

Dear Justin,

Congratulations on your admission at the University of California, Berkeley School of Law. As you decide where to attend law school, it is important for you to select the institution that will provide you with an excellent education and will also provide a community in which you will flourish while in law school. I want to explain why I think Berkeley Law is such a special place.

I am in my ninth year as dean here after 37 years as a professor and dean at other law schools, and have found that Berkeley Law is uniquely committed to educational excellence and to using law to make our society and world better. Our commitment to these mutually reinforcing ideas is at the heart of our public mission – an identity that sets us apart from our peer institutions. I want to take a moment to highlight a few other things that make Berkeley Law special.

## **Our Faculty**

Simply put, Berkeley Law has a terrific faculty – in their teaching and their commitment to students. At Berkeley, you will be taught by many of the nation's leading experts in every major area of law – including business law, civil litigation, clinical legal education, constitutional law, criminal law, employment law, environmental and energy law, family law, legal history, immigration law, international and comparative law, intellectual property, law and economics, law and psychology, law and society, legal theory, privacy law, race and the law, social justice and public interest law, and tax and estates, to name just a few. A recent study found that our faculty was sixth in the nation in scholarship impact. My colleagues are redefining their fields through their agenda-setting research and are deeply engaged in working on the most difficult and most important legal and policy issues in the United States and across the globe. What is distinctive about Berkeley Law is how our faculty integrates their teaching, research, and policy advocacy, which enables them to train our students not just to be excellent lawyers, but to be future leaders in the legal profession, government, business, and the nonprofit world.

Our faculty members are unusually dedicated and accessible as teachers and mentors. It is a terrific teaching faculty. Indeed, our faculty loves their students, and many form professional bonds with our students that extend for years.

And we are continuing to expand our faculty. We have hired almost 40 new faculty members in the last eight years, including five who joined our faculty on July 1. We are planning to hire about 10 additional faculty in the next few years. The faculty we have hired are tremendously diverse in every way; some are lateral hires from other law schools, while others are beginning their teaching careers at Berkeley. They teach in a wide variety of fields across the curriculum. What they share is that they are great teachers and cutting edge scholars.

## **Our Intellectual Life**

I've never seen a more intellectually vibrant law school or university community. Few schools can claim such a rich, diverse, and constantly evolving collection of courses, specialized seminars, live-client clinics, and externships. Classes are challenging, dynamic, invigorating, and inspiring. Moreover, Berkeley Law is also an integral part of the University of California, Berkeley. Routinely ranked among the very best universities in the world, UC Berkeley arguably has more top-ranked academic programs than any other university in the nation, and is clearly the world's top public university. Berkeley Law's strong connections to the rest of our university are uncommon among leading law schools. These connections will provide unparalleled opportunities to deepen your education by taking courses in business, public policy, information science, public health, city and regional planning, social welfare, education, the humanities, and the social sciences.

## **Our Students**

By any measure, our admissions process is among the most selective in the nation. Berkeley Law students such as yourself are extraordinary, bringing with them a tremendous reservoir of experience in business, technology, government, and public interest work. Many hold advanced degrees in fields ranging from history to biochemistry and from literature to medicine. Your intelligence, energy, creativity, and engagement in the issues of the day make it a privilege to both teach and learn in this environment.

Our students and faculty have created a very special atmosphere that is highly collaborative and supportive and which will bring out the very best in you and optimize your success. At Berkeley Law, you get the "elite" without the "attitude." Our students are centered, not self-centered. Bold, but not bullish. The bond that our students form with each other is the basis for friendships that last for decades. Our students will tell you that, along with our excellent faculty and programs, what they also value is the opportunity to learn from each other, inside and outside the classroom. They are involved in a broad array of opportunities from the moment they arrive that allow them to put their legal training to work. For example, the Student-Initiated Legal Projects (SLPs), BLAST, and CNECT are a vital part of the student experience at Berkeley Law, facilitating pro bono work by our law students. The vast majority of our students join at least one of our SLPs during their first year and many join two or more. A common message I receive from our graduates – whether they work in private practice, government, business, or public interest – is that the experience they gained doing hands-on legal work was of tremendous benefit.

Our classrooms reflect an impressive diversity of intellectual perspectives and backgrounds. More than sixty percent of the student body identify as female, and over fifty percent of this year's entering class identify as students of color. Our community includes military veterans, transgender and non-binary students, older students, international students, students with STEM degrees, students from rural areas, student athletes, immigrants to this country, students with disabilities, students who are themselves parents, students who are the children of lawyers, and others who have never known a lawyer. (The list, of course, goes on.) Many, like me, are the first in their families to go to college, or to attend law school or professional school. Indeed, a part of Berkeley Law's mission has always been to be a law school that transforms students' lives by opening doors to incredible opportunities. Our commitment to social mobility is a defining characteristic of our community and sets us apart from our peer law schools.

**Our Alumni**

As a Berkeley Law student, you will gain access to an intergenerational community of extraordinary alumni around the nation and, indeed, the world. Our remarkable 17,500 alumni are leaders in every field of legal practice. They are federal and state judges, legal advisors to the leading companies around the world, public defenders, state and United States' attorneys, trial attorneys and Supreme Court advocates, entrepreneurs and financiers, lawyers at start-ups and technology companies, and politicians and social activists. Those graduates provide an amazing network for mentoring and support that will deepen and enrich your experience here and when you enter the world of practice. When you come to Berkeley Law next fall, I am confident that you will be as successful as they have been. Our graduates are you.

**Our Location**

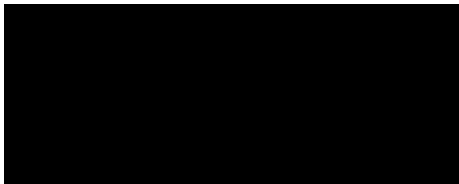
Finally, as a Berkeley Law student, you will live in a colorful, lively community, located in the diverse, culturally rich, and vibrant San Francisco Bay Area. Whether you are interested in fine food or fine arts, in jazz or dance, in pro sports, or in the great outdoors – the spectacular California coast, the Sierra Nevada Mountains, Yosemite and Tahoe, the wine country, cycling, or year-round sailing on the Bay – no place in the United States is as dynamic, diverse, and beautiful as the Bay Area.

**Looking Ahead**

It is a very exciting time for Berkeley law, as we are hiring many new faculty, creating new programs, and constantly looking for new ways to make a difference through law in our society and the world.

It would be our privilege to educate and to mentor you at Berkeley Law. I hope that you accept our offer to join this wonderful community. I look forward to welcoming you to campus next August. In the meantime, please feel free to email me [REDACTED] or call me [REDACTED] if I can be of assistance to you in any way.

Warm regards,



Dear Justin,

Congratulations on being admitted to Berkeley Law! At Berkeley Law, you will not only receive a top legal education, but also become a member of a robust and vibrant community. You will learn from, support, and challenge one another right from the beginning in your small and large “mods.” You will also develop lifelong friendships and professional connections that you will rely on in the years to come. The Office of the Dean of Students team will be here for you throughout.

While it’s impossible to fully capture what sets Berkeley Law apart in a brief message, the following highlights offer a glimpse of what you will find during your time here:

- Our community includes more than 65 student organizations. Some are identity-based (e.g., *Law Students of African Descent*, *Queer Caucus*, *Women+ of Color Collective*). Others bring students together based on shared academic interests (*Antitrust Law and Economics Association of Berkeley*), creative or extracurricular activities (*Pro Bonotes A Capella*), or the desire to build supportive networks (*Older, Wiser Law Students*). Still others blend several of these elements (*Women in Tech Law*). Whatever you are looking for, you will find your people.
- The *Student Association of Berkeley Law* (SABL) will also eagerly engage with you before and after you arrive on campus—and you may even decide to run for one of the 1L representative positions.
- Beyond student organizations, the law school offers students a vast array of options to get involved and enhance your legal training. During your first year, you might join one of our 12 journals (all but the *California Law Review* are open to 1Ls), participate in any of the 40+ Student-Initiated Legal Services Projects, or get involved in any number of other pro bono projects.

With so many opportunities available, maintaining balance and staying focused will be essential to your success—and our office is here to help you find your footing. Across the Office of the Dean of Students, Financial Aid, the Registrar's Office, the Career Development Office, Computer Services, Library Services, Admissions, and Building Services, we work hard to be responsive and supportive. We want to help you have a productive, stimulating, and rewarding three years at Berkeley. The challenge of law school is real, but you won’t be alone in facing it.

Congratulations, and welcome!

Dean of Students

Dear Justin,

On behalf of the Career Development Office (CDO), congratulations on your admission to Berkeley Law!

Our expert team is here to help demystify the job search process and provide customized counseling and support to students no matter what their career goals may be.

The legal job market is complex and ever-changing. With the latest shifts in law firm recruiting timelines, the CDO has pivoted and adapted its programming, services and interview programs to ensure that students are in the best possible position for success.

The CDO is staffed by nine attorney-counselors, each of whom has practiced law and can offer real-world insights into various career paths.

Our services include:

- Customized, one-on-one career counseling from an expert team of former practicing attorneys
- Programs, panels and workshops to educate students on different career paths and job search techniques
- Expert advice on job application materials and extensive preparation for job interviews
- A robust online database of current job postings for students and alumni
- A dedicated Director of Judicial Clerkships to help guide students and alumni through each step of the complex process of applying for post-graduate judicial clerkships
- A team of three Public Interest/Public Sector Attorney Counselors to help support students who are interested in working for non-profit organizations, government agencies and other social justice oriented legal positions
- Summer funding for students who do legal internships with non-profit organizations, government agencies and judges
- A team of three Private Sector Attorney Counselors to support students seeking summer and post-graduate positions in law firms of all sizes and in all markets as well as in-house positions with corporate legal departments
- On-Campus Interview and resume collect programs throughout the academic year featuring job opportunities with a host of legal employers across different sectors and geographical markets

The Berkeley Law degree is highly valued by employers. They know it means that you have met rigorous standards, learned from top legal scholars, and acquired the skills and real-world experiences to enable you to hit the ground running. For the most recent class for which we have finalized data – the Class of 2024 – the overall employment rate ten months after graduation (i.e., after they sat for the bar exam, received results, and were sworn in) was 99%.

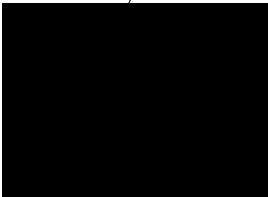
Here are some other key employment statistics for the Class of 2024:

- Nearly 99% of our employed graduates are working in full-time, long-term, bar-required/anticipated positions or positions where their JD gave them a distinct advantage in obtaining and/or performing their jobs.
- Our 2024 graduates are working in 30 different states plus the District of Columbia - as well as London and Guam.
- 64% of our grads started their careers at law firms - nearly 90% of them at the very largest law firms in the country.
- 22% of our grads started their careers in public interest or government jobs. A number of our additional grads went straight from judicial clerkships into public interest or public service jobs following the completion of their clerkships.
- 12.62% of our 2024 graduates started their careers in judicial clerkships. AND - to date - nearly 20% of our 2024 graduates have obtained a judicial clerkship - whether for the 2024 term or for future terms. 51 of our 2024 grads started their careers in a clerkship - with another 30 graduates who will clerk after some time in practice. That means there are a total of 81 members of the Class of 2024 (nearly 20% of the class and growing) who obtained judicial clerkships in 24 different states, Washington DC, and Guam.
- In 2024, we had four Equal Justice Works Fellows - placing us in a three-way tie for the #3 school with the most fellowships. We were the #2 school for Skadden Fellowships (3 in 2024)
- We placed more graduates (7) in the California Attorney General Honors Program than any other law school - five graduates from the Class of 2024 and two graduates from earlier classes.

For a more complete understanding of where our 2024 grads went after graduation, we strongly encourage you to look at the complete set of employment statistics, which you can find here: <https://www.law.berkeley.edu/careers/employment-statistics/>. This webpage also contains a link to the ABA's Employment Summary for Berkeley Law for the past 3 years. We are happy to answer any questions about them, so please do not hesitate to contact us.

Once again, congratulations on your admission. We look forward to working with you in formulating, refining, and realizing your career goals during your three years here and beyond.

Sincerely



Assistant Dean for Career Development