



FORDHAM UNIVERSITY

THE SCHOOL OF LAW

MASTER OF LAWS PROGRAM

February 17, 2021

BY EMAIL TO [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Ms. [REDACTED]

On behalf of Fordham Law School, I am delighted to inform you that you have been admitted as a student and selected to receive a Graduate Student Scholarship to attend the LL.M. program beginning in fall 2021 in Banking, Corporate, and Finance Law on a full time basis. Your award and admission to this highly competitive program reflects your outstanding academic and professional qualifications and personal attributes.

You have been awarded a scholarship in the amount of \$20,000.00. Your award will be disbursed in equal installments at the beginning of the fall 2021 and spring 2022 semesters and is conditioned upon the understanding that you intend to complete your LL.M. degree at Fordham Law School. You will be responsible for the remaining tuition costs, transportation to and from New York, local transportation, books, housing, and all other expenses associated with your studies at Fordham Law School.

To accept this scholarship offer, please pay the \$500.00 nonrefundable deposit by March 15, 2021. Once the deposit has been paid, a space will be reserved for you in our class, and the deposit amount will be applied to your first semester tuition. To pay the deposit, please visit our [webpage for admitted applicants](#) and click on the "Next Steps" link to the left. For additional information on our LL.M. program please review our [Graduate Student Handbook](#).

Please then follow all of the steps required to accept our offer as detailed at that link. Please carefully review all of the information on our webpage for admitted applicants, which contains important details for incoming students.

Why Fordham Law?

We understand that you may have been admitted to other programs and recognize that deciding where to pursue your graduate law studies may be challenging. Here are some of the reasons why we think that you should choose Fordham's LL.M. program:

Our Community – Our accomplished and highly accessible faculty, our remarkably rich and diverse course offerings, and our location in the legal, business, financial, and media capital of the United States all make Fordham unique. Fordham Law School is also known for its warm and welcoming environment, and nowhere is this more evident than in the LL.M. program. The LL.M. program staff is here to ensure that your experience at Fordham is both intellectually and personally rewarding.

Your Network – Typically, there are approximately 150 students from more than 40 countries from around the world enrolled in our LL.M. program, which creates an enriching academic environment and provides you with abundant opportunities to expand your professional network. In addition, you have access to the larger Fordham Law student and alumni community in New York City and around the world.

Special Courses and Programs for International Students – Students who have received their primary law degrees outside the United States are offered a range of programs designed to help ease your transition to U.S. legal study:

- *Special courses* designed for foreign-trained LL.M. students include Introduction to the U.S. Legal System, Introduction to the U.S. Legal Profession, Legal Writing and Research for LL.M. Students, drafting and negotiation courses, and courses that introduce subjects frequently tested on the New York State Bar Examination.
- LL.M. students have access to the Fordham University Writing Center, which can help students with a particular writing assignment or with improving their writing skills more generally, and to Fordham University's Institute for American Language and Culture.
- The *Graduate Professional Development Program (GPDP)* offers various resources to assist LL.M. students and alumni in achieving their career objectives. In addition, students who received their first law degree outside of the United States are eligible to participate in the International Student Interview Program (ISIP), which takes place each January.

Study Side-by-Side with J.D. Students – Fordham LL.M. students take most of their courses alongside their J.D. counterparts, helping them better understand the U.S. method of legal reasoning and providing ample opportunities to network with their U.S. counterparts.

Extra-Curricular Activities – All LL.M. students are fully integrated into the extra-curricular life of the Law School. Among other things, Fordham LL.M. students have their own

representatives in the Student Bar Association and hold leadership positions in the Global Law Society. They may also participate in a wide range of student clubs and activities within the Law School community.

Connect with our Student and Alumni Ambassadors – We understand that choosing a law school can be challenging. To help in your decision-making process, we encourage you to speak with one of our Student and Alumni Ambassadors, who are current and former Fordham LL.M. students who have made themselves available to answer your questions and share their experiences. Please visit our [webpage](#) and feel free to reach out to the Ambassador(s) from your region. Of course, you are also encouraged to contact our office with any questions you may have by emailing llm@law.fordham.edu.

Thinking About Sitting for the New York Bar?

Many Fordham LL.M. graduates sit for the New York State bar examination, but please note that admission to this or any LL.M. program does not guarantee eligibility to sit for the New York or any other U.S. bar examination. Please read the important information attached about New York State Exam eligibility, application procedures, and deadlines. Take special note of the need to seek advance determination of your eligibility to sit for the New York bar examination, which we strongly recommend you do before commencing your LL.M. studies.

Orientation

Our mandatory fall 2021 New Student Orientation is scheduled to take place over two weeks in mid-August. All students are required to be in attendance for all events (generally 9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.) throughout the entire Orientation period. Additional information, including a detailed Orientation schedule, will be made available after we have received your seat deposit and closer to the start of the fall semester. We strongly advise all students to arrive in New York before the start of Orientation to get settled and make other arrangements.

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Congratulations on your admission to Fordham's Master of Laws program. All of us in the LL.M. program look forward to welcoming you to our global network of attorneys, and to the Fordham Law School family.

Very truly yours,

Toni Jaeger-Fine
Assistant Dean

Anthony Agolia
Director

Martin D. Slavens
Director of Graduate Admissions



Attachment: Time-Sensitive Information Regarding New York Bar Examination

Time-Sensitive Information About the New York Bar Examination

Eligibility to Sit for the New York Bar Examination

Many Fordham LL.M. graduates sit for the New York State bar examination, but please note that admission to this or any LL.M. program does not guarantee eligibility to sit for the New York or any other U.S. bar examination.

The bar is administered twice per year: in February and in July. Prior to sitting for the New York bar examination, the Board of Law Examiners (“BOLE”) must undergo an evaluation of your credentials to determine your eligibility for admission to the bar.

All foreign-educated applicants must complete the foreign evaluation form and have all of their required foreign documentation submitted to BOLE at least six months prior to the first day of the application filing period for the bar exam they wish to take. Please note the following deadlines:

Date of Bar Examination	Deadline for Submitting Request for Evaluation of Eligibility and Required Documentation
July 2022	October 1, 2022
February 2023	May 1, 2022

Please visit www.nybarexam.org and click on the “Foreign Legal Education” link on the left for information about how to submit the Online Request for Foreign Evaluation of Academic Credentials. The Foreign Evaluation is a lengthy and tedious process – we strongly recommend that you submit your evaluation well in advance of BOLE’s deadline, and preferably before beginning your LL.M. studies.

Pro Bono Requirement for Admission to the New York Bar

The New York Court of Appeals requires that all applicants to the New York State Bar have completed 50 hours of pro bono legal work. Note that you need not have completed the 50 hours in order to *sit* for the bar exam; however, you must have completed the 50 hours in order to seek admission after passing the bar exam.

The Law School provides some opportunities for LL.M. students to meet this requirement. However it is impossible for us to find pro bono opportunities for all, or even most, of the LL.M. students who will sit for the New York bar exam. Ultimately, it is your responsibility to find opportunities to meet this requirement.

The Court of Appeals allows work performed in another country to fulfill this requirement. Foreign LL.M. students may complete such work up to one year before beginning the LL.M. program. Therefore, we strongly encourage all students coming from abroad to reach out to public interest organizations engaged in legal work in their home countries to establish a relationship that will allow students to fulfill this requirement in due course (either before

beginning the LL.M. program, during school breaks, or following the bar exam). We believe that such contacts and relationships will provide the most abundant opportunities for LL.M. students to fulfill this requirement.

For additional information, please see the Frequently Asked Questions document issued by the Court of Appeals, available at <http://www.nycourts.gov/attorneys/probono/FAQsBarAdmission.pdf>.

If you have any questions, about your eligibility to sit for the New York bar examination or the pro bono requirement, you may contact the BOLE directly (contact information is available at www.nybarexam.org).

1. Curricular Requirements:

Most students who do not hold a J.D. from a U.S. law school must meet certain curricular requirements in order to be permitted to sit for the New York bar examination. These include 24 credits of approved courses. Most courses at Fordham Law will count as approved courses, with the exception of an independent study, thesis, or similar independent projects. There are two additional categories of curricular requirements that most students must satisfy in order to be eligible to sit for the New York bar examination:

a. *Courses Required by [§520.6 of the Rules of the Court of Appeals for the Admission of Attorneys and Counselors at Law \(Study of Law in Foreign Country; Required Legal Education\)](#):*

- Introduction to the U.S. Legal System and Process (3 credits).
- Legal Writing and Research for LL.M. Students (2 credits).
- Introduction to the U.S. Legal Profession (2 credits), or another course listed as satisfying the Professional Responsibility requirement (3 credits).
- 6 credits of “[Content Outline Courses](#).” Please note that the course you take must exactly match the title of the corresponding course on the Content Outline list in order to satisfy the Content Outline requirement.

b. *Courses Required by Fordham Law School’s “Pathway 1” for [§520.18 of the Rules of the Court of Appeals for the Admission of Attorneys and Counselors at Law \(Skills Competency Requirement for Admission\)](#):*

- Quantitative Methods for Graduate Students (1 credit).
- Fundamental Lawyering Skills for LL.M. Students (3 credits).¹⁶
- 2 credits of experiential coursework.

§520.18 provides five different “pathways” for students to meet the Skills Competency Requirement. Foreign-trained LL.M. students who have not been in good standing and practiced law in a jurisdiction in which they are duly licensed full-time for at least one year (or

¹⁶ Graduates of Fordham Law School’s Legal English Institute are eligible for a waiver of this requirement.

half-time for two years) following the student's authorization to practice must follow Pathway 1 in order to gain eligibility to sit for the New York bar examination.

Students who have been in good standing and practiced law in a jurisdiction in which they are duly licensed full-time for at least one year (or half-time for two years) following the student's authorization to practice may fulfill the skills competency requirement through a different route, known as "Pathway 5." Students who believe they qualify must be prepared to establish and submit proof that they have been in good standing and practiced law in a jurisdiction in which they are duly licensed full-time for at least one year (or half-time for two years) following the student's authorization to practice. Proof of such authorization to practice is provided by a certificate of good standing for the jurisdiction. Pathway 5 students may request a waiver of Fundamental Lawyering Skills for LL.M. Students and 2 credits of experiential coursework required under Pathway 1.