

# Law School



## and the Careers that Follow

A publication of the State Bar of Michigan  
Revised by the Law-Related Education Committee

## **Introduction to a Career in the Law**

### **Why choose a career in the law?**

Many people choose a career in law because they want to help people. Lawyers assist people in gaining access to the justice system. They also help people understand their rights and responsibilities. Assisting people in this way can be very fulfilling. Some people choose a career in law because they wish to go into public service and possibly run for public office someday. The law can be very interesting. Many people enjoy using their logical reasoning and problem solving skills to tackle legal problems. The legal profession is considered to be one of the most respectable professions in the United States, which is another factor that draws people toward a career in law. However, it is not the right choice for everyone. An individual should choose a career in law because it suits his or her needs, goals, and dreams. This booklet is designed to give some insights into law school and the possible careers that may follow.

### **Is the study of law difficult?**

Yes. Whatever a student's background has been and whatever law school a student attends, he or she is likely to find the study of law difficult. Yet, law school and the practice of law can be rewarding. Each day a student or lawyer faces intellectual and ethical challenges, with success depending primarily on his or her own performance. The study of law demands a lot of research and study time, organizational skills, hard work, and dedication.



### **How many years is law school?**

Typically, if a student enrolls full time in law school, it is a three-year commitment. More time may be needed if a student attends law school on a part-time basis.

### **Is the practice of law different than how it is portrayed in movies and on television?**

The practice of law is not all glamour and courtroom success. Unlike the “lawyers” portrayed in movies and on television, most lawyers spend

the majority of their time doing legal research, writing, and case preparation outside the courtroom out of and the spotlight.

## **Preparing for Law School**

### **Are there certain attributes and skills that will help a person be a successful law student and lawyer?**

An individual must be proficient in the English language and possess strong analytical skills. The responsible practice the law requires a strong moral sense to meet ethical challenges. Organizational skills and attention to detail are important for success in law school and the practice of law.

### **Are communications skills important?**

Good communication skills are a must. A law student and lawyer must possess a high level of competency in reading, writing, speaking, and critical thinking.

### **Does law school require any particular course of study or undergraduate major as preparation for the study of law?**

No particular course of study or undergraduate major is required as preparation for the study of law. A student can major in social work, biology, a foreign language, computer science, communications, education, *etc.* A college student should choose a major or course of study not because he or she believes it will help with law school admission, but because he or she is truly interested in that area, and it meets his or her interests. Of course, it is highly desirable for students to have a broad knowledge base and have taken the basic subjects such as mathematics, English, American government, history, economics, *etc.*

### **Does a student need to take pre-law classes or attend an undergraduate school with a recognized pre-law program?**

Law schools do not recommend that a student's major be law related. It is important that a student has a good undergraduate background and a strong, well-rounded education, which will complement law school studies. However, students may take pre-law classes and attend an undergraduate school with a recognized pre-law program.

**Is a bachelor’s degree from a college or university required to enroll in law school?**

The majority of law schools require a person to have earned a bachelor’s degree from a college or university to attend law school. A few schools may only require an associate’s degree or 90 credit hours of college to enroll, but it is generally a good idea to earn a four-year degree.

**Does a person have to begin law school directly after completing undergraduate studies?**

If a person has or develops a true desire to study the law, he or she can attend law school at any time. There is no right or wrong time; it is a personal decision. Law students represent a wide range of backgrounds and various ages. They are recent college graduates, homemakers, engineers, retirees, social workers, teachers, nurses, law enforcement officers, *etc.* Some students juggle a career and/or family life with the rigors of law school. Many students still choose to go directly to law school after finishing their undergraduate studies. However, it may suit the needs or interests of some individuals to take time between degrees. Work experience may help a person develop attributes, such as responsibility, maturity, initiative, and management and organizational skills, which better prepare a student to deal with the demands of law school.



**Must a student attend law school on a full-time basis during the day?**

Generally, students attend law school on a full-time basis during the day. However, to accommodate the various needs and backgrounds of students, some law schools offer evening classes and part-time schedules. Some law schools have summer terms and some even allow students to begin law school during the summer. Before applying to a law school, a student should inquire whether a particular law school offers schedules to meet his or her needs.

## **Selecting a Law School to Meet an Individual's Needs and Interests**

### **Are publications or guides available that list U.S. law schools?**

Yes. The most popular guide is "The Official Guide to U.S. Law Schools," published by the Law School Admission Council. This guide contains information on each American Bar Association (ABA) accredited law school. A student can find copies of this guide in bookstores, libraries, academic counseling offices, and admission offices of law schools. A person may order a copy from:

Law School Admission Council  
Box 2000  
661 Penn Street  
Newtown, PA 19090  
(215) 968-1001  
<http://www.lsac.org>

There are also a variety of other law school guides available. Contact a school counseling office or the admissions office of a law school for information about other guides.

### **Do law schools publish catalogues or bulletins with information about their school and programs?**

For additional information about particular law schools, a student should contact the school itself and request a copy of its catalogue or bulletin. After reviewing the information contained in the catalogue, a student should contact the school and request to meet with its admission officials and schedule a tour of its campus. When touring the campus, a student and his or her family should take the time to talk with current students and faculty, and venture into the surrounding community to make sure that the school and community meets his or her needs and interests. Law school is a fairly lengthy commitment and a student should feel comfortable and happy in his or her environment.

**What are some of the factors a prospective student should consider when selecting a law school?**

A student should consider the following factors:

- admission standards
- law curriculum and electives
- special programs and concentrations, *i.e.*, Environmental Law Institute, Intellectual Property Institute, International Law Program
- faculty qualifications and ratio of faculty to students
- class schedules (part-time enrollment, summer terms, and evening classes)
- tuition, scholarships and other costs
- geographical location and community opportunities
- on-campus and off-campus environment
- student clubs, associations, and other extracurricular activities
- career and counseling services
- overseas study opportunities
- on- and off- campus housing
- transportation and parking
- Honors Program
- work opportunities - clinical offerings and externships
- library collection and physical environment
- services for students with disabilities
- alumni activities
- reputation of the school
- size of student body
- facilities and class sizes

**What are the law schools in Michigan?**

There are six law schools located in Michigan. They are:

**Ave Maria School of Law**

3475 Plymouth Road  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105  
Admissions: (734) 827-8040  
FAX: (734) 622-0123  
*<http://www.avemarialaw.edu>*

**Thomas M. Cooley Law School**

217 South Capitol Avenue  
P.O. Box 13038  
Lansing, Michigan 48901  
Admissions: (517) 371-5140 ext. 461 or (800) 874-3511  
FAX (517) 334-5718  
e-mail: [admissions@cooley.edu](mailto:admissions@cooley.edu)  
<http://www.cooley.edu>  
three 15-week terms  
September, January, and May enrollments  
full and part time programs  
day, evening, and weekend schedules

**Michigan State University**

**Detroit College of Law**

3 64 Law College Building  
East Lansing, Michigan 48824-1300  
Admissions: (517) 432-0222 or (800) 844-9352  
FAX (517) 432-0098  
e-mail: [dcl@msu.edu](mailto:dcl@msu.edu)  
<http://www.dcl.edu>  
day and evening schedules  
semester schedule  
full and part time programs  
summer term  
August and September enrollments

**University of Detroit Mercy**

**School of Law**

651 East Jefferson  
Detroit, Michigan 48226  
Admissions: (313) 596-0264  
FAX (313) 596-0280  
E-mail: [udmlawao@udmercy.edu](mailto:udmlawao@udmercy.edu)  
<http://www.law.udmercy.edu>  
day and evening schedules  
full and part time programs  
semester schedule  
summer term  
May and September enrollments

### **University of Michigan Law School**

Hutchins Hall  
625 South State Street  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1215  
Admissions: (734) 764-0537  
FAX: (734) 647-3218  
E-mail: [law.jd.admissions@umich.edu](mailto:law.jd.admissions@umich.edu)  
<http://www.law.umich.edu>  
full-time program only  
semester schedule  
summer term  
August enrollment

### **Wayne State University Law School**

468 Ferry Street  
Detroit, Michigan 48202  
Admissions: (313) 577-3937  
FAX: (313) 577-9016  
<http://www.law.wayne.edu>  
day and evening schedules  
semester schedule  
summer term  
part-time evening program  
August enrollment

## **Applying to Law School**

### **Do law schools charge application fees and special fees?**

Yes. Law schools charge application fees, which are typically non-refundable. Presently, application fees range from \$20 to \$100.00 per application. An applicant should thoroughly research the law schools that he or she is interested in attending before submitting applications otherwise, it becomes costly. In addition, upon acceptance, an applicant may also be required to make a non-refundable enrollment fee or admission deposit, which is credited toward tuition.

### **How does a person obtain an application for law school admission?**

An individual should contact an academic guidance counselor at college or a law school admissions office to obtain a copy of the law school's catalogue and application. An applicant should make sure he or she understands the application process and what information and documents are needed. Asking questions is important.



### **What are the keys to preparing a successful law school application?**

An applicant needs to demonstrate professionalism, strong organizational and language skills, and neatness. Spelling and grammar are highly important. An individual should proofread the application so that it is without errors. Furthermore, an applicant should respond to all questions on every part of the application. Personal information, community service and goals, could become deciding factors so emphasize care in the writing process.

An applicant should respond honestly and fully to the questions, even the ones that may ask for the disclosure of prior school disciplinary action or criminal convictions. If an individual fails to disclose such information, it may surface at some later date and jeopardize or end his or her legal education or career in the law. Most law schools will look with disfavor upon disclosures made after a student is enrolled. Law schools take students' applications very seriously.

Timeliness is also a key factor. An applicant must submit his or her application on time. An individual should not wait until the last minute to complete or proofread the application. If an applicant is a borderline candidate for admission, the applicant is *less* likely to be accepted if he or she missed the deadline.

### **What is involved in the application process?**

The application process may vary slightly from school to school, but typically law schools require that the applicant does the following:

- Take the Law School Admission Test (LSAT), which is a standardized test required of all American Bar Association (ABA) approved law schools and many non-ABA approved law schools. (More detail is provided on the LSAT in the next section of this booklet.)
- Register with the Law School Data Assembly Service (LSDAS), which summarizes an applicant's undergraduate transcripts and prepares a report for the law schools. (Undergraduate transcripts are sent directly to the LSDAS.)
- Complete an application form and pay an application fee.



- Provide a letter(s) of recommendation(s) from a college professor or other person, who is familiar with the applicant’s academic background or character.
- Submit undergraduate and graduate school transcripts.

Some law schools require a personal statement to be written by the applicant regarding his or her interests, experiences, or other unusual circumstances.

### **Do law schools have “waiting lists” for admission?**

Some law schools have waiting lists, which may be used when a school has more qualified applicants than spaces available in the next class of students.

### **Can a person apply for law school now, but postpone enrollment until another year?**

Some law schools offer “deferred admission.” Usually a deferment is granted for a period no longer than two years. Normally, if a deferment is requested, the applicant is required to provide an explanation of the reason(s) for the request. Check with the admissions office before an application is submitted to determine whether the law school has such a policy.

## **Preparing for Law School**

### **What is the Law School Admission Test (LSAT)?**

The Law School Admission Test is a half day standardized test required by virtually all law schools for admission. The LSAT is usually administered in June, October, December, and February at various sites throughout the United States. The American Bar Association (ABA) accreditation of a law program requires that the test be taken by prospective students. Michigan law schools require and utilize the LSAT as a major factor in selecting students.

The majority of law schools require that the LSAT be taken by December for admission in the following fall. However, it is best for prospective students to take the test earlier in June or October.

Many law schools use a fairly strict formula to determine the majority of applicants who are accepted for admission; an applicant’s LSAT score is combined with his or her undergraduate GPA. Each law school

utilizes a formula, which affords different weight to the various factors.

The LSAT is similar to multiple choice tests an individual has taken throughout his or her academic career. However, it is more difficult and the pool of test-takers is composed of people who usually have scored well on earlier tests. There are four 45-minute sections and one 30-minute writing section.

All of the factual information an individual needs to know is contained in the body of the test. Featured assessment areas include: reading and comprehension of complex text, management and organization of information, analysis of information to reach conclusions, and logical reasoning. While these areas are essential to success in law school, the LSAT is only an easily quantified method of predicting who will fare well, it is not the sole means nor is it absolutely infallible.

### **What can be done to prepare for the LSAT?**

If this type of test intimidates an individual, it may be prudent for that person to consider taking a preparatory course. These courses are often available at community continuing education, extension programs, or at local colleges. There are numerous private preparatory courses as well. These vary in price and instructional methods. Classes may involve live instructors, tapes, simulated tests, and independent self-testing.

If cost is a concern and a person has done well on similar tests in the past, he or she should obtain a LSAT guide, which is available at most large or college bookstores. Such a guide will describe the nature of the questions and provide numerous sample questions. The LSAT administrators will also provide a free copy of an old test as a sample. Additional prior tests can also be ordered for a low cost.

The best preparation for the LSAT is for an individual to do practice questions. Practice tests will sharpen timing of the actual test, lessen fear of the unknown, increase and quicken the ability to eliminate incorrect answers, and heighten the sense of what is the correct answer.

### **Where can a LSAT application be obtained?**

LSAT applications can be obtained from any law school admissions office or from the career services offices of many colleges and universities. If these sources are not readily available, then call or write:

Law School Admission Council, Box 2000  
661 Penn Street, Newtown, PA 19090  
(215) 968-1001, <http://www.lsac.org>

## Financing Law School

### **How does an individual pay for law school?**

Law school is an expensive investment. Law students must not only pay tuition, which can be a sizeable amount, but purchase text books, which is more costly than for typical undergraduate studies. In addition, students may have to pay for room, board, and other miscellaneous items. Tuition varies from law school to law school and from year to year. Law students typically finance their legal education through student loans and private or public scholarships. Sometimes employers offer tuition support programs or community organizations provide scholarships. Some law schools offer low-interest loan programs, various scholarships, and tuition grants. The loan officer may also be familiar with the variety of assistance available to law students such as governmental assistance in the form of work-study, low-income tuition grants, *etc.* Before applying, an individual considering law school should contact the financial aid offices of the law schools he or she is considering attending for information and a list of resources.

## The First Year of Law School

### **Is the first year of law school really difficult?**

According to most second- and third-year law students, the first year of law school is the toughest. The first year of law school is probably different than anything the law student will have experienced previously in his or her life. The first year of law school is an adjustment because the study habits that the law student used in undergraduate school may not be as helpful in law school. This is not to say that the law student's previous study habits should be discarded. However, the way that the law is often taught dictates some changes may need to be made in study habits.

### **Do first year law students get to choose their classes?**

First year law students do not get to choose their classes because every law school has required courses the first year.

### **How does a law student determine what elective classes to take?**

The law student may select elective classes in the second and third

year that are in areas of particular interest to the law student. The law student may also select classes in the areas that are on the bar examination, which is the licensing exam for lawyers in every state and the District of Columbia. It is advised that the law student take some of the classes that are topics on the bar examination, even if those areas are not of interest to the law student. It is a lot easier to learn a complex area of the law during an entire semester, rather than trying to “cram” for the bar examination.

### **How do professors teach the law?**

There are two common methods of teaching law. The first method is the case study method. Most legal textbooks have cases that have raised legal and theoretical questions for courts, legislatures, and scholars to solve. Law students ponder and discuss these cases in the classroom. The cases are published in an abbreviated format allowing the students to concentrate on the more important aspects of the case. The second method that professors use is the Socratic Method. The professor determines where the student’s knowledge is as a starting point, then through a series of small steps, advances the knowledge. The case study method and the Socratic Method are not mutually exclusive and professors may practice a mixture of both methods.

### **Is it important to prepare for class?**

It is extremely important to prepare for class because it is difficult to catch up if one gets behind. Each class builds upon the previous class. The law student needs to attend all classes, having read and prepared beforehand, and then go back over the material and make outlines of cases and class notes after the class concludes. This type of studying is helpful in building one’s knowledge of the law.

### **Is there really one examination for each class for the entire semester?**

Usually, the professor only gives one final examination at the end of the semester, however, many classes are moving to having a mid-term and a final examination. This examination is the only opportunity for the law student to demonstrate knowledge of a particular subject area and thus is the only opportunity to achieve a good grade. Often, the final examination is given in essay form. The law student is expected to use the I.R.A.C. method to answer the essay questions. The I.R.A.C. method consists of

identifying ISSUES, identifying the legal RULES that apply to the issues, ANALYZING those issues and how the rules apply to them, and drawing CONCLUSIONS about the issues.

### **Does the law school offer any help to first-year law students when they are trying to adjust?**

Most law schools offer an orientation program, which is often a good source of helpful information. Orientation allows the students to meet upper class students and professors. During orientation, as well as the throughout the first year of law school, there are often programs that help students deal with time management, stress, and course preparation.

### **Is time management important?**

Time management is very important because the first-year law student is trying to juggle several difficult classes. Many law students also have family commitments and outside interests. Many experts point out that the law student and his or her immediate family must equally understand how law school will affect family life and a social life. Law school is more than just having a 40 hour per week job. Because law school leads the law student to his or her life's career, performance in law school needs to be the priority. However, this priority does not need to be to the exclusion of family and friends, because the law student needs their support and they need his or hers.

### **How do law students deal with the stress?**

Many law students exercise regularly. Physical fitness supports mental preparedness and can keep the study break snacks from causing weight gain. It is good to plan time to escape and exercise one's body instead of one's mind. Most campuses have excellent fitness facilities. Some students have a favorite hobby that they set a little time aside for every week. Other students make time for family and friends outside the law school atmosphere.

### **Do first-year law students have jobs?**

Most law schools discourage law students from working because it is strongly desired that the law students use most of their time for studying. In fact, most law schools prohibit working more than a certain number of hours a week by full-time law students. This often means that the law

students may only work at an on-campus work-study job for no more than 10 to 15 hours per week. Part-time law students are allowed to have a full-time job outside law school. However, being a part-time student usually means that the law student has to attend law school for four years instead of three.

### **Can law students be involved in extra-curricular activities?**

Law students are encouraged to get involved in extra-curricular activities that are offered at their law school. Extra-curricular activities cover many different kinds of interests, and most students can find a group to join. Some examples are law reviews; journals; newspapers; Moot Court; National Association of Public Interest Law (NAPIL) affiliates; groups for students interested in various areas of the law, i.e. compute, criminal, entertainment, environmental, or family law; legal fraternities; associations for law students who are women, Asian Americans, African Americans, Latinos, Native Americans, gay and lesbian, and married law students. Participation in extra-curricular activities demonstrates that the law student is involved in the law school community and is leading a balanced lifestyle. Many employers want law students that are involved in activities related to an area of employment because the involvement shows a genuine interest in the area.

### **Can law students get internships in areas of interest to them?**

During the second and third years of law school, law students are encouraged to get externships (allows for class credit instead of taking a class) or internships (no class credit is given). Externships and internships allow law students to get experience. Many law schools offer clinical experiences that allow the law students to represent low-income clients in civil or criminal matters. The students represent clients under the watchful eye of experienced attorney supervisors. These very valuable experiences make the law students extremely marketable. These experiences also provide law students with contacts in the fields that they are interested in pursuing when they finish law school. Externships, internships and clinical experiences



also demonstrate that the law student is well-balanced and that he or she is not studying all of the time.

## **Career Options for Lawyers**

### **Are there many career options for lawyers?**

There are countless careers for lawyers. Television dramas and novels do not come close to representing the possibilities available to attorneys. The skills developed in law school not only apply to jobs in the field of law itself but in other fields as well. Getting a law degree can be a launching pad into other fields, such as public service, business, or education. Sometimes, people who already have a career choose to go to law school in order to enhance their knowledge so that they can be more effective in their current jobs.

### **What are some common areas of legal practice?**

- Aviation law
- Bankruptcy
- Civil Rights
- Computer Law
- Corporate Law
- Criminal Law
- Employment/Labor Law
- Entertainment Law
- Environmental Law
- Family Law/Domestic Relations
- Health Law
- Immigration Law
- Insurance Law
- Intellectual Property Law
- International Law
- Land Use and Zoning
- Landlord and Tenant Law
- Negligence and Personal Injury
- Property Law
- Probate, Trust, and Estate Law
- Public Interest/Poverty Law
- Public Sector/Municipal Law



- School Law
- Senior Law  
Social Security
- Taxation
- Welfare Law
- Worker's Compensation

### **Do some lawyers work for companies?**

A lawyer can work for companies in the area of corporate law. A corporate “in house” lawyer places the lawyer within the business that he or she is representing as an employee. A corporate lawyer only has one client – his or her employer. The lawyer is responsible for handling everything from employee disputes to tax issues. The corporate lawyer is also responsible for finding an outside law firm to assist when the need arises, such as when the legal area is outside the scope of the corporate lawyer's expertise. A corporate lawyer usually has regular business hours and a benefits package, along with a salary. A corporate lawyer may work in a for profit setting such as a company, or in a non-profit setting, such as a school system.

### **Do lawyers work for other lawyers?**

Lawyers often work for other lawyers in the context of the law firm. Law firms may be very large (several hundred lawyers), or may be very small (less than five lawyers). Sometimes law firms specialize in specific areas of the law. Other times, law firms have some lawyers who specialize in different areas. In this way, the same law firm may be able to offer a wider variety of services to one client. Lawyers are usually hired into a law firm at an entry-level position, referred to as an associate, which is salaried and has a benefits package. After awhile, the entry-level lawyers can strive to achieve partnership status. A partner in the law firm has a greater economic investment in the law firm because he or she is an actual shareholder or owner of the law firm. Partners also have a vote in management decisions and have the responsibility of bringing in new clients and assuring the profitability of the law firm. Often, lawyers who work in law firms work many hours in the evening and on the weekend. The younger lawyers do this to demonstrate their commitment to the law firm. The partners do this because they are the owners.

### **Do lawyers ever work for the government?**

Lawyers work for the government in a variety of capacities. A lawyer may work as a prosecuting attorney, who protects the rights of society by establishing the guilt of criminals and arguing for punishment that will deter similar criminal acts. On the other side, the Sixth Amendment of the United States Constitution protects the right of a person accused of a crime to have a lawyer. Sometimes the state pays for that lawyer, a public defender. The public defender protects the rights of the accused criminal and makes certain that the trial is fair. A lawyer may also work for the government as a judge, who is either appointed or is elected by the voting public. Often a judge is someone who has a good amount of experience practicing law. Usually, a judge needs



a clerk to assist him or her. Often, judge's clerks are new lawyers and are chosen by the judge for a one- or two-year term to assist the judge in writing opinions and in performing legal research. A lawyer may also work for a governmental agency or department, interpreting the laws and writing regulations that are consistent with those laws. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), and other similar agencies often hire lawyers. All branches of the military hire lawyers to work within the military system of justice, which is somewhat different than the civilian court system. Finally, a lawyer may work for city government or state government in a wide range of positions. Governmental employment offers moderate incomes, good benefits packages, and regular business hours.

### **Do lawyers work for the public interest?**

Lawyers who work in public interest settings make the justice system function more equitably for all people. Public interest lawyers, or poverty lawyers, as they are often called, assist low-income people with civil matters. Public interest lawyers often work for local legal aid offices. Public interest lawyers help clients with family law matters, such as divorce and custody; tenant rights; consumer problems; welfare law; and Social Security. Public interest lawyers often help victims of domestic violence get orders from a judge for the abuser to leave them alone. Pub-

Public interest lawyers often find their jobs very rewarding because they are helping people whom would otherwise not have access to the legal system. Public interest lawyers are not paid as much as lawyers in law firms but are rewarded with excellent benefit packages and a regular business hour schedule as opposed to late evenings and weekends.

### **Do lawyers ever work on their own?**

Many lawyers hang their own shingles and go into business for themselves. These lawyers are known as solo practitioners. These lawyers are often generalists, which means that they practice in a variety of legal areas because they want to be able to attract clients and serve all of the needs of a particular client. For example, some generalists may practice family law, criminal law, and probate law, which are very different specialties. However, many solo practitioners are experienced specialists. For example, there are solo practitioners who specialize in filing appeals. These specialists will take over a case after it has been lost at the trial level because they have expertise that a litigator may not have. The solo practitioners have the independence of working for themselves, but do have the worry of getting enough clients so that they can pay for the overhead of their practice and have some earnings for themselves. It can be very rewarding to be a solo practitioner because solo practitioners are working for themselves, can fashion their own niche, and can control their own schedules. They can really make a difference for someone who needs their help and their expertise.



### **Are there other alternatives for lawyers, other than representing clients?**

Many lawyers do not represent clients in litigation (court cases) and have never been to court. There are many fields that the lawyer's expertise makes him or her a good candidate to work within, such as:

- employee benefits administration
- human resources administration

- law librarians
- law school administration
- law school professors
- legal publishing
- paralegal professors
- real estate management
- regulatory affairs/compliance monitoring
- risk management

This list is not exhaustive. Often, a lawyer with a background in a specific area outside the law is able to find employment using that background. In this way, a lawyer can tailor his or her career to his or her interests.

