



Internship and Career Services Industry Guide: Pre-Law

OVERVIEW

With Butler's well-rounded liberal arts curriculum, students who are interested in attending law school after graduation can pursue any undergraduate degree of interest to them to start their pre-law journey. However, during these four years, students are encouraged to take time to prepare for the education and career ahead of them.

A law school education offers intellectual stimulation, good job prospects, and versatility in the job market. Lawyers go on to succeed in a variety of careers, and a legal education will be invaluable no matter what direction your career may take!

WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A LAW DEGREE?

Most people go to law school because they hope to become an attorney – and with many different types of law, there are many different types of lawyers! These include but are not limited to:

- Personal Injury
- Estate planning
- Bankruptcy
- Intellectual Property
- Employment
- Corporate
- Immigration
- Criminal
- Tax
- Family
- Civil litigation
- General practice

For students who are not interested in the attorney life, many other career paths would benefit from a graduate with a law degree, including:

- Entrepreneur
- Non Profit Management
- Higher Education
- Professional Counseling
- Negotiation & Conflict Resolution
- Government & Politics
- Public Advocate
- Banking & Finance

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM LAW SCHOOL

Most law schools offer three-year programs, with a challenging case-based curriculum that requires discipline, studying, and in-class participation. Typically, classes have one comprehensive and extensive exam at the end of the semester.

Within your first year of study, most law schools will focus on central areas of law such as contracts, criminal law, constitutional law, property, torts, and civil procedure. With these basics, law students are then able to make informed decisions about their area of focus.



SKILLS NEEDED FOR A SUCCESSFUL LAW CAREER:

Critical Reading | Written & Oral Communication | Research & Analysis |
Time Management | Studying Skills | Organization | Attention to Detail | Confidence

WHAT CAN YOU DO NOW?

Though law school takes place after you receive your undergraduate degree, Butler students currently working towards their bachelor's degree can start to prepare for law school and a career in law as soon as their first year!

As an underclassman:

- Join a pre-law society or group and meet with a pre-law advisor
- Focus on classes, studying, and earning high grades
- Take a practice Law School Admissions Test (LSAT)

As a junior:

- Research law schools and attend campus visits
- Participate in graduate and professional workshops
- Take on internship, volunteer work, and mentoring opportunities
- Register and study for the LSAT
- Take the LSAT during summer after junior year

As a senior:

- Complete a personal statement
- Request letters of recommendation
- Order transcripts
- Complete law school applications by November 1

Online Resources:

[Butler University - Pre-Law Advising](#)

[Butler University - A Career in Law](#)

[Butler University - Pre-Law Society](#)

[Types of Lawyers \(LegalZoom.com\)](#)

[Law Practice Areas - USNews.com](#)

[Nine Jobs You Can Do with a Law Degree - Forbes.com](#)

[What Can I Expect From Law School? - PSU.edu](#)

[Pre-Law Chapter Society Locator \(pad.org\)](#)

[The Law School Admission Test \(LSAT\) Site \(lsac.org\)](#)

[Top 11 Jobs for Pre-Law & Legal Studies Majors \(thebalancecareers.com\)](#)

[Ultimate Guide to Pre-Law: 13 Tips to Prepare for Law School \(prepscholar.com\)](#)