

Columbia Law School and Columbia Graduate School of Journalism - J.D./M.S. Dual Degree Program

Columbia Law School and the Columbia Graduate School of Journalism offer a dual degree program that enables students to earn a J.D. and M.S. over seven semesters. Students spend five semesters in residence at the Law School and two semesters in residence at the Journalism School.

Admissions

Prospective students must separately apply and be admitted to both the Law School and the Journalism School. Applicants may either apply simultaneously to both schools or apply initially only to the Law School and apply to the Journalism School during their first or second year of study at the Law School.

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

Degree Requirements

- **Credit Requirements:** 71¹ Law School credits; 37 Journalism School credits
- **Minimum Residency Requirements:** 5 semesters at the Law School; 2 semesters at the Journalism School
- **Academic Requirements:**
 - Students in the J.D./M.S. 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; (6) a course in Legislation and Regulation; and (7) six points of Experiential Coursework credit. The primary distinction is that, for students in the dual 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 Journalism School. For more information on the J.D. requirements, please visit the [J.D. Rules Page](#).
 - Students in the J.D./M.S. program follow the same course of study as single-degree full-time M.S. students and must satisfy all of the Journalism School's requirements for graduation. For information about the Journalism School's academic requirements, please click [here](#).

Program Structure

Students in the J.D./M.S. dual degree program earn both degrees over seven semesters, five of which are spent at the Law School and two of which are spent at the Journalism School. Students must spend the first full year of the program, as well as the final semester of the program, at the Law School, and one full academic year (a consecutive Fall and Spring semester) at the Journalism School. However, they enjoy flexibility as to whether to reside at the Journalism School during the second or third year of the program. Students should work closely with [Registration Services at the Law School](#) and the [Office of Student Affairs at the Journalism School](#) to ensure proper registration.

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

Tuition and Financial Aid

Students in the J.D./M.S. dual 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 financial aid, prospective students should contact the [Law School Financial Aid Office](#) and the [Journalism School Office of Admission and Financial Aid](#).

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, Executive Director of Student Services, Community Engagement, and Equity, 212-854-7269; rf2659@columbia.edu
- **Registration Services:** 212-854-2668; registrar@law.columbia.edu

Columbia Graduate School of Journalism

- **Admissions & Financial Aid:** Christine Souders, Associate Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid, 212-854-8130; cs2534@columbia.edu
- **Academic Advising and Program Information:** Chanel Roche, Assistant Director of Student Life and Dual Degree Liaison, 212-854-9756, cr2586@columbia.edu