



## A Note from the Office of Dean Leonard M. Baynes

I am excited to introduce to you the 2025 incoming Class as they begin their legal education journey and pursue their dreams at the UH Law Center.

To start the 2025-2026 academic year, the Law Center enrolled 219 full-time and 30 part-time J.D. students. Applications increased by 8% in 2025, allowing us to enroll a slightly smaller class while further elevating our academic standards.

I am proud to share that the entering J.D. class has broken our prior record-setting standards:

- **Overall median LSAT of 163** – the highest in the Law Center’s history.
- **Overall median GPA of 3.79** – the highest since records have been kept, dating back to the 1980s.
- **Full-time students achieved medians of 163 LSAT and 3.78 GPA** – both record highs.
- **Part-time students scored medians of 160 LSAT and 3.85 GPA** – again, the highest in our history.

In short, the 2025 entering JD class represents the strongest academic profile UH Law Center has ever welcomed.

Equally important, this class reflects the Law Center’s commitment to opportunity and social mobility. More than half (56%) of the incoming J.D. students are receiving scholarships, with \$881,000 in awards committed to this class alone.

The first-generation representation is especially noteworthy: 22.1% of these students are both first-generation college and law school students (up from 18.4% last year), and 83.5% are first-generation law students overall. These figures underscore the Law Center’s role in expanding access to legal education.

The UH Law Center is continuing the important work of ensuring all students, especially those from under-resourced communities, can pursue their dreams of becoming lawyers.

We are also pleased to welcome 25 transfer students, an increase from 19 last year, along with one visiting student. Their decision to continue their legal education at the Law Center reflects the strength of our faculty, our programs, and our growing reputation.

The number of incoming foreign LL.M. students is 35 and U.S. LL.M. students is 9, totaling 44 students, in contrast to 45 foreign LL.M. students and 3 U.S. LL.M. students in 2024, totaling 48. Our LL.M. students have a number of impressive careers and educational backgrounds before seeking their UH Law LL.M. degree including:

- Teacher
- English Translator
- Professor
- Petrochemical Industry Executive
- Medical doctor who specializes in dermatology
- Ph.D.
- Fulbright Scholar
- 2 LL.M. Students with more than 12 publications each

The entering LLM class also represents 18 nations, including the U.S. The foreign LLMs represent nations all over the world: Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, China, Columbia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, India, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Sri Lanka, Turkey, United Kingdom, Venezuela, Vietnam. The largest number of LLM students representing any individual country, besides the U.S., ranges from Mexico with 6 students, followed by Pakistan with 4 students.

JD/LLM applications are up from last year. There was a total of 8 completed applications, 6 accepted offers (3-Health, 3-Tax), 2 Deferred (2-Tax). Last year, there were no JD/LLM matriculates.

The 2025 entering Class exemplifies excellence and determination, and with a J.D. or LLM from the UH Law Center they will exemplify the power of legal education. Over the next three years for the J.D. students and next one year for the LLM students, they will perfect their ability to think and analyze issues like lawyers, deepen their knowledge and professional network, and prepare to lead with distinction in a rapidly evolving legal profession.

This extraordinary group of students joins the Law Center at a significant moment for our institution, as we continue to strengthen our academic profile and broaden our impact in the legal profession.

I am deeply grateful to our alumni and friends for their ongoing support, which makes it possible to attract, retain, and nurture such outstanding students. Together, we are ensuring that the University of Houston Law Center continues to advance its mission of academic excellence, professional leadership, and service to society.

Sincerely,

Leonard M. Baynes  
Dean, Hugh Roy and Lillie Cranz Cullen Distinguished Chair, and Professor of Law  
University of Houston Law Center

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