

Pre-Law

Students who want to become lawyers are a very special group. They know that to reach their goal they must complete some of the most demanding requirements of any profession. Excelling in college is only the beginning. Next they must be admitted to a law school and graduate from it. Then comes the bar exam, which must be passed for admission to practice. If you are one of these students, we especially welcome you to Guilford College, a school that provides an excellent start for alumni who are now lawyers with private firms, corporations, and in public service. Law is one of the highest callings in our society. If it is your goal, we can help you reach your dreams.

Why Guilford College?

Consistently rated nationally by *The Princeton Review* as well as being one of the 40 colleges in *Colleges that Change Lives* by Loren Pope, Guilford College inspires each student to achieve excellence through an engaging community, rooted in Quaker values, which nurtures creativity and social responsibility.

What can a Guilford education offer you?

- An urban setting near other colleges & universities with an area student population of over 27,000 students
- A consortium agreement with University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro College, Bennett College, North Carolina A&T State University, Elon University and High Point University provides students with access to courses free of charge
- A college mission statement & core values based on, and consistent with, Quaker testimonies. Guilford's core values are: Community, Diversity, Equality, Excellence, Integrity, Justice & Stewardship.
- A challenging academic program which emphasizes not only academic tracks and the learning process, but also the interconnection between curricular and co-curricular pursuits
- A diverse student population providing a stimulating peer environment
- Excellent study abroad programs in China, England, France, Germany, Ghana, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Scotland, Spain, and Wales

The academic program in Pre-Law

Guilford does not offer a pre-law major. Pre-law students at Guilford College have studied in all of its major fields (from political science and english to philosophy and business) and have gone on to excel in law school.

Course Recommendations

There are no course requisites required to apply to law school. In making admission decisions, law schools are primarily interested in whether students have demonstrated mastery of a field and exhibited qualities desirable for leadership positions in our society. Several courses are recommended for students interested in applying for and attending law school, including American constitutional law, political theory and philosophy, advanced composition, economics, and accounting. The practice of law can be very writing intensive. Thus, while in undergraduate programs, applicants are encouraged to take classes that will improve their writing abilities.

The Websterian Pre-Law Society

The Websterian Pre-Law Society was formed at Guilford in 1982 as a result of student initiative. The society is faculty sponsored, but student run and organized. The society elects officers and prepares a budget every year under student leadership. The group meets monthly, starting with a pizza party in the fall. The meetings often include discussions on the types of law that people practice, tips on how to take the Law School Admission Test (LSAT), presentations from law school admissions officers, and information on the rate of admission to law schools and the prospect for employment for lawyers. The society also organizes a practice LSAT under simulated conditions every semester. The students themselves carry this out. A \$5 fee is charged to defray the cost of the tests provided by Law Services in Pennsylvania. Currently, the law society is the only organization on campus that offers help on how to take admission tests for professional schools. Notably, the society also sponsors trips to local law schools each semester. Recent trips were taken to Wake Forest University, Campbell University, University of North Carolina — Chapel Hill, and Duke University law schools.

Suggested Activities

As with most professional schools, experience in the field before entering law school is strongly recommended and encouraged. This experience should be used by students to get an accurate feel for whether or not a career in law is suitable to them. Summer jobs, internships, and volunteer work are some of the ways that this experience can be gained. Guilford College offers a wide availability of internship opportunities for students within the Greensboro area and beyond.

Applying to Law School

The pre-law advisor at Guilford College offer students assistance with law school applications and career advise. In particular, *The Guilford College Pre-Law Handbook* assists students through the maze of law school admissions. The pre-law adviser also maintains a Pre-Law alcove on the second floor of the Bauman Telecommunications Building, where students may study law school catalogs and the materials provided by the Law School Admission Council, such as the *Guide to the Law Schools*. The process for applying to law school varies from school to school. Most schools that are members of the Law School Admission Council (LSAC) require that students apply through the Law School Data Assembly Service (LSDAS). This service provides standardized summaries of academic work, college transcripts, LSAT scores and writing examples in a one-step process. This process allows admission committees more time to concentrate on the individual applicant and his/her credentials. Contact the school that you are interested in for specific application instructions. For more information about LSAC and LSDAS, check out their Websites at: <http://www.lsac.org/> and <http://www.lsac.org/about-the-lsdas.asp>.

Standardized Admission Exam (LSAT)

The LSAT is a half-day standardized test required for admission to the law schools that are members of the LSAC. The test is a standard measure of reading and verbal reasoning skills that law schools use in assessing applicants. For more information and registration, contact: <http://www.lsac.org/about-the-lsat.as>

Law School placement of Guilford graduates

Among the law schools which Guilford graduates have attended are:

Duke University School of Law
Georgetown University School of Law
University of Georgia School of Law
University of North Carolina School of Law
Tulane University School of Law
Vanderbilt University School of Law
Wake Forest University School of Law
Washington and Lee University School of Law.

Pre-Law Adviser

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**For additional information about Pre-Law at Guilford College visit
www.guilford.edu/academics**

