



# Course Catalog

2025-2026

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**The content of this 2025-2026 Course Catalog is subject to change, is published for informational purposes only and should not be construed as constituting any promise or contract or the terms of any promise or contract.**

**The most current version of the 2025-2026 Course Catalog is posted on the school's website at [www.lincolnlawschool.edu](http://www.lincolnlawschool.edu).**

## Message from the Dean

We are delighted to share with you the opportunities and experiences that await you at Lincoln Law School of San Jose, where we have been at the forefront of access to legal education for decades. Over the years, many notable Lincoln graduates have excelled in diverse areas of the law, including corporate law, public interest advocacy, government service, private practice, and the judiciary. Their accomplishments are a testament to the work ethic embodied by Lincoln alumni in the study and practice of law, personal and professional development, and community service. We are happy to have you as part of the tradition.

Make no mistake, the law school journey is not an easy path. Your perseverance will be tested every day. It will take a significant time commitment and a very open mindset to think like a lawyer. It's important that you have persistence and are self-motivated to keep your focus and attention on your studies. You must commit to argue, analyze, read and think critically. This starts with cultivating a support network that will support you on this journey and limiting anything that will needlessly provide distraction. This does not mean that Lincoln students are not full-time professionals, parents, caretakers, and providers. It does, however, mean that Lincoln students know and learn how to manage their most important responsibilities while including the study of law

Our diverse faculty is comprised of experienced practitioners, judges, and legal scholars dedicated to fostering intellectual curiosity and cultivating a theoretical and practical understanding of the law. They believe in nurturing passionate and driven individuals aspiring to make a difference in the legal profession and society. They will interactively guide you through the intricacies of legal theory while imparting practical knowledge through real-world applications, case studies, and clinical experience. In teaching you to analyze complex legal issues, our faculty aims to empower you on your journey to becoming exceptional legal professionals and advocates for justice.

We hope that those of you who have chosen to be part of the Lincoln community not only find exceptional value in your time spent here, but are able to also contribute to the remarkable, dynamic, and inclusive community here at Lincoln with your own gifts, talents, and experiences, helping to foster a caring, supporting, and collaborative spirit among your cohort.

Again, congratulations on your willingness to continue the legacy of Lincoln Law School in becoming a beacon of legal excellence and a catalyst for positive change. We are looking forward to a fabulous year ahead together!

All the Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Amezcua', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

J. Jason Amezcua, M.S., J.D.  
Dean, Lincoln Law School of San Jose

## **Section I. An Overview**

### **1.1 Lincoln's Mission**

The mission of Lincoln Law School of San Jose is to empower members of the community with a high-quality, affordable legal education with a focus on the practical skills necessary for a variety of legal professions. We believe in extending legal education opportunities to as many individuals as possible, particularly those who encounter cultural, systemic, or economic barriers that might otherwise preclude them from enrolling in a traditional law school program.

### **1.2 History of Lincoln Law School of San Jose**

Lincoln Law School of San Jose, a private, non-profit corporation located in the heart of downtown San Jose, has been disrupting the landscape of legal education for over 100 years! Lincoln's roots trace back to 1919, to a law study program established in San Francisco by a married couple to provide World War I veterans and working-class students with the opportunity to obtain a legal education through part-time, evening courses. The law study program was incorporated into Lincoln University in San Francisco in 1926 and became a non-profit institution in 1949. A second law campus was opened in San Jose in 1961, with its first graduating class in 1965, and by 1987 Lincoln University's entire law program was centralized in San Jose. In 1993, the San Jose campus separated from Lincoln University and changed its name to Lincoln Law School of San Jose.

Since 1995, Lincoln has provided a legal education to notable alumni such as David D. Cortese, current California State Senator and former Santa Clara County Supervisor, Linda J. LeZotte, former San Jose City Council Member, and Vartkes Yeghiayan, lawyer and legal activist for victims of the Armenian Genocide.

Notable faculty members have included Maya Harris, former chair of the Kamala Harris 2020 presidential campaign, and James S. Ware, former Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, Rod Diridon, Sr., former Chair of the California High Speed Rail Authority, and Desiree Reed-Francois, lawyer and current Athletic Director of University of Missouri.

In 2013, Lincoln became the first law school in Northern California approved by the United States Patent and Trademark Office to operate both a Patent and a Trademark Clinic, through which students assist the public, pro bono, in filing and prosecuting patents and trademarks.

In 2023 Lincoln was fortunate to have co-founder of Apple Computer, Steve Wozniak, serve as the Keynote Speaker at Lincoln's Scholarship Gala. Mr. Wozniak's keynote addressed the intersection between technology and the law and was moderated by NBC news anchor Scott McGrew.

Lincoln is proud of its rich history and looks forward to expanding access to affordable legal education for years to come as the landscape of legal education continues to evolve.

### **1.3 Accreditation Status**

Lincoln Law School of San Jose was accredited by the Committee of Bar Examiners of The State Bar of California effective March 14, 2025. Lincoln was accredited continuously by the Committee from 1993 through December 31, 2022 (when it became a registered, unaccredited school after a period of probation due to failure to achieve a minimum bar exam pass rate (MPR) of greater than 40%). During the period of

January 1, 2023 through March 13, 2025, Lincoln was registered with the Committee of Bar Examiners as an unaccredited, fixed-facility law school.

#### **1.4 Consumer Disclosures**

Method of Instruction - The method of instruction at this law school for the Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree program is principally in physical classroom facilities.

Qualification to Practice Law in California - Study at, or graduation from, this law school may not qualify a student to take the bar examination or be licensed to practice law in jurisdictions other than California. A student who intends to seek licensure to practice law outside of California at any time during their career should contact the admitting authority for information regarding its education and licensure requirements prior to enrolling at this law school.

Professional Law Degree Programs – Lincoln Law School of San Jose offers no professional law degree program, or any other degree program, other than the Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree program.

Disclosures under BPC §§ 6061, 6061.7, can be found at:

<https://lincolnlawschool.edu/cal-bus-prof-code-%c2%a7-6061-7-standardized-report/>

## Section II. General Information

### 2.1 Administrative Team

#### J. Jason Amezcua, Dean of Lincoln Law School of San Jose

Dean Amezcua came to Lincoln with over 20 years of experience in the field of Student Affairs at several colleges and universities. He has also served at other non-profit organizations as both staff and board member. His experience includes leadership development, equity, and labor relations, as well as executive management. Dean Amezcua earned his J.D. from Saint Louis University, where he took evening courses while also working as a full-time administrator.

Dean Amezcua also holds a M.S. in Higher Education Administration from the University of Central Missouri, and a B.A. in History from New Mexico State University. Educating and improving the lives of others is a passion that Dean Amezcua has had his entire life and is a strong advocate for service, equity, and social justice.

#### Kim Zea, Registrar

Ms. Zea has a background in accounting and has served as Registrar at Lincoln for over eight years. Ms. Zea is a talented administrative professional and serves an essential role in the law school's daily operations and service to students. She has capably advised three different Lincoln Law School deans and provided her steady leadership through the school's dynamic evolution.

Ms. Zea is a well-known and essential resource to the students, alumni, and faculty of Lincoln Law School of San Jose.

## **2.2 Official Website**

The official website of Lincoln Law School of San Jose is: [www.lincolnlawschool.edu](http://www.lincolnlawschool.edu)

## **2.3 Physical Campus and Location of Class Sessions**

Lincoln Law School of San Jose's physical campus, where all class sessions are held, is located in the heart of Downtown San Jose at:

Lincoln Law School of San Jose  
384 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
San Jose, CA 95113

## **2.4 Administrative Office and Mailing Address**

Lincoln's Law School of San Jose's administrative office and mailing address is:

Lincoln Law School of San Jose  
384 South 2nd Street  
San Jose, CA 95113

## **2.5 Contact Information**

The main telephone number for Lincoln Law School of San Jose is:

(408) 977-7227

The Dean's Office can be reached at:

(408) 769-4268

The Registrar's Office can be reached at:

(408) 479-5906

The Admissions Office can be reached at:

(408) 479-3592

**In the case of an emergency, please contact 911.**

Additional information about Lincoln Law School can be found on the school's website ([www.lincolnlawschool.edu](http://www.lincolnlawschool.edu)).

## **Section III. Requirements for Award of Juris Doctor (J.D.)**

### **3.1 Unit Requirement**

Students entering the Juris Doctor (J.D.) program in the 2025-2026 Academic School Year must satisfactorily complete 84 units, including 2 elective units, and all other J.D. program requirements to be awarded a J.D.

### **3.2 Timeframe for Completion and Engagement Hours Requirement**

The J.D. curriculum is designed to be completed in a minimum of 48 months and provide students with over 1,200 hours of verified academic engagement. Students are expected to follow the prescribed curriculum on an annual basis, taking and passing all classes in a given academic year. Any exceptions to this will be made by the Dean or their designate and only for extraordinary circumstances. There is no allowance for accelerated completion and a student must meet all requirements within 84 months of the start of their studies.

### **3.3 Minimum Cumulative GPA Requirement**

Students must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.33 upon program completion to be awarded a J.D.

### **3.4 Restriction on Issuance of J.D.**

The Juris Doctor degree must only be granted upon completion of a law program that qualifies a student to take the California Bar Examination. The legal education requirements to qualify a student to take the California Bar Examination are set forth in Business and Professions Code § 6060(e), the *Rules of the State Bar*, and the *Accredited Law School Rules*.

### **3.5 Evaluation of Study Completed or Contemplated**

An applicant may request that the Committee of Bar Examiners determine whether general or legal education contemplated or completed by the applicant meets the eligibility requirements for beginning the study of law, the FYLSE, or the California Bar Examination. See Rule 4.33 of Title 4, Division 1, Chapter 3 of the *Rules of the State Bar*.



## Section IV. Overview of Juris Doctor (J.D.) Curriculum

Lincoln's J.D. curriculum covers the subjects tested in the CA Bar Exam, Professional Responsibility, and offers students the opportunity to take electives on a variety of subjects and gain clinical experience.

### 4.1. Juris Doctor (J.D.) Curriculum Map

To stay on course to graduate, students must take the following courses as mapped out below.

1st Year	<u>Fall Term</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Spring Term</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Summer Term</u>	<u>Units</u>
22 Units	Torts I	3	Torts II	3	Introduction to Bar Exam Skills for 1L students	2
	Contracts I	3	Contracts II	3		
	Criminal Law I	3	Criminal Law II	3		
	Legal Studies 101	2				
	Total Units - Fall:	11	Total Units - Spring:	9	Total Units - Summer:	2

2nd Year	<u>Fall Term</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Spring Term</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Summer Term</u>	<u>Units</u>
23 Units	Business Organizations I	2	Business Organizations II	2	Personal Property	2
	Civil Procedure I	3	Civil Procedure II	3	Moot Court	2
	Real Property I	3	Real Property II	3		
	Professional Responsibility	3				
	Total Units - Fall:	11	Total Units - Spring:	8	Total Units - Summer:	4

3rd Year	<u>Fall Term</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Spring Term</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Summer Term</u>	<u>Units</u>
21 Units	Constitutional Law I	3	Constitutional Law II	3	Elective	2
	Evidence I	3	Evidence II	3	(can take additional elective)	
	Community Property	3	Negotiation & Mediation	2		
			Research & Writing II	2		
	Total Units - Fall:	9	Total Units - Spring:	10	Total Units - Summer:	2

4th Year	<u>Fall Term</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Spring Term</u>	<u>Units</u>		
18 Units	Criminal Procedure	3	Remedies	3		
	Wills & Trusts	3	Trial Practice	3		
	Bar Exam Preparation I	3	Bar Exam Preparation II	3		
	Total Units - Fall:	9	Total Units - Spring:	9	Total units required for JD:	84

### 4.2 Practical Experience

The CA Bar permits law students to obtain practical experience through its Practical Training of Law Students ("PTLS") Program, through which students are certified to provide legal services under the supervision of an attorney. California Rule of Court 9.42 and Title 3, Division 1, Chapter 1 of the Rules of the State Bar set forth the requirements for participation in the PTLS Program.

### 4.3 Course Descriptions

Course Name and Description	Units
<b>Bar Exam Preparation I</b> This course is designed to help students prepare to take and pass the California Bar Exam. Students will learn an abundance of test-taking techniques to aid in studying, practicing, and taking the exam itself. Students will perform a series of multiple-choice questions and write a series of essays covering subjects tested on the CA bar exam. Students will also learn strategies for writing a performance test.	3
<b>Bar Exam Preparation II</b> This course will build on Bar Exam Preparation I, and students will take a series of multiple-choice questions and write a series of essays covering subjects tested on the CA bar exam under timed conditions. Students will also gain experience writing a performance test under timed conditions. <u>Prerequisites:</u> Bar Exam Preparation I.	3
<b>Business Organizations I</b> This course introduces students to the laws governing agency, partnerships, and corporations. It covers liability and fiduciary obligations of agents, fiduciary obligations and rights of partners, dissolution, limited partnership, corporate entity and limited liability, shareholder derivative actions, and duties of officers and directors.	2
<b>Business Organizations II</b> This course builds on Business Organizations I and introduces the Limited Liability Company including formation, the Operating Agreement, Piercing the LLC Veil, Fiduciary Obligations and Dissolution, and then the course will introduce Rule 10b-5, insider trading, mergers and acquisitions and problems of control. <u>Prerequisites:</u> Business Organizations I	2
<b>Civil Procedure I</b> This course provides a survey of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and California Code of Civil Procedure. Students are given an overview of structure of a lawsuit and the court system and introduced to general principles of personal jurisdiction, subject matter jurisdiction, venue, and conflicts of law.	3
<b>Civil Procedure II</b> This course builds on Civil Procedure I and explores mechanisms such as pleadings, responses to complaints, amended pleadings, joinder of claims and parties, class actions, and the scope and mechanisms of discovery. It also covers disposition without trial, trial, claim preclusion and issue preclusion. <u>Prerequisites:</u> Civil Procedure I.	3
<b>Community Property</b> This course provides a survey of California community property law and covers characterization, management and control of property, and division of property at dissolution.	3
<b>Constitutional Law I</b>	3

This course introduces the Constitution of the United States, the Articles of Confederation, and the Supreme Court. It covers the legislative power, the executive power, and the judicial power, including enumerated powers, limits on congressional power, state power, and executive power, and separation of powers, and concepts of judicial review, such as political question doctrine, standing, ripeness, and mootness.	
<b>Constitutional Law II</b> This course covers concepts of slavery, citizenship, due process, and equal protection of the law. Students will explore the scope of the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Amendments and individual rights regarding freedom of speech and press, freedom of association, free exercise of religion, no law respecting the establishment of religion, the right to keep and bear arms, and taking private property for public use. <u>Prerequisites:</u> Constitutional Law I.	<b>3</b>
<b>Contracts I</b> This course introduces students to basic principles of contract law, including governing law, formation of a contract, statute of frauds and other defenses to formation, and the bases for enforcing or not enforcing the contract.	<b>3</b>
<b>Contracts II</b> This course builds on the principles learned in Contracts I by introducing students to mechanisms for determining the parties' obligations under the contract, limits on the bargain and its performance, remedies for breach, performance and breach, and third party rights and responsibilities. <u>Prerequisites:</u> Contracts I.	<b>3</b>
<b>Criminal Law I</b> This course surveys substantive criminal law pertaining to offenses against property and person and introduces students to theories of culpable mental states, punishable acts and omissions, causation, negating intent, liability for burglary, arson, robbery, assault & battery, an introduction to homicide. This course also examines fundamental problems in the interpretation and application of substantive criminal laws, both common law and statutory.	<b>3</b>
<b>Criminal Law II</b> This course builds on the content covered in Criminal Law I and introduces other crimes, including larceny, rape, kidnap, attempt and solicitation, conspiracy, justifications and excuses, insanity, self-defense and defense of others. <u>Prerequisites:</u> Criminal Law I.	<b>3</b>
<b>Criminal Procedure</b> This course provides students with an overview of principles of criminal procedure including Constitutional protections under the Fourth, Fifth, and Six Amendments, limitations on search and seizure, detainment and arrests, interrogation, confessions, identification, and explores the exclusionary rule. <u>Prerequisites:</u> Civil Procedure I, Civil Procedure II, Evidence I, and Evidence II.	<b>3</b>
<b>Electives</b> Elective course options change annually and will be announced at the beginning of the semester in which they will be offered.	<b>1-2</b>
<b>Evidence I</b>	<b>3</b>

This course explores the common law, Federal Rules of Evidence, and CA Rules of Evidence pertaining to relevance, hearsay, real proof, testimonial proof, hearsay and the hearsay exclusions affecting admissibility of evidence in judicial proceedings..	
<b>Evidence II</b> This course builds on Evidence I and explores circumstantial proof and related issues, expert evidence, procedural considerations, judicial notice and privileges. <u>Prerequisites:</u> Evidence I.	3
<u><b>Introduction to Bar Exam Skill for 1L students</b></u>  <i><b>This course provides students with an overview of bar exam multiple choice and essay preparation with a focus on substantive law from Contracts I &amp; II, Criminal Law I &amp; II, and Torts I &amp; II. Students will learn strategies for applying the law to the fact patterns and essay prompts to learn how to approach answer selection, issue spotting and analysis. Students will have multiple homework assignments and a final exam to practice their learned skills under timed conditions.</b></i>	2
<b>Independent Study</b> The Independent Study curriculum is designed to provide students with the opportunity to enhance their legal education through activities outside the classroom. Students may earn academic credit for approved Independent Study activities. The Independent Study handbook is available from the registrar upon request. No more than 2 units may be earned.	
<b>Legal Studies 101</b>  This course introduces students to the legal process by introducing the American Legal System, Legal Writing, critical concepts for law school success such as preparing course outlines and understanding the evolution of case law. Students will also be introduced to law school exam writing, persuasive legal writing, and basics of legal research.	2
<b>Moot Court</b> This course provides students the opportunity to develop their legal research and writing skills based on a hypothetical scenario they may potentially face as a practicing attorney. Students will use the fact pattern to conduct legal research and write an appellate brief on behalf of one of the parties. Students will then participate in a formal oral argument held in the Mock Courtroom before a sitting Judge. Teaches and develops skills needed to prepare an argument and present it in a courtroom setting. Civil Procedure I, Civil Procedure II, and Professional Responsibility.	2
<b>Negotiation and Mediation</b> This course provides an overview of the process of negotiation and its role in resolving disputes outside of court. It covers general principles of mediation and students will explore strategies for negotiation, explore ethical considerations and practice their skills through role play and practical exercises <u>Competency Training:</u> Teaches and develops those skills needed by a licensed attorney to practice law in an ethical and competent manner. <u>Practical Skills:</u> Drafting Legal Documents, Counseling, and Negotiation. <u>Prerequisites:</u> Civil Procedure I, Civil Procedure II, and Professional Responsibility	2
<b>Personal Property</b> The class introduces students to the law of personal property as it develops first with tangible and ultimately intangible personal property including intellectual property. Students learn to analyze the key components of "ownership" including possession, lost or mislaid property, various methods of acquisition, transfer, and hypothecation; as well as the legal terminology for remedies employed to recover ownership or possession of personal property. The course focuses on the multiple personal	2

property rules students encounter daily that are hidden such as bailments, liens, restricted area rules, as well as the rights and responsibilities of common carriers.	
<b>Professional Responsibility</b> This course explores the rules of professional responsibility under the ABA Model Rules and the CA Rules of Professional Responsibility. Students will gain an understanding of the duties of an attorney to the client, the courts, and public. Students will also prepare for the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination (“MPRE”) required for admission to the practice of law.  <i>Competency Training:</i> Teaches and develops those skills needed by a licensed attorney to practice law in an ethical and competent manner.	3
<b>Real Property I</b> This course introduces students to the principles of real property law and covers present and future estates in real property, the rules against perpetuities, landlord and tenant leases, assignments, and subleases, easements, adverse possession, and conveyance. the bundle of rights, acquisition of property, and covers possessory interest in estates, future interests in estates, and co-ownership.	3
<b>Real Property II</b> This course builds on Real Property II and covers deeds, covenants, recording or deeds, escrow and title insurance, cooperatives, condominiums, zoning, and eminent domain.  <i>Prerequisites:</i> Real Property I.	3
<b>Remedies</b> This course teaches principles of remedies in contract, torts, and real property including equitable and legal remedies, specific performance, cancellation and surrender of contracts, and declaratory judgments.  <i>Prerequisites:</i> Contracts I, Contracts II, Torts I, and Torts II.	3
<b>Research &amp; Writing</b> Students will explore legal research strategies using both hard copy and electronic primary and secondary sources, basic rules of citation, principles of statutory constructions, strategies for formulating issue statements and holdings, identifying applicable rules, and synthesizing rules. Students will draft an objective memorandum and a persuasive memorandum.  <i>Competency Training:</i> Teaches and develops those skills needed by a licensed attorney to practice law in an ethical and competent manner.  <i>Practical Skills:</i> Legal Research and Drafting Legal Documents.	2
<b>Torts I</b> This course first introduces students to the development of fault-based liability and intentional tort theory. Students will learn the elements of intentional torts as well as the defenses to intentional tort liability. The course then introduces students to no-fault-based liability by exploring theories of negligence and strict liability.	3
<b>Torts II</b> This course introduces students to theories of products liability, including recovery based on theories of product defect, breach of warranty, and negligence. Students will also learn the elements of, and defenses to, various torts such as those related to nuisance, defamation, privacy, misrepresentation, and interference with advantageous relationships.  <i>Prerequisites:</i> Torts I.	3
<b>Trial Practice</b>	3

<p>This course provides a survey of trial practice. Students will explore the progression of a case at the trial level by learning procedures and strategies through a combination of lectures, practice, and culminating in a mock trial on the final evening. Students will learn to draft opening statements, closing statements, questions for direct examination and cross-examination that they will use during their final.</p> <p><u><b>Competency Training:</b></u> Teaches and develops those skills needed by a licensed attorney to practice law in an ethical and competent manner.</p> <p><u><b>Practical Skills:</b></u> Legal Research, Drafting Legal Documents, and Trial Advocacy.</p> <p><u><b>Prerequisites:</b></u> Professional Responsibility, Civil Procedure I and Civil Procedure II, and Evidence I and Evidence II.</p>	
<p><b>Wills &amp; Trusts</b></p> <p>This course is a survey of wills and trusts and covers freedom of disposition, intestate succession, the formalities, forms, and construction of wills, non-probate transfers, the formalities, forms, and construction of trusts, and the basic principles of trust administration and wealth transfer taxation.</p> <p><u><b>Prerequisites:</b></u> Real Property I and Real Property II, and Professional Responsibility.</p>	<p><b>3</b></p>

## Section V. Admissions

### 5.1 Admissions Policy

Applications for admission will be accepted up to the posted deadline for the next available enrollment period for new students. Accordingly, the Law School permits enrollment so long as the student's records for admission are complete and satisfactory and the student can attend all classes.

Admitted students are classified as "Regular," "Special," "Transfer," "Visiting Student," or "Auditor." See below for descriptions and requirements particular to each of these classifications. Lincoln Law School of San Jose has the responsibility not admit any student who is obviously unqualified or who does not appear to have a reasonable prospect of completing the degree program. Thus, accepted applicants are those who reasonably appear to be qualified to study law and reasonably appear to be likely to succeed in that study.

### 5.2 Admissions Criteria

Candidates for admission are reviewed by the Admissions Committee and are reviewed only after the application is complete. The process is designed to ensure that each applicant has a reasonable prospect of completing the degree program and to select only those with the potential and competence to succeed in our curriculum. Applicants wishing to be admitted must, prior to admission, obtain and furnish the following:

1. A completed online application which can be found at <https://lincolnlawschool.edu/apply/>
2. Official transcripts received directly from all undergraduate and graduate schools.
  - a. Unofficial Copies of transcripts are acceptable for admission consideration; however, official transcripts must be sent to Lincoln from previous institutions prior to admission.
3. A Personal Statement on why you wish to study law.
  - a. Personal Statement is not to exceed two pages (500 words or less).
  - b. The applicant's personal statement should be well written and persuasive. The ideal statement describes the applicant's relevant experiences and perseverance and indicates strong self-motivation and determination.
4. Regular Students seeking admission to the JD program are required to submit at least one of the following: an LSAT score, GRE score, or Writing Evaluation (administered by Lincoln).
  - a. Applicants may be exempt from this requirement if they have earned an advanced graduate degree (i.e. Masters or PhD).
5. Resume or CV.
  - a. The applicant's resume should provide insight to their years of experience which articulates any relevant career growth and professional competency.
6. Two current letters of recommendation.
  - a. The applicant's letters of recommendation should provide insight from an individual who can speak honestly to attributes such as character, motivation, organization, work ethic, etc.

### 5.3 Law School Admissions Test (LSAT)

Applicants are not required to take the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT), but it may be of value in assessing an applicant's potential for success. Lincoln recommends that all applicants take this exam.

Lincoln reserves the right to require the LSAT Exam or an equivalent test for applicants in the following instances:

1. Those who do not have at least two years of college work.
2. Applicants admitted after a prior disqualification.
3. A 4-year degree with a cumulative GPA below 3.0.

#### **5.4 Admission as a Regular Student**

An applicant holding a bachelor's degree from a qualified institution may be admitted as a Regular Student.

An applicant not holding a bachelor's degree from a qualified institution may be admitted as a Regular Student if either one of the following requirements is met:

1. The applicant has earned an Associate of Arts (AA) Degree or an Associate of Science (AS) Degree from a qualified institution.
  - a. The Specialized associate degree (occupational) and the Associate of Applied Science Degree, and other associate level degrees which are vocationally oriented, may not satisfy this requirement.
2. Studies completed prior to admission constitute not less than one-half the total acceptable for a bachelor's degree at a qualified institution.
  - a. Subject to review, this is typically sixty (60) semester units or ninety (90) quarter units
  - b. The applicant's cumulative grade point average on all subjects undertaken was at least equal to that required for graduation from the institution attended; and
  - c. The applicant's grade average on all courses with substantive content was at least equal to that required for graduation from the institution attended.

In either case above, it is recommended that the applicant requests a pre-legal evaluation from the State Bar to confirm their eligibility. [calbar.ca.gov/Admissions/Requirements/Education/Pre-Legal-Education](http://calbar.ca.gov/Admissions/Requirements/Education/Pre-Legal-Education)

An applicant who seeks admission as a Regular Student but fails to provide official transcripts by the 45th day after the first day of attendance shall not be permitted to continue. Under exceptional circumstances, the school may extend attendance by no more than an additional 45 days, which must be approved in writing by the Admissions Committee and documented in the Student File.

If accepted and admitted, the State Bar requires all law students to register with the State Bar within 90 days of starting courses. Failure to do so will result in the inability to register for the next academic term.

Applicants who have attended a college in a foreign country must first have their transcripts evaluated by a credential evaluation service. The State Bar of California's Committee of Bar Examiners has compiled a list of credential evaluation services which may be found on their website. An official credential evaluation report must be received, reviewed, and found to be acceptable by the Law School before the student may be admitted.



**Regular Student applicants may be required, as a condition of admission, take the LSAT or to participate in a predetermined academic success determination program, based on their pre-law education, pre-law grade point average, LSAT score, or any combination thereof.**

### **5.5 Admission as a Special Student**

Students who have not qualified as a Regular Student may apply for admission as a Special Student. Applicants seeking admission as a Special Student must take and pass three specified College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) examinations prior to admission to law school and must attain passing scores of 50 or higher. For information on CLEP examination requirements, please refer to the State Bar's website.

For registration materials and information about the location of testing centers and testing dates, please contact the Admissions Office or the College Board directly:

College Board, CLEP  
P. O. Box 6600  
Princeton, NJ 08541-6600  
(800) 257-9558  
<https://www.collegeboard.com/>

Special Student applicants must also take the LSAT prior to admission. The score achieved on this test will be used to evaluate both the applicant's admissibility and whether they may benefit by required or optional academic support and monitoring.

All Students who are accepted as Special Students must take and pass the First Year Law Students' Examination (FYLSX) given by the Committee of Bar Examiners of the State Bar of California before advancing to the second year of Law School, regardless of the school's accreditation status. For more information, visit the CBE at <https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Admissions/Examinations/First-Year-Law-Students-Examination>.

## **5.6 Admission as a Transfer Student**

Current law students wishing to transfer to Lincoln must satisfy the General Admission requirements and provide official transcripts from all law schools attended showing completion of all prior law studies. Students must provide proof of their current academic standing from their prior school if it is not noted directly on the transcript.

Lincoln reserves the right to determine the number of transfer credits to be accepted. This determination will be made by the Dean on an individual basis and will depend, in part, on an evaluation of course content and grades received in various courses and on a determination as to whether the student has either taken and passed or earned an exemption from the First Year Law Students' Examination (FYLSE).

Normally, only whole courses completed not more than thirty-six (36) months prior to the date the applicant will begin his or her studies at Lincoln will be transferable. Applicants who previously attended law school more than 36 months before intending to start will need to start their study of law over. In some instances, such as illness, personal tragedy, or military service, the dean may permit transfer credit for courses completed more than twenty-seven (36) months prior to admission. Any exceptions made must be approved by the Dean or their appointee.

Some scheduling adjustments may be needed for transfer students to ensure that they receive the necessary instruction in subjects covered on the General Bar Examination and meet the minimum hourly requirement(s) and the corresponding unit credit required for graduation. Grades are not transferable and will have no effect on a student's grade point average at Lincoln.

Transfer students must take and pass a minimum of thirty-six (36) units in residence to qualify for graduation from Lincoln. Students who do not complete their entire education at Lincoln are not eligible for graduation awards.

## **5.7 Admission of Applicants Previously Disqualified for Academic Reasons**

Under exceptional circumstances, admission may be possible for applicants who were previously disqualified from law study when there is an affirmative showing by the applicant that he or she possesses the requisite ability for the study of law. Such a showing may be made:

- A. At any time, if the applicant presents credible evidence that the prior disqualification was not caused by the applicant's lack of capacity for the study of law, but resulted from a traumatic event or serious hardship that prohibited the applicant from performing at her or his normal level;
- B. At any time, if the applicant passed the First Year Law Students' Examination; or
- C. After at least two (2) years have elapsed since the disqualification, if the applicant demonstrates that work, study, or other experience during the interim has resulted in a stronger potential for law study than the applicant exhibited at the time he or she was previously disqualified for academic reasons.

In all such transfers, the applicant must submit a signed petition to make their showing and attend a personal interview with the Dean at Lincoln.

### **5.8 Attendance as a Visiting Student**

A student who attends another law school may be permitted to attend Lincoln as a Visiting Student. The effect of any grade received at Lincoln is dependent upon the policy of the law school where the student regularly attends. Visiting students need to submit a letter of standing and an official transcript from their current law school for the Dean's consideration. Tuition is the same as for regular students and fees are \$150. Fees may be higher depending on the course and use of Lincoln subscription services.

### **5.9 Attendance as an Auditor**

The Law School permits law school graduates as well as non-law students to audit a limited number courses as set forth below.

Auditor applicants who are graduates of the Law School are required to submit the following:

1. Registration form.
2. Tuition equal to 50% the current per unit tuition rate.
3. A \$50 registration fee.

Auditor applicants who are not graduates of the Law School are required to submit the following:

1. Completed application.
2. Non-refundable application fee of \$30.
3. Resume.
4. Cover letter, including a discussion of the purpose for auditing and any qualifications or experience relevant to the course(s) the applicant would like to audit.
5. Tuition equal to the current per unit tuition rate for the class(es) audited.
6. A \$50 registration fee.

Auditors may attend only a limited number of courses and do not receive credit for the audited course even in the event that the auditor is later admitted to the Law School as a law student. Auditors are not required to take course examinations. The number of auditors admitted to any given course may be limited depending on the number of law students also enrolled in the course. Attendance as an auditor under any circumstance is subject to the subjective good faith discretion of the Dean. Attendance as an auditor does not qualify one to take the California Bar Exam. The Law School reserves the right to deny auditor status to anyone.

### **5.10 Refundable Deposit**

A \$500 deposit is collected as a placeholder for applicants that may be accepted prior to the final application deadline. The amount will be applied toward tuition and fees at enrollment and is fully refundable until the published application deadline date. Students must accept admissions and read, understand and sign the required disclosure document prior to paying any fees for enrollment.

## **Section VI. Institutional Policies**

### **6.1 Equal Opportunity and Non-Discrimination**

Lincoln is committed to the principles of equal opportunity to study law and in the hiring, retention, and promotion of staff and faculty. We are also committed to providing equal opportunity in the admission and retention of students. We are dedicated to complying with all federal, state, and local laws providing equal employment opportunities, full opportunities for the study of law and/or entry into the profession of law, and all other employment laws and regulations.

It is our intent to maintain a work and study environment that is free of harassment, discrimination, or retaliation based on an individual's race (including, but not limited to, hair texture and protective hairstyles such as braids, locks, and twists), color, religion, religious creed (including religious dress and grooming practices), national origin, ancestry, citizenship, physical or mental disability, medical condition (including cancer and genetic characteristics), genetic information, marital status, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding, or related medical conditions), gender (including gender identity and gender expression), age (40 years and over), sexual orientation, veteran and/or military status, protected medical leaves (requesting or approved for leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act or the California Family Rights Act), domestic violence victim status, political affiliation, or any other status protected by federal, state, or local laws.

The School is dedicated to the fulfillment of this policy in regard to all aspects of the study of law, admission, and retention of students, and employment, including but not limited to recruiting, hiring, placement, transfer, training, promotion, rates of pay, and other compensation, termination, and all other terms, conditions, and privileges of employment.

The School will conduct a confidential, prompt, and thorough investigation of all allegations of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation, or any violation of this policy. The School will take appropriate corrective and remedial action, if and where warranted. The School prohibits retaliation against any employee or student who provides information about, complains about, or assists in the investigation of any complaint of discrimination or violation of this Policy.

### **6.2 Privacy and Confidentiality**

Lincoln Law School of San Jose must protect student privacy and the confidentiality of student communications and regards. Lincoln must not disclose, without a student's consent, information about the student, including grades, grade average, class schedule, address or telephone number, or other private information, unless: (a) required by law, including administrative subpoena or court order; (b) the information is requested by the Committee of Bar Examiners; (c) the information is requested by an accrediting agency; or (d) in case of emergency.

### **6.3 Compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)**

Lincoln Law School of San Jose offers reasonable accommodations to qualifying students under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

*A comprehensive overview of Lincoln Law School's institutional policies can be found on the school's website ([www.lincolnlawschool.edu](http://www.lincolnlawschool.edu)) and in the 2025-2026 Student Handbook.*

## Section VII. Tuition and Fees

### 7.1 Schedule of Total Charges

Students must satisfactorily complete 84 units and all Juris Doctor degree program requirements to graduate.

“Course registration” means the act of signing up for a course. A student is deemed “fully registered” for a course upon payment of corresponding tuition and fees, except that a student on an installment plan is deemed “fully registered” for a course/s upon payment of the first installment.

The approximate cost to earn a Juris Doctor degree is \$88,000 plus the cost of books, required course materials, and applicable fees, as set forth below:

#### **Tuition**

Flat Rate Tuition:	\$21,000/academic year
Tuition per Unit (auditor/course repeat):	\$1,040/unit

#### **Registration Fees**

Registration Fees:	\$1,000/academic year
Late Registration Fee:	\$200/term
Visiting Student Registration Fee:	\$150/term
Auditor Registration Fee:	\$50/term

#### **Installment Plan Fee**

10-month Installment Plan Fee:	\$40/month
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#### **Late Payment Fees**

Late Payment Fee:	\$200/term
Late Installment Payment Fee:	\$50/first occurrence per academic year \$100/each subsequent occurrence

#### **Other Fees**

Application Fee:	\$30
Exam Rescheduling Fee:	\$300
Graduation Fee:	\$500
Diploma Replacement Fee:	\$50
Official Transcript Fee:	\$15/transcript
Official Transcript Expedited Handling Fee:	\$10/transcript
Official Transcript Overnight Service Fee:	\$20/transcript
Returned Check Fee:	\$50
3 <sup>rd</sup> Party Deferment Fee (Sallie Mae Loans):	\$50

### 7.2 Refunds

Students that cancel their Enrollment Agreement before the first day of instruction in the Fall will be refunded the full amount paid toward tuition and registration fees. After instruction has begun, the refundable base is reduced by the amount paid toward registration fees.

Students seeking to take a Leave of Absence or Withdraw must notify the Academic Dean and Registrar in writing by submitting the appropriate form (forms can be found on Populi). Students are eligible for a prorated refund for the number of hours of instruction not completed up to the point that 60% of instruction is completed in the term. Refunds will be based upon the percentage of the instruction completed as of the business day that the appropriate form is received. Any classes missed prior to that date will be considered completed.

$$\frac{\text{Total Hours of Instruction Offered less Hours Elapsed}}{\text{Total Hours of Instruction Offered}} \times \text{Tuition Paid (not to include fees)}$$

Refunds shall be paid within thirty (30) days of cancellation. However, if the School provided the student any equipment or other property which has not been returned within thirty (30) days of cancellation, the School may retain a portion of any refund due equal to the fair market value of the equipment or other property as delineated in a detailed statement.