An unmatched environment of excellence and educational intimacy...
Marvin Brown ’16

“The best part about my experience at Yale has been the ability to explore my interests as soon as I arrived. I came to Yale interested in working on international development issues, and within my second semester I was able to work with the Transnational Development Clinic on a project in Myanmar, learn about international governance issues in International Trade Law, and gain valuable knowledge about the future of the international legal field as a Submissions Editor for the Yale Journal of International Law.”
Solange Hilfinger-Pardo '17

“The biggest thing that drew me to Yale was the intellectual community it provides. I think that Yale is a place that’s interested not just in exploring what the law is today, but how we got to where we are and what the law should be in the future. That’s facilitated by the amazing faculty that we have here, people who are eminent figures in their field but also open not just to meeting with students, but to working with them, as well. The experience of having immediate access to these professors has been really wonderful.”
A Place for Thought and Action

From the first small group class meeting to the final gathering at Commencement, Yale Law School is an extraordinary community in which to study law. In addition to a rich history and an accomplished student body, our unmatched faculty-student ratio allows us to offer a vast array of courses, an average class size of approximately 20 students, and countless opportunities for independent research, writing, and student-organized seminars.

With its world-renowned faculty, fascinating students, and distinguished speakers, Yale Law School is an invigorating place to think about the law. Some students choose to focus on traditional “black-letter law” classes, while others experiment with cutting-edge legal theory or interdisciplinary courses. Students may undertake independent writing projects following their own academic interests or organize reading groups around a specific topic. Conferences and panels throughout the year continue to explore ideas about the law and its role in society.

Yale Law School is also a place where law happens. Starting in the spring of the first year, students represent real clients in clinics in more than a dozen different areas of law, drafting briefs, negotiating with opposing counsel, and arguing cases in court—learning how to think about the law by actually practicing it. Students also participate in public service programs, legal journals, moot court programs, and social activities through the School’s many thriving student organizations.

The Law School faculty includes prominent scholars of economics, history, and philosophy, as well as leading specialists in many areas of law. More than 70 full-time professors are joined each year by visiting faculty, adjunct professors from other parts of the University, and practicing lawyers who teach in the clinical program. In addition, dozens of guest lecturers from many fields of endeavor contribute to Yale Law School’s vigorous intellectual community.
The Juris Doctor Program

In their first term, students take four required courses—Constitutional Law, Contracts, Civil Procedure, and Torts. Besides an additional required course in Criminal Law, students are free to design their own academic curriculum. Students may choose from a wide array of courses, clinics, and seminars to fulfill the professional skills, professional responsibility, and writing requirements that help prepare students for practice. In addition to the ever-changing array of courses offered at Yale Law School, students can take classes from the vast offerings of the other Yale schools and departments. Students may also earn credit in Moot Court and reading groups.

Law school students everywhere take the same classes during the first term. But at Yale Law School each student takes one of these courses in a “small group” seminar format, with just 16–18 classmates and one faculty member. The small size of the class ensures that students develop a close relationship with the professor and with each other.

Yale Law School fosters an environment of collaboration rather than competition. In the first term, all classes are ungraded. After that, classes are graded on an honors/pass/low pass basis with the option to take classes credit/fail. Class rank is never calculated; knowledge, not numbers, is the primary focus.

Outside of the classroom, students can take advantage of the opportunity to work closely with the faculty as research assistants, teaching assistants, and managers of special projects and clinics. Yale Law School students leave law school with personal and professional connections that last throughout their careers.

AREAS OF INTEREST
Our curriculum and the structure of our program allows students wide latitude in pursuing specific interests and passions within broader subject areas. Course offerings are enhanced by more than two dozen major centers and programs, in which faculty-led interdisciplinary legal scholarship interacts with real-world challenges and practical legal reform. The following list, while

The first-year “small group” is one of the hallmarks of legal education at Yale Law School

Students also work closely with faculty members to complete two major research papers. Many students go on to publish part or all of their papers in leading law journals.
far from exhaustive, highlights some of the more popular curricular fields at the Law School.

**Administrative Law**
The Law School is at the heart of a movement to expand the once-narrow field of law and economics to embrace a broader intellectual enterprise that applies the methods of economic analysis to almost all areas of law. Much of the Law School’s activity in this area is carried out by the John M. Olin Center for Law, Economics and Public Policy. Please visit [www.law.yale.edu/administrative-law](http://www.law.yale.edu/administrative-law) for more information.

**Constitutional Law**
The Law School is renowned as a center for scholarship in constitutional law, and prominent scholars are well represented on the School’s faculty. Opportunities to study, research, and write on this topic are plentiful, and the Law School provides a range of opportunities – from lecture series and special events, to an exhaustive list of courses – for students to focus on various aspects of constitutional law. Please visit [www.law.yale.edu/constitutional-law](http://www.law.yale.edu/constitutional-law) for more information.

**Corporate and Commercial Law**
Corporate and Commercial Law at the Law School is spearheaded by two centers. The Yale Law School Center for the Study of Corporate Law focuses on corporate law and the law of other nongovernmental organizations; the regulation of financial markets and intermediaries; the legal framework of finance, including the law of bankruptcy, corporate reorganization, and secured transactions; and antitrust law and the law of regulated industries. The Yale Law School Center for Private Law promotes teaching and research in contracts (including commercial law, corporate finance, bankruptcy, and arbitration), property (including intellectual property), and torts. Please visit [www.law.yale.edu/corporate-commercial-law](http://www.law.yale.edu/corporate-commercial-law) for more information.

**Environmental Law**
Outstanding faculty and visitors, new curricular offerings, a strong partnership with Yale’s School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, and an active environmental law clinic are just some of the elements of Yale Law School’s expanded program in environmental law and policy. Please visit [www.law.yale.edu/environmental-law](http://www.law.yale.edu/environmental-law) for more information.

**Human Rights Law**
The study of human rights law at the Yale Law School is focused around the Orville H. Schell, Jr. Center for International Human Rights. It coordinates a diverse program of human rights activities that serve students and scholars at Yale and contribute to the development of the human rights community locally and internationally. In addition, the Allard K. Lowenstein International Human Rights Clinic gives students firsthand experience in human rights advocacy. The clinic undertakes a wide variety of projects each term on behalf of human rights organizations and individual victims of human rights abuse. Please visit [www.law.yale.edu/human-rights-law](http://www.law.yale.edu/human-rights-law) for more information.

**Information Technology Law**
Law School students interested in information technology law are able to focus their research and studies in areas including, but not limited to Intellectual Property, media law and policy, privacy, and foreign affairs in the internet age. They are assisted along these paths by the Information Society Project (ISP), an intellectual center addressing the implications of the Internet and new information technologies for law and society, guided by the values of democracy, development, and civil liberties. The ISP’s work includes copyright, media law and policy, transparency, and privacy. Please visit [www.law.yale.edu/information-technology-law](http://www.law.yale.edu/information-technology-law) for more information.
Heather Gerken  J. Skelly Wright Professor of Law

“I have really enjoyed working with students in the San Francisco Affirmative Litigation Project, where participants get to conceive, develop, and litigate cutting-edge public interest lawsuits with some of the best municipal attorneys in the country. As just one example, our students put thousands of hours into the ‘trial of the century’ — the Prop 8 case in California — beginning with its inception and continuing through oral arguments before the Supreme Court. Their cases have made the cover of Business Week and have been featured on Today and USA Today.”
International Law
The Law School’s longstanding international tradition occupies a central place in its intellectual life. The devotion of its faculty and students to myriad international projects has made Yale a first-class global law school. There are also numerous opportunities for post-graduate and summer fellowships in all corners of the globe. Please visit www.law.yale.edu/international-law for more information.

Law and Health
The wide range of health-related programming at Yale Law School reflects the many important ways in which law and policy affect individual and public health, the health care industry, and health governance, both in the United States and abroad. The Law School is home to the Solomon Center for Health Law and Policy, the first of its kind to focus on the governance, business, and practice of health care in the United States. In addition the Global Health Justice Partnership, hosted by Yale Law School and Yale School of Public Health, promotes interdisciplinary, innovative, and effective responses to global health disparities. Please visit www.law.yale.edu/health for more information.

In a typical academic year, 60% of students participate in public interest activities

Law and Media
Yale Law School has long focused on the intersection of law, media, and journalism. Programs such as the Information Society Project, the Abrams Institute for Freedom of Expression, the Media Freedom and Information Access Clinic, and the Knight Law and Media Program, as well as several others, provide many paths for involvement in law and media. Please visit www.law.yale.edu/law-media for more information.

Public Interest Law
Every year the Law School community brings energy and vision to work for the public good, much of it through the Arthur Liman Public Interest Program. In a typical academic year, 60 percent of students participate in public interest activities through clinics and voluntary student groups. Students can also choose from an array of public interest-related courses. Please visit www.law.yale.edu/public-interest-law for more information.

Law Teaching
Yale Law School is the most successful institution in the world for educating future law professors. During their time at Yale, students have many opportunities to explore legal academia and scholarship. Our Law Teaching Program provides outstanding training, resources, and support for J.D. students, post-graduate fellows, and alumni interested in pursuing careers in law teaching, including both academic and clinical positions. Please visit www.law.yale.edu/law-teaching for more information.

Legal History
The history of law offers indispensable insights into the character of our legal systems. Historical materials appear throughout the Law School’s curriculum with specialized courses addressing topics in the history of legal systems around the world. Please visit www.law.yale.edu/legal-history for more information.

JOINT DEGREES
After matriculating at the Law School, students may petition a standing faculty committee for approval of a joint degree with another degree program. Students must have applied and been
admitted to the other program at the time the petition is made. If approved, students may pursue both degrees simultaneously, thereby shortening the total period of study. Joint degrees are most common with the Graduate School and other professional schools at Yale, although joint degrees may be arranged with programs at other universities. The committee considers all joint degree petitions on a case-by-case basis. For more information about pursuing a joint degree at the Law School, please visit www.law.yale.edu/jointdegree.

Clinics are structured so that students take the lead and provide comprehensive client representation.

Additionally, Yale Law School offers two joint degree programs, which do not require faculty committee approval, with the Yale School of Management. First, the accelerated J.D.-M.B.A. allows students to complete the requirements for both programs within three years, rather than four as with a traditional joint J.D.-M.B.A. The J.D.-Ph.D. in Finance is also offered for students interested in pursuing a career in business law teaching. For information on applying to either of these joint programs, please visit www.law.yale.edu/jointdegreecorporate.

CLINICAL STUDIES
Yale Law School offers a large clinical program in which law students, supervised by faculty members and practicing attorneys, write briefs, prepare witnesses, try cases, negotiate settlements, argue appeals in state and federal courts, draft legislation, and engage in transactional and policy work— all for real clients. Because of a unique Connecticut state law, Yale Law students are eligible to participate in clinics—and appear in court—beginning in their very first year. In recent years, students have argued before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and the Connecticut Supreme Court.

Approximately two dozen clinics offer students the ability to obtain practical experience and develop lawyering skills in a variety of practice areas. In the Landlord-Tenant Clinic, for example, students assist low-income tenants facing eviction in New Haven Housing Court and hone skills in interviewing, litigation, negotiation, and mediation. And in the Legislative Advocacy Clinic, students participate in the state legislative and policymaking process by developing policy proposals in areas such as public education, tax, juvenile justice, and women’s health. Students also prepare oral and written testimony in support of their proposals and meet with state legislators and lobbyists.

At Yale Law School, clinics are structured so that students are out in front, taking the lead on as many aspects of their matters as possible and providing comprehensive client representation. As a result, students learn to employ multiple lawyering methodologies, gain substantive and procedural expertise in a particular area of the law, and experience firsthand the integration of theory and practice.

Approximately 75% of Yale Law School students participate in a clinic at some point during their law school careers, and many of them go on to become student directors of their clinics and take on even greater responsibility. With the number of positions available in clinical courses exceeding the total number of students, every student who wishes to make clinics a part of his or her legal education is able do so. For more information on clinical opportunities at Yale Law School, please visit www.law.yale.edu/clinics.
The clinics at YLS offer students incomparable experiences in representation of poor and marginalized individuals and communities, real-world engagement in complex fields of law, and the development of strategic judgment critical to effective lawyering. Students do not just learn the skills of being a lawyer, but the values of representing clients with creativity, conviction, and compassion. This enables them to develop their own visions of lawyering that will guide them throughout their careers.”
“Living in New Haven has been a wonderful part of my law school experience. For one thing, the restaurant and bar scene is terrific. After class in one of my seminar courses, the whole class would head downtown for New Haven-style pizza and house-brewed beer. When Restaurant Week came around, my small group jumped at a chance to try some of New Haven’s fancier establishments (we’d already staked out our favorite dive bars). I’ve also enjoyed the chance to take breaks from studying on the weekends by catching a movie downtown with friends, taking walks to see the cherry blossoms in Wooster Square, and going to parties at GPSCY, the graduate student center.”
Yale University and New Haven

The city of New Haven is a lively small urban center on the shores of the Long Island Sound, a short train ride from New York City or Boston.

Yale Law School occupies one city block in the heart of Yale University and downtown New Haven. The University, as a vital part of the downtown area, has played a role in its redevelopment, supporting local merchants and attracting national retailers.

New Haven offers many diversions. Strolling down the streets around the Law School, you will pass shops, clubs, and restaurants to suit any taste or budget. The rich cultural life includes Yale Repertory and the Long Wharf theaters as well as a host of music venues. Many parks and public beaches are easily accessible from the campus.

New Haven is also a city of neighborhoods, like Wooster Square — New Haven’s “Little Italy,” widely known for its brick-oven pizza — or East Rock, a tree-lined enclave of Victorian homes and specialty shops, where many students choose to live.

Law students have many opportunities to become involved with the New Haven community through a variety of student organizations and volunteer projects. Through the School’s clinical and experiential learning programs, students provide legal representation to those who cannot afford private attorneys’ fees in areas ranging from landlord-tenant law to immigration. Every year, a number of law students become so involved in the New Haven community that they choose to stay after graduation, working in local government, schools, or businesses.

Legend has it that the hamburger was invented in New Haven in 1900.
YLS by the Numbers

For the Class of 2018

- 2809 applicants
- 269 accepted
- 200 matriculated
- 10% acceptance rate
- 79% yield

GPA
- Low: 3.35
- 25%
- Median: 3.93
- 75%
- High: 4.28

LSAT
- Low: 160
- 25%
- Median: 171
- 75%
- High: 176

- 45% female students
- 24 average age
- 36 states represented
- 37% minority students
- 72 undergraduate institutions represented
- 6 countries represented

For 2015-2016

- Student to faculty ratio: 8 to 1
- Average class size: approximately 20 students

- 191 courses
- 22 clinics
- 9 academic journals
Admissions Information

Admission to Yale Law School is highly selective. In 2016, approximately 2,800 prospective students applied for the 200 places in the first-year class.

The Law School seeks a diverse and highly qualified student body: more than 650 students come from 166 undergraduate institutions in 46 states and 25 countries. Minority students are a strong presence in the Law School: 33 percent of the J.D. students enrolled during 2015–2016 were members of minority groups, and 46 percent of the J.D. students were women.

ELIGIBILITY
You must receive or expect to receive by the summer of 2017 a bachelor’s degree (or the equivalent) from an approved college in order to be eligible to apply.

You must take the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) no later than February 2017. The oldest score we will accept is June 2011.

HOW TO APPLY
You must subscribe to the Law School Credential Assembly Service (CAS) in order to apply to Yale Law School. You may register for CAS online with the Law School Admission Council (LSAC) at www.lsac.org. Yale Law School requires applicants to submit their applications through the LSAC electronic application service included as part of a CAS subscription.

Applications must be accompanied by a $60 application fee. This fee is nonrefundable and will not be credited to tuition in the event of admission. If you require a need-based fee waiver, please email admissions.law@yale.edu to request a waiver form, and return the completed form to the Admissions Office. If you request a waiver, do not submit payment with your application. We will notify you if we decide not to grant your waiver; we will not delay review of a file because a waiver is pending.

The LSAC electronic application may be submitted by one of two methods:

Method 1. (Preferred) Application, fee, and signature submitted electronically; or

Method 2. Application and signature submitted electronically, and fee submitted by mail to the Admissions Office.

We strongly encourage you to apply using Method 1. Submitting all of your information electronically allows us to process your application more quickly. If you decide not to take advantage of the electronic submission of the fee, please submit the fee directly to the Yale Law School Admissions Office (Method 2). Please note that applicants applying with a fee waiver form will need to apply using Method 2.

Applicants who are unable to access the electronic application available from LSAC may obtain an application form and instructions by writing to the Yale Law School Office of Admissions at P.O. Box 208215, New Haven, CT 06520-8215.
WHEN TO APPLY
Yale Law School will accept applications for the class of 2020 between October 1, 2016 and February 28, 2017. It is your responsibility to make certain that all items arrive at Yale in a timely fashion. Please note that it may take several weeks for LSAC to process your materials. Please also note that under our review process there is no advantage, in terms of the likelihood of admission, to applying earlier in the cycle—your chances of admission will remain constant regardless of when you submit your application. Candidates who apply earlier may, however, receive a decision sooner than candidates who apply closer to the deadline.

THE STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION
The small size of Yale Law School—approximately 200 in each entering class—requires an extremely selective admissions process. Overall, the Law School seeks the most promising students in terms of professional and academic distinction. We read all applications and take all factors into account. There is no cut-off point for grade point averages or LSAT scores. No one item, such as LSAT score, grade point average, or letter of recommendation, is conclusive. Potential for academic and professional excellence can be demonstrated in many ways.

LAW SCHOOL ADMISSION TEST (LSAT)
If you are applying for entry in the fall of 2017, you must take the LSAT no later than February 2017. Tests are scheduled for September 2016, December 2016, and February 2017. LSAT information and applications may be obtained by contacting the Law School Admission Council online at www.lsac.org or by calling (215) 968-1001. The oldest LSAT score we will accept is June 2011.

ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPTS
You must submit to LSAC transcripts from each college or university you attended. Even if one school includes summary data regarding courses from another school on its transcript, an official transcript from each institution must be submitted. We suggest that you allow at least six weeks for a transcript to be processed by LSAC.

RECOMMENDATIONS
Yale Law School requires at least two letters of recommendation. These letters should be from professors who know your academic performance and have had a chance to personally evaluate significant aspects of your academic work. Letters from college deans, chaplains, summer employers, and colleagues may be helpful, although we strongly prefer letters from at least two faculty members under whom you have studied. Applicants who have been out of school for some time may substitute letters from employers or others who know them well.

Chances of admission remain constant regardless of when an application is submitted
We strongly prefer to receive all letters through the LSAC letter of recommendation service, which is included as part of your CAS subscription.

We will begin review of your application as soon as we have received two letters of recommendation. We will not hold your application in order to wait for additional letters of recommendation. To ensure that all of your recommendations are available for consideration, please verify that they are on file with LSAC prior to applying to the Law School.

Yale Law School does not require a dean’s certification form with your application.

**ESSAYS**
Most applicants to Yale Law School have outstanding academic records and LSAT scores. Faculty readers look to the two required essays to obtain a nuanced picture of each applicant. The 250-word essay helps readers to evaluate an applicant’s writing, reasoning, and editing skills, as well as to learn more about the applicant’s intellectual and personal interests and ability to think across disciplines. The subject is not limited; the choice of topic itself may be informative to the readers.

Applicants are also asked to submit a personal statement, where they may add any additional information necessary for a full representation of their candidacy. Applicants often submit the personal statement they have prepared for other law school applications.

**NOTIFICATION**
The Yale Law School Admissions Office will notify you by email when your application has been received and when it is complete.

An applicant to whom an offer of admission is being made will be notified immediately. The Admissions Office will make every effort to send applicants a decision by mid- to late April. We appreciate your patience in this process.

**EARLY DECISION PROGRAMS AT OTHER LAW SCHOOLS**
While Yale Law School does not have an early action or early decision program, we respect the binding agreement made between a law school and an applicant who is applying to that school through an early decision program. If you are admitted to another law school through an early decision program, you must notify the Yale Law
School Admissions Office and withdraw your application from consideration. If we discover that you have been admitted to another law school by means of an early decision program, we will withdraw your application from consideration. Please note: This does not apply to non-binding, early action programs or to deferred admissions programs for college juniors.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Yale Law School welcomes applications for transfer. Each year, students currently enrolled in a broad range of law schools apply; we usually offer admission to 10–15 of them. You must have completed an undergraduate degree and currently be enrolled at another ABA-accredited law school. Transfer students must complete four semesters at Yale Law School.

Applications for transfer and all necessary materials except law school grades must be submitted between May 1 and June 15 of the year in which admission is sought. Law school grades should be submitted by June 30. Admissions decisions for transfer candidates to Yale Law School will be made in early July.

VISITING STUDENTS

In special circumstances, a student enrolled at another law school may apply for admission on a full-time, non-degree basis. Visiting students may attend Yale Law School for a semester or a year, earning credit toward a degree at their own institutions. The Admissions Committee considers past academic performance as well as the applicant’s special circumstances when reviewing such requests.

Additional information about Yale Law School and the application process may be found online at www.law.yale.edu/admissions.

Admissions Timeline

**Application Cycle 2016–2017**

| AUGUST 29 | Fall term classes begin  
Consider visiting Yale to sit in on classes,  
meet current students, and learn more about  
New Haven. Please visit www.law.yale.edu/  
visit to find out when tours are scheduled. |
| SEPTEMBER 24 | LSAT |
| OCTOBER 1 | First day that Yale will accept applications  
for the Class of 2020 |
| DECEMBER 3 | LSAT |
| DECEMBER 22 to JANUARY 16 | Winter break |
| JANUARY 17 | Spring term classes begin |
| FEBRUARY 4 | LSAT  
Applicants must take the LSAT no later than  
February 2017. The oldest LSAT we will accept  
is June 2011. |
| FEBRUARY 28 | Application deadline  
Applications must be submitted by February 28.  
Please allow several weeks for LSAC to process  
your transcripts and letters of recommendation. |
| MARCH 15 | Financial aid deadline  
Even if you have not received a decision from us,  
please submit your Yale Law School Financial  
Aid Application and FAFSA forms by March 15.  
Late financial aid applicants may not be eligible  
for certain types of aid. |
| MARCH 11 to 19 | Spring break |
| APRIL | Most decisions will be made by  
mid- to late April |
| APRIL 24 | Classes end |
| MAY 1 | Deadline for deposits |
| MAY 1 | First day that Yale will accept applications  
for transfer for Fall 2017 |
Tuition, Expenses, and Financial Aid

TUITION AND EXPENSES
Tuition for 2016–2017 is $59,865 including mandatory fees. We estimate that a single student will need an additional $20,364 for room, board, and other living expenses for the academic year. Tuition and expenses for 2017–18 will be calculated in the spring of 2017.

FINANCIAL AID
The goal of Yale Law School’s financial aid program is to make it possible for students to pursue their legal education regardless of their financial resources. Financial aid is awarded solely on the basis of need. Admissions decisions are made independently of financial aid decisions. Approximately 70 percent of the student body receives some form of financial assistance. A standard financial aid award consists of a portion in grant and a portion in loan; typically, the higher the total financial need, the higher the proportion of grant.

FINANCIAL AID ASSESSMENTS
Financial aid is available to all Yale Law School students, regardless of citizenship. The financial need of U.S. citizens and permanent residents is determined on the basis of data provided on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the Yale Law School Financial Aid Application. International students should complete only the Yale Law School Financial Aid Application.

Financial aid awards are made one year at a time and are recalculated each year based on a new Yale Law School Financial Aid Application report and prevailing Yale Law School financial aid policies. Please have the Yale Law School Financial Aid Application and FAFSA submitted to Yale Law School by March 15, 2017. Late submissions will cause financial aid offers to be delayed and applicants may not be eligible for some types of aid. Before financial aid is disbursed to the student in the fall, the Law School must have a copy of the student’s and parents’ IRS Form 1040 for the 2016 tax year on file.

You may access the FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov. The Title IV code number for Yale Law School to be listed on the FAFSA is 001426.

You may access the Yale Law School Financial Aid Application at www.law.yale.edu/financialaid.

SUMMER PUBLIC INTEREST FELLOWSHIPS
The Summer Public Interest Fellowship Program (SPIF) provides funds to Yale students working at public interest, government, and nonprofit
organizations. In the summer of 2016, the Law School provided fellowships of up to $7,500 to 189 students. Students worked in the United States and around the world in organizations such as the White House, U.S. Attorneys’ Offices, World Bank, ACLU, Department of Justice, Bronx Defenders, and Equal Justice Center.

For more information on SPIF, visit www.law.yale.edu/spif.

**LOAN FORGIVENESS**
Yale has the most generous loan forgiveness program in the country: the Career Options Assistance Program (COAP). COAP relieves graduates of repayments on educational loans if they choose relatively low-paying jobs in any sector—government, nonprofit organizations, private practice, academia, or even areas completely unrelated to the law. COAP is extremely flexible; there is no minimum time commitment and graduates may move in and out of the program as their needs change. COAP also includes provisions for part-time work and maternity and paternity leave. Unlike many other loan repayment programs, eligibility is based on compensation level, not type of employment.

In 2015, 455 graduates received $5.1 million in COAP benefits.

For more information, visit www.law.yale.edu/coap.

**Jacqueline Van De Velde ’17**

“Financial aid played a huge role in my decision to come to Yale Law School. When I applied to law school, I wasn’t sure if taking on a substantial amount of debt to go into a public interest job was something that was feasible. When I came for my admitted students weekend, I spent a great deal of time with the Director of Financial Aid walking through every permutation of what my life could be like—whether I took a public interest job, whether I ultimately went to the private sector, whether I was married, whether I was single, whether I had children, whether I didn’t. She helped me make sure that no matter what I chose this was something that I not only could afford but I could have a good life doing, and that made me feel comfortable that I could attend.”
Employment and Career Development

Yale Law students and graduates are among the most sought after in the nation by employers of all types. Yale Law School’s Career Development Office (CDO) works closely with both students and alumni to guide their searches for rewarding careers.

CDO’s attorney counselors are available to discuss students’ career goals and aspirations; assist in connecting students with helpful people, print, and Internet resources; provide advice on the interview process; and discuss any issues students may face during the job search process. CDO staff includes counselors with expertise in public interest advising, judicial clerkships and post-graduate fellowships, law teaching, business, and other alternative careers. Because of the small student body at Yale Law School, CDO counselors are able to meet individually with every student. Career development services continue to be available to graduates of the Law School.

CDO hosts educational and interview programs each year to provide students with a breadth of knowledge and opportunities across industries and practice areas. CDO also offers a series of programs specifically for first-year students. These programs provide an introduction to career choices, résumé and cover letter advice, a discussion of useful print and online resources, and interviewing tips. Panelists for many CDO programs include practitioners from across the country and around the world.

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

Most students at Yale spend all or part of their first summer working in the public sector, either with a government agency or public interest organization. The remaining first-year students spend at

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>First-year Summer Employment</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88% GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC INTEREST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11% PRIVATE PRACTICE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3% BUSINESS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Second-year Summer Employment</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79% PRIVATE PRACTICE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22% GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC INTEREST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5% BUSINESS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1% ACADEMIA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding and students working in more than one employment sector.

least some part of their summer working for a private firm, conduct research for faculty, work for a corporation, or serve as judicial externs. In early February, 15–25 public interest and private sector employers interview first-year students on campus for summer positions. In addition, Yale Law School co-sponsors two public interest career fairs,
one in New York City and one in Washington, D.C. The majority of first-year students, however, secure positions for the summer by writing letters and sending résumés to employers.

Most students spend part or all of the second summer working for a private law firm, while typically one-quarter will use part or all of the second summer to explore government, public interest, academic, or corporate opportunities. In August, approximately 150 employers interview roughly 200 second- and third-year students for summer and permanent positions. The majority of second-year students obtain summer positions through this interview program. Others take advantage of public interest fairs co-sponsored by Yale or apply directly to employers of interest to them.

**EMPLOYMENT AFTER GRADUATION**
The vast majority of Yale Law School students secure employment within nine months after graduation, while a handful of students choose to pursue another graduate degree full time rather than immediately enter the workforce. Most Yale Law graduates accept first jobs as judicial clerks, public interest fellows, law firm associates, and government lawyers. Several others commence their careers in business and academia. Because Yale Law students enter law school with a variety of career goals and interests—including finance, consulting, journalism, and policy work—several graduates each year choose jobs that do not require bar passage or a J.D.

### Class of 2015

**Employment Status (Nine Months After Graduation)**

213 GRADUATES

199 EMPLOYED • 7 PURSUING GRADUATE DEGREE FULL TIME • 0 UNEMPLOYED—START DATE DEFERRED

3 UNEMPLOYED—NOT SEEKING • 2 UNEMPLOYED—SEEKING • 2 EMPLOYMENT STATUS UNKNOWN

### Class of 2015

**First Job Choices of Employed Graduates**

- **42% PRIVATE PRACTICE**
- **14% GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC INTEREST**
- **1% ACADEMIA**
- **39% JUDICIAL CLERKSHIP**

*Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.*

### Top Three Employment Locations

- **32% NEW YORK**
- **15% WASHINGTON, D.C.**
- **12% CALIFORNIA**

Beginning salaries depend on the type, size, and geographical location of the employer. A graduate accepting a position in a large New York City law firm will earn approximately $160,000, while a graduate commencing work in public interest in Washington, D.C. may earn $40,000–$80,000.

Additional information on employment and career development, including more detailed employment statistics, can be found online at [www.law.yale.edu/cdo](http://www.law.yale.edu/cdo).
"Yale Law School students interested in international law, comparative law, foreign relations law, and national security law not only have the chance to learn from leading scholars in these fields, but they also have access to courses that offer amazing real-world experiences such as presenting a report on the law of humanitarian intervention to top officials in Washington, traveling to Burma to offer advice on responsible foreign direct investment policies, and representing veterans in a class action lawsuit to improve their medical care options."

Oona A. Hathaway  Gerard C. and Bernice Latrobe Smith Professor of International Law
Facilities and Services

The Sterling Law Building, which houses Yale Law School, occupies one city block in the heart of Yale University and downtown New Haven. Constructed between 1929 and 1931, it features classrooms, offices, the Lillian Goldman Law Library, a student computer laboratory, and a dining hall clustered around three pleasant courtyards.

As a part of one of the world’s great universities, the Law School draws on Yale’s abundant academic resources, including a 15-million-volume library system. The Yale campus is also home to world-renowned museums, a Tony Award–winning regional theater, concert halls that feature performances from symphony to jazz, and one of the most comprehensive fitness facilities in the world.

**TECHNOLOGY**

Yale Law School provides a comprehensive information technology environment with wireless Internet access throughout the School, a full-service computer lab, and available laser printing. Students can access the Yale network from on- or off-campus. See www.law.yale.edu/its for more information.

**HOUSING**

Most students at Yale Law School live in nearby off-campus houses or apartments, many within a 10–15 minute walk of the School. Yale University’s Graduate Housing Office offers a limited number of on-campus housing options for single students, as well as off-campus apartments for students with families. The Admissions Office and the Graduate Housing Office assist admitted students in finding housing. For more information, visit the Graduate Housing Office’s website at www.yale.edu/gradhousing.

**LIBRARY**

The Lillian Goldman Law Library contains more than 1 million volumes. The library provides training in and access to computer-based legal research, including Lexis and Westlaw. Students also have access to research resources through their personal computers. More information is available at www.law.yale.edu/library.

**PAYNE WHITNEY GYM**

Payne Whitney Gym offers classes in everything from spinning to Zumba to Shotokan karate.

**DINING HALL**

The Law School Dining Hall provides both meals and social space for the entire Law School community. The Dining Hall offers a voluntary meal plan, or items may be purchased with cash, credit card, debit card, or charged to a student’s university bursar account.
Amy Chua  John M. Duff, Jr. Professor of Law

“I don’t believe in separating out the theoretical from the practical. In my International Business Transactions class, students learn how to structure complex cross-border deals and how to convert a client’s interest into a carefully negotiated, clearly drafted contract. But equally important, we explore the broader social, political, and moral implications of international transactions. I love teaching a course in which students tackle problems that not only require complex legal analysis but have real-world global implications for some of the most pressing issues of our day.”
HEALTH PLAN
Students are automatically enrolled in the Yale Health Plan, a comprehensive group practice located a few blocks from the Law School. Spouses and dependents may be enrolled in the Health Plan for a fee. More information on the Yale Health Plan is available at yalehealth.yale.edu or by contacting the Member Services Office at (203) 432-0246.

RECREATION AND FITNESS
Yale University is home to one of the largest gyms in the world. Payne Whitney Gym boasts nine and a half stories with complete facilities for everything from Pilates to fencing to swimming. In addition to the fitness center, Yale has its own squash center, an Outdoor Education Center for camping and fishing, a golf course, tennis courts, and even sailing facilities.

CHILD CARE
The YLS Early Learning Center, located in the Law School building, offers full- and part-day programs for children three months to three years old. For further information, contact the Center at (203) 432-7640. More information about University and New Haven area childcare is available at www.yale.edu/daycare.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR DISABILITIES
For information concerning accommodations for students with disabilities, applicants may make confidential inquiries to the Resource Office on Disabilities, Yale University, 35 Broadway, Room 222, P.O. Box 208305, New Haven, CT 06520-8305; telephone (203) 432-2324; or visit their website at www.yale.edu/rod.

Yale University is committed to having judgments concerning the admission, education, and employment of individuals upon their qualifications and abilities and affirmatively seeks to attract to its faculty, staff, and student body qualified persons of diverse backgrounds. In accordance with this policy and as delineated by federal and Connecticut law, Yale does not discriminate in admissions, educational programs, or employment against any individual on account of that individual's sex, race, color, religion, age, disability, status as a special disabled veteran, veterans of the Vietnam era or other covered veteran, or national or ethnic origin; nor does Yale discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity or expression.

University policy is committed to affirmative action under law in employment of women, minority group members, individuals with disabilities, special disabled veterans, veterans of the Vietnam era, and other covered veterans. Inquiries concerning these policies may be referred to Valerie J. Stanley, Director of the Office for Equal Opportunity Programs, 21 Whitney Avenue; mailing address: Equal Opportunities, P.O. Box 208295, New Haven, CT 06520-8295. (203) 432-0840.

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 protects people from sex discrimination in educational programs and activities at institutions that receive federal financial assistance. Questions regarding Title IX may be referred to the University's Title IX Coordinator, Stephanie Spangler, at 203.432.4446 or at titleix@yale.edu, or to the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 8th Floor, Five Post Office Square, Boston MA 02109-3921. Telephone: 617.289.0111, Fax: 617.289.0150, TDD: 800.877.8339, or Email: ocr.boston@ed.gov.

In accordance with both federal and state law, the University maintains information concerning current security policies and procedures and prepares an annual crime report concerning crimes committed within the geographical limits of the University. In addition, in accordance with federal law, the University maintains information concerning current fire safety practices and prepares an annual fire safety report concerning fires occurring in on-campus student housing facilities. Upon request to the Office of the Secretary of the University, P.O. Box 208320, New Haven, CT 06520-8320, (203) 432-6602, the University will provide such information to any applicant for admission.
Visiting Yale Law School

We believe that the best way to decide which school is right for you is to visit—sit in on classes, talk to current students, and learn about the community.

We urge you to visit Yale in person. When you are planning your trip, you may wish to consult the Law School calendar at [www.law.yale.edu/calendar](http://www.law.yale.edu/calendar) and time your visit to coincide with an interesting speaker or event. You should also visit [www.law.yale.edu/visit](http://www.law.yale.edu/visit) to find out when tours with current students are offered. Admitted students will be invited to special programs during the spring.

DIRECTIONS

*By train:* New Haven is easily accessible by train—1½ hours from New York City and 2½ hours from Boston. Metro North runs hourly from New York City and Amtrak is available from Boston, New York, Hartford, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C.

New Haven’s Union Station is only a short bus or taxi ride from the Law School.

*By bus:* Bus service to and from Hartford, Boston, and New York City is available via Megabus. Buses arrive and depart from New Haven’s Union Station.

*By air:* Tweed-New Haven Airport is approximately 15 minutes from the Law School.

Shuttle services connect New Haven to Bradley International Airport in Hartford and to the New York metropolitan airports.

Follow us online!

**ASK ASHA: ADVICE FROM THE DEAN OF ADMISSIONS**
[www.law.yale.edu/asha](http://www.law.yale.edu/asha)

**STUDENT PERSPECTIVES BLOG**
[www.law.yale.edu/studentperspectives](http://www.law.yale.edu/studentperspectives)

**TWITTER**
[twitter.com/ylsadmissions](http://twitter.com/ylsadmissions)