



SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

Scholarship FAQs

Fall 2024 Entering Students

Q: How can I tell if I was offered a scholarship?

A: Students are evaluated for scholarship awards at the time of admission to the School of Law. If you have been awarded a scholarship, it is included in your admission letter.

Q: How are scholarships determined?

A: Determining the recipient for a scholarship is always a difficult decision and it is based on a holistic and comprehensive review of your application. We encourage you to research other opportunities for financial assistance, such as employer incentives, outside scholarships, grants, and fellowships. Please also visit our External Scholarships page for more information for graduate students.

Q: What happens if I change from full-time enrollment to Flex JD (part-time) enrollment (or vice versa) prior to the start of classes?

A: Your scholarship award will be reassessed. The amount of your scholarship will likely change, and that change will not necessarily be proportional to the change in academic units you are enrolled to take.

Q: I am interested in taking summer classes or participating in the summer study abroad program offered by the School of Law. Can my scholarship be applied towards summer course work?

A: Not unless you have been awarded a Dean's Fellowship. All other scholarships can only be applied towards fall or spring School of Law tuition.

Q: I am interested in enrolling in the JD/MBA, JD/MSIS, or JD/LLM combined degree program.

How does that affect my scholarship?

A: Scholarships and fellowships offered by the School of Law can be applied only towards tuition for School of Law courses. School of Law scholarship funds cannot be applied towards tuition for the Leavey School of Business or any other coursework outside of the School of Law. Your scholarship, therefore, will be adjusted to pay no more than the required School of Law tuition. Your aggregate scholarship amount cannot exceed the total amount you would have been awarded based on your originally anticipated graduation date. In other words, the total dollar amount of your scholarship aid will not increase if you choose to take additional courses beyond the typical three- or four-year program.

Q: What if I participate in another law school's study abroad program or enroll as a visiting student at another law school?

A: School of Law scholarships can be applied only towards tuition at Santa Clara University School of Law. Our scholarship funds cannot be used to pay for tuition at another law school. If you enroll at another law school as a visiting student during a fall or spring semester, you will not receive (i.e., forfeit) the amount of scholarship aid that would have been paid towards your tuition had you remained at Santa Clara University School of Law that semester. Any funds that you forfeit cannot be recouped in future semesters.

Q: What if I graduate earlier or later than I had originally anticipated?

A: You should contact the Law Admissions & Financial Aid Office if your graduation date changes from

what was originally anticipated. Your scholarship will be prorated so that the total amount you receive in aid is identical to what you would have been awarded had you graduated on your originally anticipated date. Scholarship assistance terminates once you have completed the number of units required to graduate from the School of Law.

Q: Can scholarships exceed tuition costs?

A: No. If you take a lighter course load for a semester, your scholarship will be adjusted to pay no more than your required School of Law tuition. Your subsequent scholarship disbursements will be prorated so that the total amount you receive in aid is identical to what you would have been awarded had you graduated on your originally anticipated date. If you are awarded supplemental or outside agency scholarships, please note that any scholarship funds that exceed required costs are considered taxable. See IRS Publication 970 for more information.

Q: I was awarded an Emery Merit Scholarship. Can I negotiate the renewal terms for that scholarship?

A: No. Renewal terms are non-negotiable. They are the same for all students receiving the same type of scholarship at the School of Law (Emery Merit, Law Faculty, Public Interest, Dean's Fellowships) and cannot be altered.

Q: I was awarded a larger scholarship from another law school. Will you match or exceed that scholarship offer?

A: We do not negotiate over scholarship offers, but we are always happy to work with incoming students to devise solutions for meeting their financial needs.

Q: What happens if I perform well while at Santa Clara University School of Law? Will my scholarship be increased?

A: Your scholarship will not be increased. Upper-division students are eligible to apply for a limited number of supplemental endowed scholarships which provide aid to students in their second, third, and fourth years of law school.

Q: I was awarded an Emery Merit Scholarship. When is my class standing reviewed to determine if my scholarship will be renewed?

A: Standing is determined at the end of the spring semester of your first year and is subject to review thereafter at the conclusion of each subsequent semester.

Q: I was awarded an Emery Merit Scholarship. What happens if my cumulative GPA is just under the 3.0 GPA required for renewal (e.g., 2.98). Will you round up? What happens to my scholarship? If I lose it can I get it back?

A: We do not round up the cumulative GPA. If, at the end of spring semester of your first year or any semester of study thereafter, your cumulative GPA falls below 3.0, your scholarship will be terminated and cannot be reinstated. This is true even if your cumulative GPA exceeds 3.0 in a subsequent semester. Grades earned during a summer session are not considered in calculating your GPA from the prior academic year.

Q: I was awarded a Law Faculty, Public Interest, or Dean's Fellowship. What are the renewal terms for those scholarships?

A: You must remain in academic good standing as determined at the conclusion of the spring semester of each academic year. For more information about academic policies at the school of law, please consult the Law School Bulletin, which can be found online at <http://law.scu.edu/bulletin/>.

Q: What happens if I am academically disqualified but subsequently readmitted?

A: If you are academically disqualified at any time, your scholarship will be terminated and will not be reinstated.

Q: What happens if I defer my enrollment, or take a leave of absence?

A: This scholarship offer will terminate, but you may ask for scholarship consideration upon your ultimate enrollment. We cannot guarantee that your scholarship offer will be reinstated if you defer or take a leave of absence.