

J.D. CLASS OF 2026 PROFILE

August 21, 2023

5,547 Applicants to J.D. Class Entering Fall 2023

168 First-Year Students Entering Fall 2023

97 (58%) Female Students

61 (36%) Minority Students

23 Median Age

3.65 25% **3.89** Median **3.96** 75% } GPA

164 25% **170** Median **171** 75% } LSAT

92 Undergraduate Schools Represented

9 (5%) Hold Advanced Degrees
MA (4), MBA (1), MPH (1), MS (3)

Permanent Residents of **36 States, D.C., and Canada**

Permanent Residency

Alabama	2	New Jersey	2
Arizona	2	New Mexico	1
California	18	New York	9
Colorado	4	North Carolina	6
Connecticut	2	North Dakota	1
Florida	20	Ohio	8
Georgia	7	Oklahoma	1
Illinois	8	Oregon	1
Indiana	1	Pennsylvania	4
Kansas	3	South Carolina	2
Kentucky	2	Tennessee	17
Louisiana	1	Texas	13
Maryland	4	Utah	2
Massachusetts	1	Virginia	5
Michigan	3	Washington	3
Minnesota	1	Wisconsin	2
Missouri	1		
Nebraska	3	Canada	1
Nevada	3	District of Columbia	2
New Hampshire	2		

Applying to enter fall 2024? We would like to know you better as a prospective student and for you to learn more about Vanderbilt. That's why we offer admission interviews with VLS alumni as part of the application process, and why VLS alumni will conduct interviews nationwide and in several foreign locations during this cycle. To request an alumni interview, complete the interview request section of the VLS application and submit your application by Nov. 15.

Undergraduate Schools Represented

Arizona State University	2	Hamilton College	1	Texas A & M University	3	University of Michigan	3
Auburn University	2	Hunter College - CUNY	1	Texas Christian University	2	University of Minnesota	1
Austin Peay State University	1	Johns Hopkins University	1	Tufts University	1	University of Missouri	1
Bard College	1	Lewis and Clark College	1	Tulane University	5	University of Nebraska	3
Belmont University	1	Lipscomb University	1	United States Military Academy	1	University of North Carolina	3
Boston College	2	Louisiana State University	1	University of Alabama	1	University of North Carolina - Wilmington	1
Brigham Young University	2	Louisiana Tech University	1	University of Arizona	3	University of Notre Dame	3
Brown University	1	Mercer University	1	University of California - Berkeley	3	University of Oregon	1
Case Western Reserve University	1	Middlebury College	1	University of California - Los Angeles	5	University of Pennsylvania	2
Claremont McKenna College	1	Mount Holyoke College	1	University of California - San Diego	1	University of Puget Sound	1
Clemson University	2	North Carolina State University	1	University of California - Santa Barbara	1	University of St. Andrews	1
College of William and Mary	4	Northwestern University	3	University of Central Arkansas	1	University of Scranton	1
Columbia University-Columbia College	2	New York University	4	University of Central Florida	2	University of South Carolina	2
Cornell University	1	Occidental College	1	University of Chicago	2	University of Southern California	2
Dartmouth College	1	Ohio State University	4	University of Cincinnati	1	University of Tennessee	1
Davidson College	1	Pennsylvania State University	1	University of Colorado	2	University of Tennessee - Chattanooga	2
Dickinson College	1	Pepperdine University	2	University of Florida	2	University of Texas	6
Emory University	1	Pomona College	1	University of Georgia	1	University of Virginia	5
Florida State University	6	Princeton University	2	University of Hawaii	1	Vanderbilt University	9
Franklin and Marshall College	1	Queen's University	1	University of Kansas	1	Wake Forest University	4
George Mason University	1	Rhodes College	1	University of Kentucky	1	Washington and Lee University	1
George Washington University	1	Rochester Institute of Technology	1	University of Maryland	1	Washington University	1
Georgia Institute of Technology	1	Swarthmore College	1	University of Miami	2	Whitman College	1

Academic Overview & Employment Statistics

Degree Programs

- J.D. (Doctor of Jurisprudence)
- LL.M. (Master of Laws)—A one-year program for foreign-trained lawyers
- Ph.D. Law and Economics
- M.L.S. (Masters of Legal Studies) – Online program for non-lawyers

Academic Programs

- Law & Business (certificate program)
- Criminal Justice
- Energy, Environment & Land Use
- Intellectual Property
- International Legal Studies
- Law & Government
- Law & Innovation
- Litigation & Dispute Resolution
- Social Justice

Dual Degree Programs

- J.D./M.S. in Finance (3-year program)
- J.D./Master of Business Administration
- J.D./Master of Public Policy
- J.D./Doctor of Medicine
- J.D./Master of Divinity

Summer Opportunities

- Vanderbilt in Venice (study abroad)
- Externships (international and domestic, academic credit)
- Public interest stipends (international and domestic)

Clinics and Experiential Programs

- Community Enterprise
- Criminal Practice
- First Amendment
- Housing Law
- Immigration Law
- Intellectual Property & the Arts
- International Law Practice Lab
- Youth Opportunity
- Semester Externships

Financial Assistance

- 2022–23 tuition: \$66,696
- Merit- and need-based scholarships, including several full-tuition merit-based awards
- Loan Repayment Assistance available to qualifying graduates working in public-sector positions

Publications

- *Vanderbilt Law Review*
- *Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law*
- *Vanderbilt Journal of Entertainment & Technology Law*
- *Social Justice Reporter*
- *The Environmental Law & Policy Annual Review*, produced by Vanderbilt students in conjunction with the Environmental Law Institute in Washington, D.C.

Top Academics

- Faculty ranked 7th in academic impact in “Inclusive Citation Rankings of U.S. Law Schools” Balanced Ranking, Matthew Sag, 2021
- Faculty ranked 9th in “Scholarly Impact” among U.S. law schools in a study based on citations of scholarly work from 2016 to 2020
- Faculty ranked 5th among U.S. law schools in a 2019 study by Heald and Sichelman based on how often their research was downloaded and cited
- Best Classroom Experience: 9th (2023), 5th (2022, 2021)—The Princeton Review
- Best Professors: 5th (2023), 6th (2022, 2021)—The Princeton Review

Top Prospects

- 7th, 2023 Above the Law ranking of Top 50 Law Schools based on employment outcomes, cost and student debt
- 8th, Percentage of 2021 graduates who took “elite” full-time, long-term, bar-passage-required jobs as federal clerks or associates at firms of 100 or more attorneys (72.4%, based on ABA data)
- 7th, 2022 Lawyers of Color ranking of Top 65 Law Schools for Black Students
- 11th, Percentage of 2021 graduates taking full-time, bar-passage-required positions (90.1%) based on ABA data
- 65.1% of 2021 graduates took employment in firms with more than 100 attorneys
- 8.3% of 2021 graduates went to federal clerkships immediately after graduation
- 5th, Percentage of 2020 graduates employed as full-time, long-term federal judicial clerks (16.1%, based on ABA data)
- 9th, Best for Federal Clerkships (2020)—The Princeton Review

Top Location: Nashville

- Best Quality of Life: 3rd (2023), 2nd (2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018)—The Princeton Review
- Best Up-and-Coming City, Hemisphere Readers’ Choice Awards 2022
- 5th, Robb Report, 12 Favorite Cities to Visit in the U.S., May 2022
- 2022 Top 10 Friendliest Cities in the U.S., Condé Nast Traveler
- 5th, Top U.S. Destinations for City Lovers & 7th, U.S. Top Destinations for Food Lovers, Trip Advisor’s 2022 Traveler’s Choice Awards

On-Campus Employment Interviews

Employers representing law offices throughout the U.S. interview 2Ls and 3Ls in early August during OCI. A smaller OCI program that includes 1Ls seeking summer positions is available in the spring.

Global Alumni Network

VLS’s extensive network of approximately 11,000 alumni, which covers 50 states, D.C., two U.S. territories and 45 foreign nations, includes leaders in law, government, academia, business and industry, public service and other areas.

MOST POPULAR DESTINATIONS CLASSES 2017–21

New York	16%
Tennessee	16%
Texas	12%
Washington, D.C.	9%
Georgia	7%
California	5%
Florida	4%
Illinois	3%

The remaining 28% took employment across another 34 states and internationally.

J.D. Employment Destinations—Classes of 2017–2021

