IT ONLY TAKES Information for First-Year J.D. Students

MISSION
St. Mary’s University, as a Catholic Marianist University, fosters the formation of people in faith and educates leaders for the common good through community, integrated liberal arts and professional education, and academic excellence.

The Office of Law Admission
One Camino Santa Maria
San Antonio, Texas 78228
210-436-3523
lawadmissions@stmarytx.edu
law.stmarytx.edu/admission

@stmaryslawadmissions
@stmu_lawadmissions
@stmarys_law
OUR MISSION AND TRADITION IN EXCELLENCE

For more than 90 years, St. Mary’s Law has educated legal leaders with a commitment to service, justice and peace. As the only law school in San Antonio and the only Catholic law school in Texas, our students and alumni are serious about pursuing the mission of giving a voice to the voiceless through community service and pro bono work.

St. Mary’s Law will prepare and graduate you as an ethical leader in the law. We continue to uphold a tradition of excellence in legal education, which is guided by the Characteristics of Marianist Universities. There are five elements that characterize the Marianist approach to education:

- Educate for formation in faith
- Provide an integral, quality education
- Educate in the family spirit
- Educate for service, justice and peace, and integrity of creation
- Educate for adaptation and change

My instructors have challenged me not only to understand how the law has developed, but also how it can change for the better. The practice of law is one of the most rigorous and challenging professions, but I know that my choice to go to St. Mary’s Law will not only set me apart, but allow me to excel when I step into that courtroom.

— Cameron Anthony Galvan, J.D. Class of 2021

ST. MARY’S LAW DIFFERENCE

Graduates of St. Mary’s University have become members of the U.S. Congress, governors and lieutenant governors nationwide, justices of the Texas Supreme Court and Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, state legislators, members of the federal judiciary and leaders of some of the nation’s most prestigious law firms. One degree from St. Mary’s makes a difference in each of their lives and will in yours too. Even after graduating, our alumni stay engaged with the St. Mary’s community, often acting as mentors to our law students.

The St. Mary’s School of Law trains ethical and creative problem solvers who become servant-leaders in their communities, informed by faith that the practice of law is their vocation. Legal education at St. Mary’s is enriched by impactful community service and inspired by characteristics that include justice, peace, adaptation and change. This is a close-knit community that embraces the values of inclusivity, equity, collaboration and service to others. In the words of one of our students, our passion is compassion.

— Dean Patricia E. Roberts, J.D.

ST. MARY’S LAW AT A GLANCE

- Tuition about $12,000 less than average for private law schools
- Career advice tailored to each individual’s passion
- More than 500 University alumni have served in elected or judicial positions
- Only Catholic, Marianist Law School in Texas
- Top 4 Advocacy Program in nation
- More than 4,000 pro bono hours recorded annually
- More than 4,000 University alumni have served in elected or judicial positions

FIRST-YEAR J.D. STUDENT PROFILE 2020-2021

- median LSAT: 151
- median GPA: 3.2

“...”

— Cameron Anthony Galvan, J.D. Class of 2021

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— Dean Patricia E. Roberts, J.D.
ACADEMICS

Joint Degree Programs

- Doctor of Jurisprudence/Master of Business Administration (J.D./M.B.A.)
- Doctor of Jurisprudence/Master of Arts in International Relations (J.D./M.A.)
- Doctor of Jurisprudence/Master of Arts in Public Administration (J.D./M.P.A.)
- Doctor of Jurisprudence/Master of Arts in Theology (J.D./M.A.)

Note: The School of Law can arrange a joint degree with some additional graduate degrees offered at St. Mary’s University.

At St. Mary’s, you can complete our 90-credit-hour J.D. program on either a full-time or part-time basis. Our full-time students typically complete the program in three years, while our part-time students complete their studies in about four years. All first-year J.D. students take the same first-year curriculum classes in the areas of criminal law; civil procedure; contracts; constitutional law; property; torts; and legal communication, analysis and professionalism (LCAP).

Second- and third-year students round out their law school credits with a combination of required and elective courses in various areas of the law.

PREPARING YOU FOR YOUR FUTURE

Professors

At St. Mary’s Law, our top-notch professors prepare our students for the legal and real world. With an open-door policy, many of our students seek out our professors for their experience in their respective areas of legal expertise. Our law professors work with students to lead them to academic success.

Law Success

The Office of Law Success is an innovative program created by St. Mary’s to ensure our students have the skills to succeed both in law school and their careers. Law Success faculty work with students to identify and address each individual’s strengths and weaknesses and hone the skills appropriate for each year of law school and the practice of law.
OCS AND HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE

The Office of Career Strategy (OCS) works with students to help them identify and pursue their passions. The OCS staff provides our law students with personalized advice, strategies to engage with legal professionals, and skill development to assist them as they seek out meaningful career opportunities.

As an added bonus, throughout the academic year and summer, OCS provides programming to introduce students to various areas of law and workshops through which students can learn to build professional relationships, hone their résumé and prepare for pivotal employment interviews.

Read about how a St. Mary’s education has shaped our students and alumni at law.stmarytx.edu/law_magazine.

ADVOCACY

At St. Mary’s, our students strive to be practice-ready when they graduate. In 2019-2020, our advocacy program was ranked No. 4 nationally by the American Bar Association and the program continues to grow stronger. As a St. Mary’s law student, you will have the opportunity to sharpen the skills necessary to become a real-world legal practitioner.

Students can take classes in trial advocacy for credit or participate in the numerous advocacy competitions hosted by the law school. For those aiming to take advocacy to the next level, they can try out for the National Team, whose members refine their skills in mock trial, moot court, negotiation, mediation, client counseling and dispute resolution competitions.
CLINICAL EXPERIENCE
The clinics at the St. Mary’s Center for Legal and Social Justice provide real-world experience that our students find invaluable as they learn to become advocates. As experts in their fields, the Center’s staff attorneys fill the classroom with practical exercises to prepare students for their roles as student attorneys handling real cases and working with clients.

Students can select from the following clinical programs:
• Civil Justice Clinic – Family Law
• Civil Justice Clinic – Consumer Protection
• Criminal Justice Clinic
• Immigration and Human Rights Clinic

PRO BONO
The St. Mary’s Pro Bono Program provides resources to the community free of charge. Our students learn practical skills by interacting with legal professionals and members of society. St. Mary’s Law regularly partners with many local nonprofit organizations, such as the Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services (RAICES), Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid (TRLA) and the San Antonio Legal Services Association (SALSA), pairing student volunteers with attorneys to provide much needed legal information to clients.
STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Registered Student Organizations (RSOs) are a valued part of the law school experience. St. Mary’s Law has more than 40 RSOs, including the Women’s Law Association, Hispanic Law Students Association, Public Interest Law Foundation, and Society of Oil and Gas Students.

Highly encouraged to become involved with RSOs, students bolster their networking efforts, familiarize themselves with different areas of the law and become leaders in their communities. Additionally, students affirm that being involved with outside activities helps them manage stress and provides an outlet to form new social connections.

FACTS ABOUT SAN ANTONIO

As the seventh-largest city in the country, San Antonio is a vibrant and rapidly growing community. With amazing museums, unique cultural sites and wonderful shopping and dining, San Antonio has also become a hub for education with many universities housed here.

As the only law school in San Antonio, St. Mary’s provides a unique opportunity for students to grow their professional networks with members of the local bench and bar.

San Antonio weather also provides many opportunities for our students to get outside and enjoy one of the city’s parks and recreation areas, enjoy a stroll and a margarita on the River Walk, or explore our historical missions, including the Alamo. There are more than 220 days of sunshine annually, so on a nice, warm day, you will also find our students taking advantage of an outdoor coffee spot or at one of many outdoor seating areas on campus.

To explore more of what makes San Antonio unique, visit www.sanantonio.gov/visitors.
Types of Financial Aid

Financing Your Future
Investing in your legal education is an important consideration as you make decisions about enrollment. St. Mary’s Law and the University’s Office of Financial Assistance will work with you to ensure you know your options.

FAFSA
Federal financial aid is awarded based on the completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). We recommend completion of the FAFSA as early as possible in the process but no later than March 1. When filing the FAFSA, it is important to designate St. Mary’s University as a recipient of the information (St. Mary’s Title IV Code is 003623). Students are encouraged to apply for all financial assistance available to them, as working is discouraged for full-time students.

Loans
The Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan is a non-need-based, federal loan available to law students. A student can receive up to $20,500 per academic year through this loan program. Students must submit the FAFSA, meet federal eligibility requirements and enroll at least half time in a degree-seeking program. All first-time St. Mary’s students accepting a Stafford loan are required to complete the Master Promissory Note (MPN) and Entrance Counseling Session at www.studentloans.gov.

A Federal Direct Graduate Plus Loan can supplement educational funding up to the cost of attendance, less any other financial assistance received. The student must submit a FAFSA to determine eligibility for this federally regulated program. Credit-worthiness will be evaluated as a part of this loan program. To accept this loan, a separate Master Promissory Note and Entrance Counseling must be completed through the U.S. Department of Education’s Direct Loan website at www.studentloans.gov.

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Federal Direct Student Loan

Scholarships
Visiting the University’s Office of Financial Assistance is highly recommended to ensure you are aware of all opportunities available to you.

To explore scholarship opportunities at St. Mary’s, visit law.stmarytx.edu/scholarships.

Visit law.stmarytx.edu/financial-aid for more information.

Tuition and Cost of Attendance

Thanks to the support of our alumni and friends of the law school, St. Mary’s has an institutional fund, as well as endowed and named scholarships, to assist law students with achieving their academic and professional goals. Scholarship determinations are made by the law school and the majority of our scholarships are merit-based.

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Full-Time Cost</th>
<th>Part-Time Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition</td>
<td>$38,890*</td>
<td>$25,860**</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fees</td>
<td>$1,060</td>
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<td>Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Board</td>
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<td>Books</td>
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<td>Personal</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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* $19,445 per semester (12-17 hours)
** $12,930 per semester (8-11 hours)
$1,350 per hour (1-7 hours or more than 17 hours)
EXPERIENCE ST. MARY’S LAW

Connecting with St. Mary’s Law has never been easier. Schedule a one-on-one Zoom session or join one of our many future student virtual sessions throughout the fall.

Virtual Sessions This Fall

Our Future Student Virtual Sessions are open to anyone interested in learning more about law school and the application process. Visit https://law.stmarytx.edu/admission/#future-student-virtual-sessions to register and see dates.

LSAC Law School Forums

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<td>Saturday, 12</td>
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To learn more about how you can connect with St. Mary’s, visit law.stmarytx.edu/admission.