

Funding a Law School Education

There are many resources available for funding law school and several databases, both in print and online, where you can find appropriate sources to fit your needs. The first step is generally to talk to someone in the Financial Aid Office at the schools you are applying to. Often schools will provide both need and merit based financial aid to their own students, and can direct you to outside funding sources. Many students also apply for student loans, either federal or private, as well as fellowships, scholarships, and grants.

Below is a short list of links where you can find more information on general and specific funding opportunities. First are listed links to general admissions information. The next section contains links to the Financial Aid Offices of a few of the top Law Schools in the country. The last two sections include links from private and governmental sources for loans, grants, scholarships, and fellowships. This list is by no means exhaustive, and your Financial Aid Officer can help you further define your search.

In addition, many current funding opportunities are collected in this recent guidebook: "How to Pay for Your Law Degree, 2006-2008" by Gail Ann Schlachter and R. David Weber, (ISBN 1588411567). Good luck!

General Admissions & Financial Aid Information

US News Rankings

http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/rankings/law/lawindex_brief.php

Law School Admission Council

<http://www.lsac.org/LSAC.asp?url=lsac/financial-aid-introduction.asp>

LSAC Links to Minority Associations, some of which may provide funding

<http://www.lsac.org/LSAC.asp?url=lsac/minorities-in-legal-education-links.asp>

Admissions Advice from EssayEdge.com

<http://www.essayedge.com/law/admissions/financialaid.shtml>

Edvisors.com, with listings of law programs and student resources

http://www.edvisors.com/Graduate_Schools/Law_School/index.html



In-House Resources for Funding Law School

Harvard Law Student Financial Services

<http://www.law.harvard.edu/students/sfs/>

Yale University

http://www.law.yale.edu/documents/pdf/CDO_Public/cdo-yalefellowshipopps_public_interest.pdf

University of Chicago

<http://www.law.uchicago.edu/financial/index.html>

University of Michigan

<http://www.law.umich.edu/prospectivestudents/admissions/forms-aid.htm>

Georgetown University

<http://www.law.georgetown.edu/graduate/fellowships.html>

University of Pennsylvania

<http://www.law.upenn.edu/admissions/jd/scholarsprogram.html>

Washington College of Law

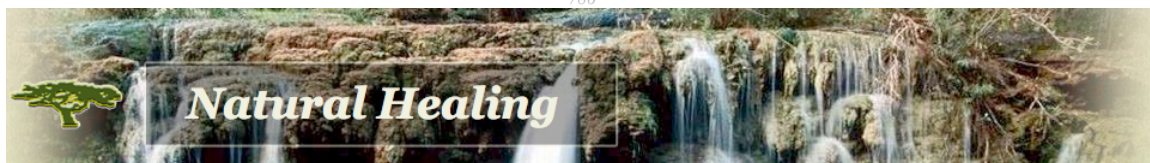
http://www.wcl.american.edu/finaid/law_funding.cfm

College of William & Mary

<http://www.wm.edu/charlescenter/?id=3763>

Marquette University, including some good general info

<http://law.marquette.edu/cgi-bin/site.pl?2130&pageID=1697>



Loans

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>

Stafford Loans – Eligibility is determined through the FAFSA form

<http://www.staffordloan.com>

Federal Perkins Loans – Eligibility is determined through the FAFSA form

http://www.gradloans.com/perkins_loan

Private Loan Listings

<http://www.finaid.org/otheraid/law.phtml>

<http://www.accessgroup.org/>

Some Individual Options

http://www.salliemae.com/get_student_loan/find_student_loan/grad/law_school_loans/

http://www.gradloans.com/law_school_loans/

Grants, Scholarships, Fellowships

Searchable Fellowship Database – General

<http://scholarships.fatomei.com/>

Minority Fellowship Listing for Law School:

http://www.imdiversity.com/Villages/Channels/grad_school/buslaw.asp