law Enforcement <http://www.noblenational.org/>
- Professional Associations and Organizations <http://www.thecre.com/fedlaw/legal91.htm>

#### ....in Computer Law

##### Areas of Interest

- E-Lawyering
- Information Resources
- Intellectual Property
- Risk Management
- Senior Claims

## Possible Work Settings

- Corporations
- Federal, State, and Local Government
- Law Firms
- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

## Professional Organizations

- American Intellectual Property Law Association <http://www.aipla.org/Pages/default.aspx>

## ...in Criminal Law

### Areas of Interest

- Constitutional Cases
- Criminal Defense
- Criminal Investigation
- Prosecution
- Public Defender
- White Collar Criminal Defender

### Possible Work Settings

- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Private Law Firms
- U.S. or State Attorney General Office
- U.S. Supreme Court

### Professional Organizations

- Association of Federal Defense Lawyers <http://afda.org/>
- National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers <http://www.nacdl.org/>
- National Organization of Black Law Enforcement <http://www.noblenational.org/>

## ....in Immigration Law

### Areas of Interest

- Customs Inspection
- Legal Administrator

### Possible Work Settings

- Department of Homeland Security
- Immigrations Offices

### Professional Organizations

- American Immigration Lawyer Association <http://www.aila.org/>
- National Immigration Project <http://www.nationalimmigrationproject.org/>

## ....in Education

### Areas of Interest

- Bar Examiner
- Law School Placement
- Professor



## Possible Work Settings

- All Branches of the Military
- Attorney General's Office
- Business and Law Schools
- Colleges and Universities
- Congress
- Federal Courts of Appeal
- Government Branches
- Judge's Office and Courts
- Paralegal Schools
- Public and Private School Districts

## Professional Organizations

- Education Law Association <https://educationlaw.org/>
- National Home Education Legal Defense <http://www.nheld.com/>

## ....in Family Law

### Areas of Interest

- Custody and Divorce
- Domestic Relations
- Elder Law
- Juvenile Law

## Possible Work Settings

- County Law Offices
- Family Law Offices
- Juvenile Detention Centers
- State Courts

## Professional Organizations

- Association of Certified Family Law Association <http://www.acfls.org/>
- National Association of Counsel for Children <http://www.naccchildlaw.org/>

## ....in Health Law

### Areas of Interest

- Doctors and HMO's
- Legal-Medical Ethics Committees
- Malpractice
- Public Policy

## Possible Work Settings

- Clinics
- Hospitals

## Professional Organizations

- American Health Lawyers Association <http://www.healthlawyers.org/>
- Public Health Lawyer Association <http://www.phla.info/>

## ....in Environmental Law

### Areas of Interest

- Admiralty Attorney
- Environmental Claims
- Game Law Enforcement
- Land Use
- Natural Resources and Energy Law
- Nuisance and Trespass
- Toxic Torts



## Possible Work Settings

- Energy Companies
- Forestry Offices
- Real Estate

## Professional Organizations

- Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide <https://www.elaw.org/>
- National Association of Environmental Law Societies <http://www.naels.org/>
- National Environmental Law Association <http://www.nela.org.au/>

## ...in International Law

### Areas of Interest

- International Commercial
- Public International

### Possible Work Settings

- International Law Firms
- Legal Aid Society
- Public Interest Groups

### Professional Organizations

- American Society of International Law <http://www.asil.org/>
- International Law Association <http://www.ila-hq.org/>
- International Law Student Association <http://www.ilsa.org/>
- International Legal Association <http://www.hg.org/international-assoc.html>

## ....in Labor Law

### Areas of Interest

- Agents
- Employment
- Management
- Arbitration and Mediation
- Government
- Union

### Possible Work Settings

- Employment Offices
- Government Branches
- Union Offices

### Professional Organizations

- Association of Corporate Counsel <http://www.acc.com/>
- International Association of Labor Law Journals <http://www.labourlawjournals.com/>

## ...in Property Law

### Areas of Interest

- Housing and Leasing
- Real Property
- Wills and Trusts
- Intellectual Property



## Possible Work Settings

- Real Estate
- State Courts
- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

## Professional Organizations

- Association of Real Estate Law License Law Officials <https://www.arello.org/>
- National Association of Realtors <http://www.realtor.org/>

## ....in Public Interest

### Areas of Interest

- Civil Rights
- Constitutional Law
- Consumer Protection
- Interest Groups
- Poverty

## Possible Work Settings

- Political Action
- Public Interest Advocacy Groups

## Professional Organizations

- U.S. PIRG <http://www.uspirg.org/>

## ....in Taxation Law

### Areas of Interest

- Business Tax
- Estate Planning
- Government Tax
- Pension and Retirement
- Personal Income Tax

## Possible Work Settings

- Bankruptcy Administrations
- City and County Law Offices
- Corporate Offices
- Internal Revenue Service

## Professional Organizations

- National Association for Tax Professionals <http://www.natptax.com/>
- National Tax Association <http://www.ntanet.org/>
- Tax Foundation <http://taxfoundation.org/>

## ....in Boutique

### Areas of Interest

- Agricultural Law
- Aviation Law
- Election
- Maritime/Admiralty Law
- Sports and Entertainment Law



## OTHER CAREER PATHS IN THE LEGAL INDUSTRY

### Education

- Judicial Branch Educator
- Law Librarian
- Law School Career Counselor
- Legal Reporter
- Legal Search Consultant
- Legal Writing Instructor
- Paralegal Educator

### Civil Rights

- Affirmative Action Officer
- Children's Advocate
- Civil Rights Analyst
- Civil Rights Investigator
- Conciliation Specialist
- Equal Opportunity Compliance
- Human Rights Administrator

### Court Support Staff

- Bailiff
- Court Administrator
- Court Clerk
- Court Interpreter
- Judicial Law Clerk
- Official Court Reporter

### Litigation Support

- Bail Bond Agent
- Criminologist/Forensic Psychologist
- Demonstrative Evidence Specialist
- Forensic Accountant
- Legal Nurse Consultant
- Legal Videographer
- Private Investigator
- Private Process Server
- Trial Consultant

### Alternative Dispute Resolution

- Arbitration Administrator
- Arbitrator
- Dispute Resolution Professional
- Domestic Resolution Specialist
- Hearing Officer
- Mediator

### Analysts and Examiners

- Contract Administrator
- Eligibility Worker
- Insurance Claims
- Patent Agent
- Title Examiner, Real Estate

### Legal Support

- Legal Reception/Secretary
- Legal Technology Consultant
- Legal Word Processor
- Paralegal

## Resources

### **Texas State University-Student Organizations**

- Phi Alpha Delta (Prelaw) <http://www.studentorgs.txstate.edu/pad/>
- Phi Delta Phi Prelaw Honor Society <https://www.facebook.com/groups/PhiDeltaPhiTexasState/members/>

### **Job/Internship Search Links**

- American Bar Association [http://www.americanbar.org/about\\_the\\_aba/employment\\_at\\_the\\_aba.html](http://www.americanbar.org/about_the_aba/employment_at_the_aba.html)  
[http://www.americanbar.org/groups/public\\_services/law\\_national\\_security/about\\_us/internships\\_clerkships.html](http://www.americanbar.org/groups/public_services/law_national_security/about_us/internships_clerkships.html)
- Law Jobs <http://www.lawjobs.com/>
- Legal Employ <http://www.lawyerintl.com/legal-jobs.php>
- Major, Lindsey & Africa <http://www.mlglobal.com/legal-career-opportunities/>
- MS Legal <http://www.mslegalsearch.com>
- PSLawNet <http://www.psjd.org/>



## Additional Resources

- Equal Justice Works <http://equaljusticeworks.org/>
- Girl's Guide To Law School <http://thegirlsguidetolawschool.com/>
- Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA) <http://www.hnba.com/>
- Latino Justice Legal Education Division [http://latinojustice.org/legal\\_education/](http://latinojustice.org/legal_education/)
- Law School Transparency <http://www.lawschooltransparency.com/>
- Ms. JD <http://ms-jd.org/about-us>
- National Asian Pacific American Bar Association <http://www.napaba.org/napaba/showpage.asp?code=home>
- National Association of Law Students with Disabilities <http://www.nalswd.org/resources.html>
- The National Black Law Students Association (NBLSA) <http://www.nblsa.org/>

## Career Library Resources

- Careers in Law by Gary A. Munneke (2004)
- Career Opportunities in Law and the Legal Industry by Susan Echaore-McDavid (2007)
- Ferguson's Careers in Focus: Law by Ferguson Publishing (2001)
- Law School Essays that Made a Difference by Eric Owens and the Staff of The Princeton Review (2010)
- Prelaw Magazine, A National Jurist Publication
- Should You Really Be A Lawyer? The Guide to Smart Career Choices Before, During & After Law School by Gary Belsey and Deborah Schneider, JD (2005)
- The Best 167 Law Schools by Eric Owens and the Staff of The Princeton Review (2012)
- The Law School Buzz Book by The Staff of Vault (2007)
- Ultimate Guide to Law Schools by Anne McGrath and the Staff of The Princeton Review (2006)

## Thinking about Law School?

- Two-Year Law School Admissions Timeline [Law School Timeline](#)
- LSAT & Law School Preparation <http://www.txstate.edu/slac/PreLaw/lSAT.html>
- Texas State Prelaw Handbook <http://www.polisci.txstate.edu/degrees-programs/prelaw/contentParagraph/02/document/prelawhandbook.pdf>
- The Council on Legal Educational Opportunity (CLEO) <http://cleoscholars.com/>
- Schedule an appointment by email with Dr. Carol Dochen, Texas State's LSAC Prelaw Advisor and Director of the Student Learning Assistance Center (SLAC), at [Carol@txstate.edu](mailto:Carol@txstate.edu)

*Information for this handout compiled from:*

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**[www.careerservices.txstate.edu](http://www.careerservices.txstate.edu)**

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