

Bachelor of Arts/Juris Doctor





Overview

Lawyers represent individuals, businesses, and government agencies in legal issues and disputes. They act as both advocates and advisors. Attorneys may specialize in a single area or may practice broadly in many areas of law.

The combined Bachelor of Arts and Juris Doctor (B.A./J.D.) program permits you to complete your academic training in six years, earning an undergraduate degree from St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and a Juris Doctor degree from the St. John's School of Law. In the combined degree program, you complete a minimum of 99 undergraduate credits during your first three years of study and enter St. John's University School of Law at the beginning of your fourth year of study. Courses from the required first year curriculum of the School of Law are counted toward both the baccalaureate and J.D. degrees. Following completion of the first year of law school with a required minimum C (2.0) average, you will receive your bachelor's degree. Upon completion of the law school curriculum, you will be awarded the Juris Doctor degree.

You should consult the pre-law advisors in St. John's College for additional information about the specific majors relevant to the program and for an application.

Admission

As a freshman, you should inform your pre-law advisor that you are interested in pursuing the B.A./J.D. program. When you have completed 60 undergraduate academic credits, you must declare your intention to apply for the combined degree program. A cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher for all college work completed is required.

You are expected to take the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) no later than the fall semester of your junior year, and will be expected to achieve a minimum score of 160. Formal application for admission to the University's School of Law is made during the student's junior year, no later than March 1.

To be accepted for a combined undergraduate and law degree, you need a minimum 3.5 grade-point average following your sophomore year. You also need an above average score on the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT), and to demonstrate a commitment to the law and the maturity to complete an accelerated program. (Acceptance to the program does not guarantee admission to the School of Law.)

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For more information about admission to this and other acclaimed undergraduate programs at St. John's University, please visit stjohns.edu or contact us directly at the campus of your choice:

Admission Office–Queens Campus 718-990-2000 admissions@stjohns.edu

Admission Office-Staten Island Campus 718-390-4500 siadmissions@stjohns.edu

Career Outcomes

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (US Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, 2016–17 Edition), employment of lawyers is projected to grow six percent from 2014 to 2024, about as fast as the average for all occupations. Demand for legal work is expected to continue as individuals, businesses, and all levels of government require legal services in many areas.

Law firms will continue to be the largest employers of attorneys, while many large corporations are increasing their inhouse legal departments. This will result in an increase in the demand of lawyers in various settings such as financial and insurance firms, consulting firms, and health care providers.

Also, the federal government is likely to continue to need lawyers to prosecute or defend civil cases on behalf of the United States, prosecute criminal cases brought by the federal government, and collect money owed to the federal government. It is projected that budgetary constraints at all levels of government will likely moderate employment growth.

Additional Information

The St. John's University Pre-law Advisement program offers individualized advisement and guidance for prospective B.A./J.D. students.

St. John's College Pre-law Advisors

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