



THOMAS R. KLINE
SCHOOL OF LAW

Congratulations
on your acceptance!

91.39%

**Ultimate Bar
Pass Rate**

(two-year rate - 2021)

Welcome to the Thomas R. Kline School of Law of Duquesne University!

Accepting Your Offer

 duq.edu/lawADMIT

Admitted Students Webpage

The Admitted Students webpage has everything you need to start your Duquesne Kline School of Law experience. The webpage is updated frequently and by summer will include Orientation details. Please check it often.

Don't miss Admitted Students Day!

Saturday, March 29, 2025

RSVP via the Admitted Students Webpage

Register your attendance today.

Can't attend Admit Day?

Sign up for an individual visit on the [Visit, Tour and Engage with Us webpage](#). We offer student-guided tours and the opportunity to attend a class (when classes are in session).

Reserve your seat in the class now!

Two, non-refundable \$500 deposits are required to hold your seat in the entering class. If you matriculate at Duquesne Kline School of Law this fall, your deposits will be credited to your student account for tuition and/or fees.

Seat deposits are due by the dates indicated on your letter of admission. Failure to reserve your seat in the class may result in losing your seat in the entering class as well as forfeiture of financial awards. Please note that Duquesne Kline School of Law does not extend deposit deadlines or offer deferrals.

Meet Zachary Valkovci

What advice would you give to incoming law students? As incoming law students, I would say that keeping an open mind about your future is the best thing you could do for yourself. Just because you came into law school thinking you'll go into criminal law, doesn't mean you have to go into criminal law! The legal field is far broader than most people realize. If you try your best to expose yourself to several areas of the law, you just might surprise yourself with where you end up.



Undergraduate Institution: Duquesne University

What are your favorite law school class and professor?

Professor Grace Orsatti and her Wills & Healthcare Decisions Clinic has been my absolute favorite course. Professor Orsatti puts so much thought and care into pro bono legal work for the Pittsburgh community. Getting to be a part of that work is an absolute honor. Even outside of her course, Professor Orsatti is an amazing mentor for me, providing thoughtful oversight and advice for my legal career.

What work experiences have you had?

Throughout my undergraduate and law school studies, I have worked with several different areas of the law, including an intellectual property firm in downtown Pittsburgh and with the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Pennsylvania. I also completed the Wills & Healthcare Decisions Clinic through Duquesne Kline School of Law. After that, I became a law clerk at a civil litigation firm in downtown Pittsburgh.

Scholarship and Financial Aid

Priority Financial Aid Deadline:
May 31, 2025
Duquesne FAFSA Code: 003258

Scholarships

You do not need to apply for merit scholarship aid. All admitted students are considered for merit scholarships; students receiving an award will receive scholarship information in the letter of admissions.

Scholarships are disbursed half in the first semester and half in the second semester. Students changing division (full-time/part-time) will have their scholarship amounts adjusted accordingly.

Incoming student merit scholarships are retained each year by maintaining Academic Good Standing. The GPA required to be in Academic Good Standing is a 2.0. After your first year, you can apply for a variety of need-based endowed funds. The Duquesne Kline School of Law does not award conditional scholarships.

Loans

The University's Office of Financial Aid processes student loans.

What You Need To Do:

- 1) File FAFSA at fafsa.ed.gov using the Duquesne University school code 003258. You can file FAFSA at any time, even before you do your taxes. You can also use the IRS data retrieval tool to easily import tax information.
- 2) Beginning in March the Office of Financial Aid will mail your award letter to your permanent address on file.
The priority deadline for Duquesne University to process loan information is May 31.
- 3) Beginning July 1 or after you have received your award letters, you can sign your Master Promissory Note for your unsubsidized Stafford loans as well as apply for Grad PLUS or private loans.



Meet Shannen Cloherty

Why did you choose Duquesne Kline School of Law?

I chose Duquesne Kline Law because ultimately I wanted to end up at a law school where I knew I could hit the ground running and aim to make an immediate impact. The proximity to downtown makes it very easy to not only be involved in the law school community, but the Pittsburgh legal community as well. Additionally, the faculty and staff at Duquesne Kline Law truly care about each individual student's experience, and I saw that firsthand during my visit as an admitted student. I am very pleased with my law school decision and look forward to my remaining time at Duquesne Kline Law.

Undergraduate Institution: University of South Carolina

What led you to pursue a joint degree?

During my undergraduate studies, I pursued a degree in Supply Chain and Operations Management with a Data Analytics Concentration. This degree piqued my interest in business, so coming into law school I knew that I wanted to pursue a JD/MBA. I think that it is extremely valuable to be knowledgeable in business transactions, especially when pursuing a career in corporate law. The JD/MBA program at Duquesne is extremely flexible and can suit whatever your individual needs are. I've enjoyed my classes in the business school and look forward to having more MBA classes in the coming semesters.



Meet Andrew Yelanich

What advice would you give to incoming law students? When answering questions in class, be prepared but don't be afraid to be wrong. The professors nurture learning and dialogue, they don't expect perfectly crafted responses.

Undergraduate Institution: University of Pittsburgh

What are your favorite law school class and professor? Civil Procedure with Professor Heppner. The Hypos are life!

Why did you choose Duquesne Kline School of Law? I chose Duquesne Kline Law because of the evening program that lets me work full time during the day while working towards my J.D.

What work experiences have you had? I've worked in the field of education planning / post-secondary education for over five years.

What are your interests outside of law school? I'm a foodie! I can give the best reviews for Korean restaurants in the city.

Best Value
Private Law School
preLaw Magazine 2024

Loan Deferment

Undergraduate loan deferment or forbearance forms should be given to the Law School Registrar on the first day of classes. The Registrar will complete these forms when classes have begun and you are a matriculated student.

Loan Repayment Assistance Program

The Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP) provides post-graduation assistance with educational loan repayment for graduates working in qualifying positions in the nonprofit or public service sector.

At Duquesne Kline School of Law, the William B. Billock Loan Repayment Program seeks to ease the debt burden incurred by graduates employed at qualifying public interest law entities. Individuals who work as public interest law or government attorneys or staff for tax-exempt organizations, and who earn less than \$67,000 per year are eligible to apply for consideration.

Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program

The U.S. Department of Education's post-graduation Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Program currently forgives the remaining balance on Direct Loans after borrowers have made 120 qualifying monthly payments under a qualifying repayment plan while working full-time for a qualifying employer.

Law students can learn more about LRAP and PSLF at the loan repayment informational program held each year at Duquesne Kline School of Law.

Veterans Benefits

Duquesne Kline School of Law is a Yellow Ribbon School!

For additional information pertaining to veterans' benefits, please visit the Veterans Affairs GI Bill website at www.benefits.va.gov/gibill

Learn more by contacting Duquesne University's Office for Military and Veteran Students at veterans@duq.edu or 412.396.5366.

REMINDER

Male U.S. citizens must have registered for Selective Service in order to be considered for federal aid and loans. To confirm you have registered, please visit

www.sss.gov/verify

For questions about scholarships and financial aid, please contact:

Christine Woodburn

Director of Financial Aid

Thomas R. Kline School of Law of Duquesne University
woodburnc@duq.edu
412.396.6296

For questions about loan processing, disbursements, refunds, and laptop loan, please contact:

Office of Financial Aid

faoffice@duq.edu

412.396.6607

Living and Studying in Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh is one of the **top 15 best cities for Young Professionals in America** according to Niche.com

On-Campus Housing

🌐 liveatluminaduq.com

Duquesne Kline School of Law has on-campus University-affiliated housing for law students in McGinley Hall, Brottier Hall and St. Martin Hall. As a law student at Duquesne Kline School of Law, you may choose a more traditional collegiate residence hall or a more contemporary apartment building. In either case, you'll experience living in the heart of Downtown Pittsburgh with the convenience of being on-campus. To learn more about on-campus housing options available for graduate students, visit liveatluminaduq.com or call 412.396.1600.

Off-Campus Housing

🌐 duq.edu/offcampushousing

Pittsburgh offers numerous, affordable off-campus housing options in vibrant neighborhoods near campus, including South Side, Oakland, Lawrenceville, Shadyside, Squirrel Hill, the Mexican War Streets, Downtown, Uptown, and Mount Washington, to name a few.

Be sure to budget for August and September rent payments. Student loan disbursements are not available until mid-September.

Public Transportation

🌐 rideprt.org

To learn about bus and light rail system (T) transportation, visit the Pittsburgh Regional Transit's website. Students can purchase an affordable ConnectCard and load money onto it to get around the city and region by bus.

At Home in Pittsburgh

🌐 duq.edu/pittsburgh

Duquesne Kline School of Law is located steps from Pittsburgh's legal epicenter, so gaining experience in the area's firms, courts, businesses, and agencies is convenient. Pittsburgh's eclectic neighborhoods and affordable cost of living make it an attractive place to study, work, and live.

As a student here you can discover the region's many cultural and recreational offerings such as numerous bike trails, including the Great Allegheny Passage linking Pittsburgh and Washington, D.C.; breathtaking parks, including Ohiopyle; world-class museums; and the Pittsburgh Cultural District, with theaters, galleries, and performance spaces all within walking distance.

Meet Jamilah Wesley

Why did you choose Duquesne Kline School of Law? |

I chose Duquesne Kline School of Law because I wanted to go to school somewhere that felt genuinely supportive and student focused. Duquesne Kline School of Law has many great opportunities and programs but still feels close knit and very personal. Also, the foundation of the creation of the Law School to help immigrants and working-class people obtain their education is very admirable. Duquesne Kline School of Law's Spiritan Tradition drew me in.



Undergraduate Institution: Old Dominion University

What advice would you give to incoming law students?

Focus on your journey and yours only. While it's nice to admire others around you, success looks different for everyone, and everyone's journey to achieve that is unique.

What are your favorite law school class and professor?

My favorite class is Contracts, and my favorite professor is Professor Richard Gaffney. Contracts involves a lot of interpretation which I enjoy. Professor Gaffney is really encouraging and supportive.

What led you to pursue a joint degree?

I chose to pursue my MBA along with my law degree because I want to pursue corporate law and work on client relations and eventually business development. The flexibility and support from the School of Business and Law School has been essential in making my goal possible.

What are your interests outside of law school?

I enjoy traveling, volunteering, and attending concerts whenever I get a chance.

Plus the city's major-league sports venues are all located within about a mile, including PNC Park, home of the Pittsburgh Pirates; Acrisure Stadium, home of the Pittsburgh Steelers; and PPG Paints Arena, home of the Pittsburgh Penguins and major concerts, located across the street from campus.

Campus Amenities

duq.edu/recreation

As a law student, you will have access to all of the amenities on Duquesne's campus, including:

- Extensive recreation and fitness facilities in the Power Center
- Swimming pool in Towers
- Multiple dining options in the Duquesne Union, including a Starbucks, Chick-fil-A and Cinco Cantina made-to-order Mexican eatery
- Duquesne University Bookstore
- Subway, Moonlit Burgers, Freshens, and many other eateries within blocks
- Multiple bike lock stations on campus and a Healthy Ride bike-share location adjacent to campus

At the Duquesne Kline School of Law, in addition to classrooms, the library, faculty and administrative offices, and two moot courtrooms, you will find:

- Coffee and snack shop, run by Res Sipsa Café
- Student lounge
- Student lockers, microwaves, and refrigerators
- Multiple offices for student organizations

Parking & Transportation

duq.edu/parking

Duquesne University offers parking services and permit options. However, no one is required to purchase parking at the University; there are numerous parking lots and garages in the campus vicinity.

Students can also park in the Forbes Avenue Garage and pay hourly rates. Evening permits are available at lower rates for use in the Locust Garage Monday through Friday 2:30 p.m.-midnight and all day Saturday and Sunday.

In addition, the University offers event rate cards free of charge, allowing students to pay regular rates for parking on days that special event rates apply, such as campus basketball games or PPG Paints Arena events.

South Side Shuttle Service

duq.edu/parking#shuttle

Duquesne University offers a free shuttle service between campus and South Side. The shuttle bus offers convenient and inexpensive transportation. The shuttle arrives at Duquesne University approximately every 15-20 minutes. Service is available Monday through Friday 7 a.m.-10 p.m.



Academics

If the standard of a law school's greatness is the caliber of its students, the success of its graduates and the dedication of its faculty, then there is no doubt that the Thomas R. Kline School of Law of Duquesne University stands among the nation's best. We seek the best and brightest students to join our community of scholars, and we prepare them for success every step of the way. You cannot get lost here. The deans and professors will know you from the day you walk in the front door, and you will know them.

duq.edu/law



Bar Passage Nationally
preLaw Magazine 2024



Meet Megan Penn

What advice would you give to incoming law students? You miss 100% of the shots you don't take. Never let the belief that you can't do something hold you back from trying. Your own capability might surprise you.

Undergraduate Institution: University of Maryland

Why did you choose Duquesne Kline School of Law? I chose Duquesne Kline School of Law because of the amazing scholarship opportunities. Additionally, the high bar passage rate was important to my decision because I want to be successful inside and outside of law school.

What is your favorite law school class and who is your favorite professor?

My favorite law school class was Civil Procedure and Dr. Heppner is my favorite teacher.

What work experiences have you had?

I am a Law Clerk for J.P. Ward & Associates and a Research Assistant for Professor Ledewitz.

What student organizations or publications are you involved in?

Law Review, Moot Court, Lambda, National Lawyer's Guild, Student Ambassador.





Meet Denzel Gregg

What is your favorite law school class and who is your favorite professor? My favorite law school class so far has been Legal Research and Writing. Although the course was tough, we all knew how much she cared about our personal and professional growth. It was also the class I found most applicable to my summer internship.

Undergraduate Institution: St. Bonaventure University

What do I need to know about the law before I start law school?

Absolutely nothing! I had no legal experience prior to school and have been doing great. Everything you need to know will be taught upon arrival. Enjoy the last few months before law school and don't panic about your current level of legal expertise.

What are some of your interests outside of law school?

I love sports which has made it great to be in Pittsburgh. There's a professional sports team for every season and a bunch of collegiate sports programs in town as well.

What work experiences have you had?

Immediately following undergrad, I played basketball professionally in Europe for three years. After COVID, I moved on to work for Indianapolis-Marion County Mayor Joe Hogsett in Indianapolis, Indiana. Finally, in my year before law school I worked as an Assistant Academic Coordinator for Syracuse University Football. None of these things have anything to do with law school but here I am!

Academic Excellence Program

Our Academic Excellence Program is available to help you during all years of your legal education.

In addition to attending the Academic Excellence orientation, you can enroll in any Academic Excellence workshop or course, borrow materials from the Study Room, be matched with a peer tutor, or request a one-on-one appointment at any time.

Comprehensive Bar Studies

duq.edu/lawbarstudies

Duquesne Kline School of Law makes it a top priority to ensure that you are thoroughly prepared for the bar examination, so you can be practice ready when you graduate.

During every year of study, you can take advantage of comprehensive bar preparation. Duquesne Kline School of Law's bar studies offer you a rigorous curriculum taught by acclaimed professors, a nationally ranked legal writing program, hands-on learning gained through unique clinical programs, and special bar preparation options.

Our upper-level core competency courses review legal concepts encountered on the bar examination and in practice.

If you have questions in the meantime, feel free to contact Ashley London, Director of Bar Studies, at londona@duq.edu.

All R.I.S.E. Summer Program (Reflecting, Improving, and Striving for Excellence)

The Duquesne Kline School of Law faculty will provide a free, fully online summer program for incoming 1Ls to help with the transition to law school. A series of seminars hosted by our faculty will include the following topics:

- Introduction to the Legal System
- Preparing for Class
- Legal Reasoning
- Law School Assessments and Exam Taking

For questions about All R.I.S.E. or the Academic Excellence Program contact Megan Montcalm, Director of Academic Excellence and Assistant Professor of Legal Skills, at montcalmm@duq.edu.

"Helping our students prepare to pass the bar examination is a sacred duty and trust for us at The Thomas R. Kline School of Law of Duquesne University. It is the final hurdle in their strenuous and intellectually challenging journey to becoming a licensed lawyer. We provide resources to help students achieve this goal from the moment they enter the law school, and we stay with them through the rigors of the exam process itself. There is nothing more exciting and affirming for us as educators than to see our students succeed."

- Ashley London

Director of Bar Studies and Assistant Professor of Law

Clinical Legal Education

Clinical education is an instructional cornerstone of the Thomas R. Kline School of Law of Duquesne University.

As an upper-level student, you can benefit by participating in law clinics, yearlong externships, and fellowship placements. All offer live-client experiences – and often, court appearances. You will be ready to start your experiential learning with a summer externship at the end of your first year, if you choose.

Watch for news about student open house events at the [Tribone Center for Clinical Legal Education](#), and learn more about specific clinics and programs of interest to you.



Clinics and Practicum

- Family Law Clinic
- Federal Litigation Clinic
- Re-Entry Legal Services Clinic
- Urban Development Practicum
- Veterans Clinic
- Wills and Healthcare Decisions Clinic
- Youth Advocacy Clinic

Fellowships

- Public Interest Law Association Fellowships
- McGinley Public Service Law Fellowships

Yearlong Externships

- Criminal Prosecution Program
- Pennsylvania Innocence Project
- Public Defender Program
- Elder Law Justice Project

One-Semester and Summer Externship Placements

- Government externships
- Judicial externships
- Non-Profit externships
- Private-Sector externships

Pro Bono Placements

- Dozens of placement sites
- Open to all students
- Opportunities for service recognition

Meet M.K. Swartsfager

What work experiences have you had? I've worked for nearly 10 years on Active Duty in the U.S. Military, spent two years supporting Assistant U.S. Attorneys in the Northern District of California and Western District of Pennsylvania, and provided assistance to the people of Allegheny County on Landlord Tenant and Protection from Abuse cases with Neighborhood Legal Services.



Undergraduate Institution: Colorado College

Why did you choose Duquesne Kline School of Law?

I chose Duquesne Kline School of Law because of its legacy of commitment to public service. This is an institution that remembers and honors its community. It was founded as a humble night school over 100 years ago. Its objective has always been to prepare bright Pittsburghers from disadvantaged and underrepresented communities for law careers that would disrupt the status quo. While Duquesne Kline School of Law now serves students who come to Pittsburgh from all over the world, that essential mission has not changed. The motto is, "the Welfare of the People is the Highest Law". It's more than just a slogan.

Which law student organizations are you a part of?

I'm Vice President of the Public Interest Law Association (PILA) and I work in the Urban Development Practicum. I'm also an active member in quite a few student groups, most notably the Environmental Law Society. Last year, I co-founded a student organization called Trails Club, which holds weekly trail walks/runs and regular outdoor events in order to build a student body and a legal community grounded in awareness of the natural world and committed to seeing the humanity in one another.



Meet Allyssa Rispoli

What advice would you give to incoming law students? Time management is your best friend in law school. The workload is manageable, and it's definitely possible to have a job and/or a social life along with it. Law school does not need to be your entire life!

Undergraduate Institution: Virginia Tech

Why did you choose Duquesne Kline School of Law? First of all, I love Pittsburgh. Second of all, it really appealed to me how personable and welcoming the staff and current students were. Navigating the admissions process can be daunting, but everybody at Duquesne Kline School of Law made me feel welcome before I had even committed to going here. And lastly (maybe the most important reason), Duquesne Kline School of Law has an incredible reputation not only around the Pittsburgh area, but around Pennsylvania and surrounding states. Practicing attorneys are always impressed when you tell them you go to Duquesne Kline School of Law! Not to mention, the bar passage rate is incredibly high!

What are your practice-area interests?

I am interested in family law, mostly divorces, custody, and support, but I am also looking into international law and immigration law!

What work experiences have you had?

This summer, following my 1L year, I worked for a family attorney, and I continued to work for her through the fall semester. She is a solo practitioner, so I have been working very closely with her on cases. My day-to-day tasks include things like: legal research, writing court pleadings, talking with clients, and trial prep.

Career Services for 1L Students

 duq.edu/law/career-services

Duquesne Kline School of Law offers you career services that address ever-changing needs. Before you even start your studies, you will learn about the comprehensive slate of services offered by our Career Services Office (CSO).

Career Services

Maria D. Comas, L'00

Assistant Dean of Career Services & Alumni Relations

Elizabeth McCadden, L'21

Associate Director of Career Services & Alumni Relations

lawcareers@duq.edu

412.396.6559

Career Services for You

- Alumni Mentors
- Resume Reviews
- Mock Interviews
- On-Campus Recruiting
- Employment Portal
- Lawyers on Location
- Judicial Clerkship Presentations
- Practice-Area Events
- Solo and Small-Firm Seminars
- Nontraditional Legal Career Workshops
- Job Search Workshops
- Networking Events

Most programs are held noon-1 p.m. or 5-6 p.m., and are scheduled throughout the academic year.

96.4% Employment Rate

Class of 2023 Employment Categories*



*All employment statistics are 10 months after graduation as reported to the ABA. This document does not include the complete data the School of Law is required to disclose under ABA Standard 509. The complete data can be found online at duq.edu/law/career-services and then click on Employment Statistics.



Law students on location at Matthews International.

Lawyers on Location

“Lawyers on Location” is an innovative program that brings students and legal professionals together during the school year. Students are invited to visit local employers for an informal lunch and networking meeting followed by a tour of the employer’s office. The program allows students to meet alumni, develop networking skills, and the opportunity to learn from our grads.

Meet Taylor Maldonado

Why did you choose Duquesne Kline School of Law? |

I chose Duquesne Kline School of Law as a first-generation college graduate from a family with no background or connection in law because Duquesne Kline School of Law offers a great alumni network in the heart of our city! I also chose Duquesne Kline School of Law as the city’s only law school to offer the flexibility of an evening program that allows me to work full-time in the industry while also pursuing my degree.



Undergraduate Institution: Saint Vincent College

What advice would you give to incoming students? The best advice I can give to incoming law students is to embrace the experience (and the challenge) and to ask questions! There may be moments of uncertainty, and at first law school will feel like nothing you have experienced before, but by the end of it all, you will wish you had more time here - especially to get insight and guidance from the wonderful faculty and staff - so try not to focus solely on the exam at the end!

What work experiences have you had?

I began law school employed full-time as a Business Immigration Supervisor with Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP. During my third year of law school, I spent the spring semester interning at the District Attorney’s Office in Allegheny County for the PCRA/Federal Habeas Unit and spent the Summer interning at the Pennsylvania Supreme Court in Justice Wecht’s chambers. I have since returned to Immigration and am working full-time for Ogletree Deakins as a Legal Writer, supporting their Washington, DC office.

What led you to pursue a joint degree? I chose to pursue the dual J.D./MBA program not only to make myself more marketable to future employers in the corporate industry but also to gain a more holistic understanding of how businesses operate.

What are your practice-area interests? As of now, I am most interested in Immigration Law. I have an ever-growing interest in travel and global mobility, and I thoroughly enjoy my current position in immigration. However, if law school has taught me anything, it is that the law, no matter the practice-area, is fascinating; it takes time to find your niche, and you don’t always end up in the field you would expect!

What are some of your interests outside of law school? When I’m not busy working or preparing for class, I enjoy taking my puppy for walks at the park, reading and writing leisurely, and volunteering at the school (for example, I participated in the Name Change Project, and it was a wonderful experience).

The Duquesne Kline School of Law Experience

Student Organizations

duq.edu/law/organizations

- American Bar Association/Law Student Division
- American Constitution Society for Law and Policy
- Animal Law Society
- Asian and Pacific Islander Law Society
- Black Law Students Association
- Christian Legal Society
- Corporate Law Society
- Criminal Law Association
- Duquesne Intellectual Property Law Association
- Duquesne Italian-American Law Society
- Duquesne National Lawyers Guild
- Education Law and Policy Society
- Election Law Society
- Environmental Law Society
- Estates and Trusts Society
- Family Law Society
- Federalist Society
- First Generation Society
- Health Law Society
- Hispanic American Bar Association

Pursue your passions with Duquesne Kline School of Law's many student organizations and publications.

- International & Immigration Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Labor & Employment Law Society
- Lambda Law Society
- Military Law Society
- National Plaintiffs' Law Association
- Older and Wiser Law Students
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Public Interest Law Association
- Sports and Entertainment Law Society
- Student Bar Association
- Trails Club
- Women's Law Association

Meet Brian O'Loughlin, L'24

What might people be surprised to know about you?

I entered law school as a non-traditional student. I am a U.S. military service-connected, disabled veteran, who also worked in the civilian sector in healthcare and first responder roles. I have four young children (two girls and two boys) and two dogs. This non-traditional background and life experience has proven invaluable throughout law school.



Undergraduate Institution: Adelphi University

What advice would you give to incoming law students?

Law school can feel like an overwhelming experience at first. It is very doable, even for those with young children. It is a matter of learning how to break this material into bite sized chunks.

Your professors are experts on the topics they are teaching. Do not hesitate to go to office hours and clarify your questions. These one-on-one meetings will clarify the issue and you may get exposure to other specializations and current research within the legal profession that you were otherwise unaware of.

Why did you choose Duquesne Kline School of Law?

During the application process I contacted the admissions

office with two questions, one about how the Post 9/11 GI Bill and Yellow Ribbon program were implemented and another about a specific legal clinic that I was interested in. I received a comprehensive answer regarding veterans benefits almost immediately and was also provided with detailed information on other veteran support services available on campus. In addition, I received a phone call from the professor who instructs the legal clinic and he spent nearly an hour discussing the clinic and the overall program and culture of Duquesne Kline School of Law. This level of personalized service has continued throughout the program, with professors, administrators, and support staff getting to know and support students throughout their educational journey.

Trial Advocacy Program

duq.edu/lawadvocacy

Duquesne Kline School of Law offers a nationally recognized **Trial Advocacy Program** to upper-level students. Through comprehensive coursework and competition experience, students participate to develop skills in case analysis, trial preparation, effective communication, witness preparation, and case presentation.

Appellate Moot Court Board

duq.edu/law/appellateadvocacy

Students participate in the Appellate Advocacy Program to develop new legal research, writing, and advocacy skills and to compete in appellate moot court, arbitration, and negotiation competitions across the country. The student-run Appellate Moot Court Board directs the program under the supervision of adjunct faculty and alumni coaches.

Student Ambassadors

The Student Ambassador Program promotes Duquesne Kline School of Law and supports Office of Admissions events throughout the academic year. Ambassadors assist with information sessions, admitted student events, and tours. Students interested in becoming Ambassadors should contact the Office of Admissions at lawadmissions@duq.edu.

Student Publications

The **Duquesne Kline School of Law Review** is the flagship journal of Duquesne Kline School of Law. The scholarly journal is entirely student-run and publishes works by legal professionals and academics twice a year. Membership can be obtained by participating in the annual write-on competition upon completion of the first year of full-time studies or second year of part-time studies. Membership is awarded based upon students' class ranking and performance in the write-on competition.

The **Duquesne Kline School of Law Journal** focuses on topics that affect the world of business, evolving Supreme Court case law, and influential persons in the business community. Students, faculty, alumni, and practicing attorneys submit articles for consideration on issues involving securities, contracts, and international business.

Joule: Duquesne Energy and Environmental Law Journal serves as a forum for students and professionals to discuss legal concepts related to energy and environmental law. *Joule* features a collection of commentaries and blogs as well as full-length articles offering in-depth analysis.

Juris publishes articles on substantive areas of the law and issues of local and national interest. Students strengthen their writing, editing, and production skills by working on the magazine and blog.



Meet Chelsea Bruce

What advice would you give to incoming law students? It is great to have an idea of what area of law you would like to practice, but do not let it limit you. Keep an open mind. Get a taste of as many types of law as you can while you can. A couple years into practice, it'll be harder to make that switch, so sample while the stakes are low—take advantage of classes with adjunct professors who are currently practicing law, ask full-time faculty why they left the firm lifestyle, and go to the events with professionals.

Undergraduate Institution: University of Delaware

Why did you choose Duquesne Kline School of Law?

There is a large and thriving legal community in Pittsburgh, and Duquesne Kline School of Law has strong connections with many of the firms in the area, making it easy for its students to find mentors willing to help them. Further, the culture within the law school is unique—there isn't a sense of unhealthy competition, people are genuinely interested in helping one another, and the faculty are interested in the students' growth.

Which law student organizations or publications are you a part of?

I am the President of the Intellectual Property student organization. I am also a member of the Black Law Students Association, Women's Law Association, and the Sports & Entertainment Law Society.

Student Health Insurance Plan

duq.edu/SHIP

Duquesne University is concerned about the health and well-being of our students and understands the importance of acquiring adequate health insurance. Therefore, the University has a Hard Waiver Policy for student health insurance.

All full-time graduate, undergraduate, and international students are required to log-in to the [student health insurance portal](#) to either select medical insurance or provide verifiable proof of coverage. If you do not log-in to provide the required information, you will automatically be enrolled in the basic Student Health Insurance plan and your student account will be billed for the cost in two installments. The University partners with QM Services to provide excellent and affordable health insurance.

If you are covered by another insurance policy, you must first have the policy reviewed by the healthcare advocates at QM Services to determine if it is acceptable for the waiver.

To enroll or waive insurance coverage, log-in to QM Services after you are registered for classes. The Duquesne Kline School of Law Registrar will notify you when you have been officially registered for classes.

More Information

For more information on student insurance, or if you have any questions, contact QM Services at 1.800.273.1715.

Immunizations

duq.edu/immunizations

All students are required to provide proof of immunizations prior to enrolling in the Thomas R. Kline School of Law of Duquesne University.

Meet Jamie Martines

What advice would you give to incoming law students?

Run your own race. It's easy to get caught up in what everyone else is doing – where they are applying for internships, how they did on exams – and to start comparing yourself to them. Do your best to stay focused on your goals, and to keep improving against your own personal best.



Undergraduate Institution: Georgetown University School of Foreign Service

Why did you choose Duquesne Kline School of Law? As a non-traditional student who worked for about a decade between undergrad and starting law school, I was looking for a school that knew how to support a student like me. Even as I went back to school, the professors and deans helped me find ways to keep my professional contacts fresh and move my career forward.

Which law student organizations or publications are you a part of? I am a co-founder and the president of the Trails Club, a student group that supports students'

mental health and promotes networking among students, faculty, and alumni by organizing weekly group runs/walks, as well as monthly hikes and other outdoor outings. I'm also a member of the *Duquesne Kline School of Law Review* and a teaching assistant in the Legal Research and Writing program.

What work experiences have you had? Prior to law school, I worked as a reporter covering local and state government in Pennsylvania for about seven years. I currently work as a law clerk with a firm in Pittsburgh focused on commercial litigation. I have also volunteered with the Name Change Project.

Contacts

If there is anything that the Admissions Office can do to assist you, please contact us!

If you have a question about...	...please contact:
Personal visits, general inquiries, application documents	Office of Admissions lawadmissions@duq.edu 412.396.6296
Scheduling, transcripts, veteran certification, change of address	Heather Shaw, Law School Registrar lawreg@duq.edu 412.396.2268
Loans processing, disbursements, and refunds	Office of Financial Aid faoffice@duq.edu 412.396.6607
Career Planning	Maria Comas, Assistant Dean of Career Services & Alumni Relations lawcareers@duq.edu 412.396.6559
Student Organizations	Beth Bauer, Assistant Director of Student Organizations & International Programs bauerb3@duq.edu
Tuition billing and payment, financial aid disbursement	Student Accounts studentaccounts@duq.edu 412.396.6585
Parking (Locust Garage, Forbes Avenue Garage, or Surface parking)	Parking and Traffic Management parking@duq.edu 412.396.5267
South Side Shuttle	
Zipcar	
Student Health Insurance	Office of Human Resources hrservices@duq.edu 412.396.6575
Immunizations	Health Services duhealth@duq.edu 412.396.1650
Accessibility and Accommodations	Ella Kwisnek, Associate Dean for Students kwisnek@duq.edu 412.396.1474
Psychological Counseling	University Counseling Center 412.396.6204
On-Campus Housing	Lumina liveatluminaduq.com 412.396.1600
MultiPass	CTS help@duq.edu 412.396.4357
Scholarships and financial aid	Christine Woodburn, Director of Financial Aid woodburnc@duq.edu 412.396.6296

Policies and information in this guide are subject to change.

Ultimate Checklist

PRE-REGISTRATION:

- ✓ **Submit Your Seat Deposit**
Deposit date is in your admission letter.
- ✓ **Submit Your FAFSA**
If you plan on applying for student loans, submit your FAFSA using Duquesne University's school code 003258.
- ✓ **Submit Final Transcripts to LSAC**
Send your final transcripts to LSAC. The transcripts must indicate "degree conferred" and the date conferred.
- ✓ **Set Up Your MultiPass**
MultiPass is a secure username and password combination that is your key to Duquesne Portal, Canvas, and email.
- ✓ **Explore On-Campus and Off-Campus Housing**
Visit liveatluminaduq.com to learn more about on-campus housing. For off-campus housing we team up with VeryApt to produce a housing guide that is available on the Admitted Students site.
- ✓ **Update Your Mailing Address**
Update your mailing address and email with the Law Office of Admissions.
- ✓ **Purchase a Laptop**
Owning a laptop is mandatory. A one-time \$2,000 computer allowance loan can be added to your financial aid package.

POST-REGISTRATION:

- ✓ **Fall 2025 Class Registration**
The Law School Registrar registers all incoming students for Fall 2025 classes by July 1. The following tasks cannot be completed until you've been registered.
- ✓ **Submit Your Immunization and Health History Forms**
Incoming students must submit the required documents by July 31. Required Immunizations are 2 MMRs vaccines (all students) and 1 Meningococcal quadrivalent vaccine (for any student in university housing).
- ✓ **Health Insurance Options**
All students must have health insurance. Duquesne partners with UPMC and QM Services to provide comprehensive and affordable student health plans.
- ✓ **Research Parking/Transportation Options**
Duquesne offers permit options on a first-come basis starting in July and there are other parking options nearby.
- ✓ **All R.I.S.E. Summer Program**
This free, online program to help incoming 1Ls transition into law school begins in late-June.
- ✓ **Procure Your DU Card**
The DU Card is your official student ID. Procure your DU card in July after you are registered for classes.



Duquesne University
Thomas R. Kline School of Law
600 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15282

SAVE YOUR SPOT



duq.edu/law

lawadmissions@duq.edu

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