

Columbia Law School and the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs - J.D./M.P.A. Joint Degree Program

Columbia Law School and the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs offer a joint degree program that enables students to earn a J.D. and M.P.A. in four years. Students spend five terms in residence at the Law School and three terms in residence at the Princeton School.

Admissions

Prospective students must separately apply and be admitted to both the Law School and the Princeton School. Applicants may either apply simultaneously to both schools or apply initially only to one school and then apply to the other school during their first year of study.

For information regarding the admissions process at each school, please contact the [CLS Office of Admissions](#) and the [Princeton School Office of Admissions](#) directly.

Degree Requirements

- **Credit Requirements:** 71¹ Law School credits; 12 Princeton School credits
- **Minimum Residency Requirements:** 5 semesters at the Law School; 3 semesters at the Princeton School
- **Academic Requirements:**
 - Students in the J.D./M.P.A. program must satisfy all academic requirements for the J.D. degree, including: (1) all first-year Foundation Courses; (2) a course in Professional Responsibility; (3) the Major Writing credit; (4) the Minor Writing credit; (5) a minimum of 40 hours of Pro Bono service; and (6) for students who first matriculated at the Law School in or after 2016, at least six points of Experiential Coursework credit. The primary distinction is that, for students in the joint degree program, the Law School will accept one term of full-time residency and up to 12 academic credits toward the J.D. degree for work completed at the Princeton School. For more information on the J.D. requirements, please visit the [J.D. Rules Page](#).
 - For information about the Princeton School's academic requirements, please click [here](#).

Program Structure

Students in the J.D./M.P.A. joint degree program earn both degrees in four years, spending five terms (2.5 academic years) at the Law School and three terms (1.5 academic years) at the Princeton School. Students should work closely with [Registration Services at the Law School](#) and the [Princeton School's Graduate Program Office](#) to ensure proper registration.

Tuition and Financial Aid

Students in the J.D./M.P.A. joint degree program will be charged tuition according to the rates effective at the school in which they are in residence each term. For more information regarding tuition and

¹ Joint degree students who first matriculated at the Law School in 2017 must earn at least 72 Law School credits in order to graduate.

financial aid, prospective students should contact the [Law School Financial Aid Office](#) and the [Princeton School Office of Admissions](#).

Contact Information

Columbia Law School

- **Admissions:** 212-854-2674; admissions@law.columbia.edu
- **Financial Aid:** 212-854-7730; financial_aid@law.columbia.edu
- **Academic Advising and Program Information:** Robert Ford, Associate Director of Academic Counseling and Student Engagement, 212-854-7269; rf2659@columbia.edu
- **Registration Services:** 212-854-2668; registrar@law.columbia.edu

Princeton School of Public & International Affairs

- **Admissions, Program Information, and Financial Aid:** 609-258-4836; wwsadmit@princeton.edu
- **Academic Advising:** Karen McGuinness, Associate Dean for Graduate Education; m McGuinness@princeton.edu