



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
JD ADMISSIONS 2025|26

THE PETER A. ALLARD SCHOOL OF LAW

BUILDING SOLUTIONS

FOR CANADA'S
HOUSING CRISIS

6 Tips
for Writing a Great
Personal Statement

*Career Advice for
Aspiring Law Students*



Between classes, the Martha Piper Plaza Fountain — located in the center of campus — turns on to tell you how much time you have to get to class.

YOUR FUTURE STARTS HERE

3 COMMITMENT TO TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

4 YOUR JOURNEY

4 Explore Programs, Courses and Specializations

6 Indigenous Legal Studies

8 EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

9 Clinics and Externship Programs

10 Moot Court

12 SPOTLIGHT: BUILDING SOLUTIONS FOR CANADA'S HOUSING CRISIS

16 CAREER SERVICES OFFICE: THE SUPPORT AND NETWORKS TO ACHIEVE YOUR CAREER GOALS

17 Career Advice for Aspiring Law Students

18 EXPERT SCHOLARS, PASSIONATE TEACHERS

19 Meet Our Professors

20 SPOTLIGHT: MEET ALLARD LAW'S EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION TEAM

22 VANCOUVER LIFE

23 Five Things to See and Do Around Vancouver

24 Short Getaways

28 EVENTS AND WORKSHOPS

30 STUDENT SUCCESS AND SUPPORT

32 MODERN FACILITIES TO HELP YOU LEARN

33 ALLARD LAW BY THE NUMBERS

34 ADMISSIONS AND HOW TO APPLY

36 FINANCES

37 6 TIPS FOR WRITING A GREAT PERSONAL STATEMENT

38 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

39 DEAN'S WELCOME



The House Post of 'qiyāplenəx' (Capilano), carved by Musqueam artist Brent Sparrow Jr., represents the historic and ongoing relationship between the Peter A. Allard School of Law and the Musqueam people in the pursuit of Indigenous justice and education.

The Peter A. Allard School of Law is located on the UBC Vancouver campus, which sits on the traditional, ancestral, unceded territory of the x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam) First Nation. The land we are situated on has always been a place of learning for the Musqueam, who for millennia have passed on their culture, history and traditions from one generation to the next on this site.



Commitment to Truth and Reconciliation

The challenge of reconciliation is for all Canadians, all law schools and all lawyers. At the Allard School of Law, we are committed to meeting this challenge and to providing the educational foundation for young lawyers to contribute to reconciliation throughout their careers.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action #28 specifically addresses Canadian law schools, ensuring that all law students take a course in Aboriginal people and the law. Allard Law's Indigenous Settler Legal Relations course builds on Call to Action #28, but the relationship of legal education to the Commission's Calls to Action neither begins nor ends here.

Law mediates the relationship between Indigenous peoples and their governments and Canadian governments on local, provincial and national levels, and we are committed to training lawyers, Indigenous and non-Indigenous alike, who will respond to the Calls to Action and to the challenge of reconciliation. Reconciliation demands that we integrate Indigenous perspectives into all our courses, and we continue to work to meet this objective.

The Reconciliation Pole, carved by 7idansuu (Edenshaw), James Hart, Haida Hereditary Chief and Master Carver, encourages everyone who comes across it to learn more about the history of Indian residential schools and to understand their role in reconciliation.

Photo: Hover Collective / UBC Brand & Marketing



**BRING YOUR
CURIOSITY,
INTERESTS AND
PASSION AND WE
WILL PROVIDE YOU
WITH A RIGOROUS,
INSPIRING AND
SUPPORTIVE
LEARNING
EXPERIENCE.**



YOUR JOURNEY

YEAR 1

Build a solid foundation in legal principles through a thorough curriculum taught by inspiring faculty experts.

First-year core courses include Aboriginal and Treaty Rights, Advocacy, Contracts, Criminal Law & Procedure, Indigenous Settler Legal Relations, Introduction to Public Law and the Charter, Legal Research & Writing, Property Law, and Torts.

Learn in small cohorts to build life-long friendships and connections that fuel success.

Find the career you want with the support of a dedicated team of Career Services professionals who will work with you throughout your law school journey.

YEAR 2 AND 3

Expand your interests through an expansive offering of mandatory and elective upper-year courses.

Build your practical experience and apply your classroom learning to real-life situations through an array of clinical programs, moots and experiential courses.

Hone your skills and deepen your knowledge by completing an optional concentration or specialization.



CONCENTRATIONS AND SPECIALIZATIONS

- Specialization in Indigenous Legal Studies
- Business Law Concentration
- Specialization in Law and Social Justice
- Specialization in Environmental and Natural Resource Law

LEARN MORE AT
ALLARD.UBC.CA/CONCENTRATION

JOINT-DEGREES WITH PARTNER UNIVERSITIES

- University of Hong Kong (LLB/JD)
- Melbourne Law School (JD/LLM)

GRADUATION AND BEYOND

Go on exchange to leading law schools around the world through our Go Global Program.

Go on exchange at one of our numerous partner universities around the world, including the University of Copenhagen in Denmark or Keio University in Japan.



With the support of our Career Services Office, over 98% of graduates from the class of 2024 who were seeking articling positions were able to secure an articling position within nine months of graduation.

Join a community of more than 350,000 UBC alumni and over 11,000 Allard Law alumni working in all areas of the legal profession around the globe.

Notable alumni include Chief Justices of the Supreme Court of Canada, a former Prime Minister of Canada, Attorneys General of Canada, ambassadors and diplomats, government leaders, executive directors of non-profits, CEOs of multinational corporations, and internationally acclaimed authors.

INDIGENOUS LEGAL STUDIES



With one of the highest enrollments of Indigenous law students in Canada, and professors who teach and research in a wide range of areas of importance to Indigenous peoples, including Indigenous laws, the Allard School of Law is a leader in Indigenous legal education in North America.

Allard Law offers a wide breadth of courses and experiential learning opportunities focused on Indigenous peoples and issues.

Students receive timely support through one-on-one advising, approachable faculty and experienced staff.

The law school offers a number of scholarships, awards and bursaries that are specifically for Indigenous students.

Please visit allard.ubc.ca/ils to learn more.

GET INVOLVED

The ILS Academic Leadership Certificate offers first-year Indigenous law students weekly academic support, leadership workshops and a dedicated Indigenous Legal Studies Coach for tutoring and support.

The Indigenous Cultural Competency Certificate Program explores the history of colonial policies and practices in Canada, Indigenous perspectives on law, and what decolonization means for legal practice. Open to all students, faculty and staff, this eight-month program provides opportunities to analyze these issues through workshops, Talking Circles and reflection exercises.

The Indigenous Community Legal Clinic is an innovative experiential clinical program that provides free legal services to Indigenous individuals all over British Columbia. Students make a meaningful contribution to a historically underserved and marginalized community, while gaining hands-on experience managing client files and making court appearances.

The Kawaskimhon (“Speaking with Knowledge”) Aboriginal Rights Moot is a non-adversarial, consensus-based moot, focused on Indigenous legal issues. Student teams play the role of lawyers working towards consensus on topics such as band membership rights, shared jurisdiction, Métis rights, and jurisdictional issues.

“From the Indigenous Legal Studies Staff to the Indigenous faculty, the immediate support that Indigenous students have at Allard helps solidify a feeling of belonging and understanding that you can not only survive law school, but thrive during your time at Allard.”

Kristofer Charlebois, Allard Law student

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Step outside the lecture hall and develop your skills with hands-on, real-life opportunities. Our diverse programs will help you find your interests and gain the confidence and experience employers are seeking.

COMPLETE YOUR MANDATORY EXPERIENTIAL COMPONENT BY CHOOSING FROM A WIDE VARIETY OF CLINICS, EXTERNSHIPS OR MOOTS DURING YOUR 2ND OR 3RD YEAR.

CLINICS AND EXTERNSHIP PROGRAMS

By working in one of our legal clinics, you will gain practical skills, such as legal drafting and evidence analysis, and learn how to advocate for clients before the courts and tribunals. You will also make a significant contribution to providing access to justice by serving community members who would otherwise be unable to afford legal services. When participating in our externship programs, you will gain valuable experience in a specific practice area while working alongside lawyers and judges.

BUSINESS LAW CLINIC

Students provide supervised, business-oriented legal advice to small businesses, entrepreneurs and non-profit organizations.

CORPORATE COUNSEL EXTERNSHIP

Students are placed in the legal department of a business where they learn directly from experienced corporate counsel in a supportive educational environment and apply concepts learned in the classroom to practical legal and business matters.

CRIMINAL CLINIC

Students work as counsel on a number of criminal files, as either defense counsel or Crown counsel. Students' work focuses on trial preparation, plea negotiations and conducting trials and sentencing hearings.

JUDICIAL EXTERNSHIP

Students work for a group of provincial court judges and engage in legal research and memoranda drafting and editing.

INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY LEGAL CLINIC

The Clinic serves the Indigenous community. Students focus on representing persons in numerous areas of law, including Indigenous legal issues, criminal charges, civil claims, family law, residential tenancy, wills and access to social assistance.

UBC INNOCENCE PROJECT

Students focus on investigating whether a wrongful conviction of serious crimes may have occurred, evaluating new evidence, and assisting in making innocence applications to the Department of Justice.

INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS CLINIC

Students work on pressing human rights and global justice concerns through hands-on work on international cases and projects.

RISE WOMEN'S LEGAL CLINIC

Students help provide legal advice to clients of low to moderate income who identify as women, with a focus on family law matters and practice in related areas of law.

LAW STUDENTS' LEGAL ADVICE PROGRAM

Students help provide legal research, representation and advocacy services on a range of civil and criminal matters to low-income residents of the Greater Vancouver region.

FIND THE EXPERIENTIAL COMPONENT THAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU. LEARN MORE AT [ALLARD.UBC.CA/EXPERIENTIAL](https://allard.ubc.ca/experiential)



“Working at Rise Women’s Legal Clinic provided an invaluable opportunity to gain experience applying the law outside of the classroom and to help women in need of legal guidance — all while receiving expert mentorship from my supervising lawyers.”

Hannah Goodridge
Class of 2023

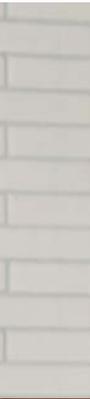


Allard Law's 2022 Wilson Moot team at Allard Hall, with professor and coach Dr. Hoi Kong (centre).

MOOT COURT

Gain valuable courtroom experience by participating in a simulated court hearing (moot) in your first year. You'll also have the chance to participate in a moot in second or third year as part of Allard Law's experiential learning program.

Coached by professors and practicing lawyers, you'll gain experience analyzing complex issues and making written and oral arguments — skills that will put you on the path to becoming a great lawyer.



“Participating in an upper-year moot has been one of my best experiences at law school so far.

Mooting allows you to problem-solve within a niche area of the law to a depth that is simply not possible in a traditional law school course.”

Allison Spring, Allard Law student

From left to right, Allard Law’s British Columbia Law Schools Competitive Moot team members Allison Spring, Kira Szewczyk and Ales Skala.

Last year, upper-year students could choose to apply to participate in one of more than 10 different moots, including:

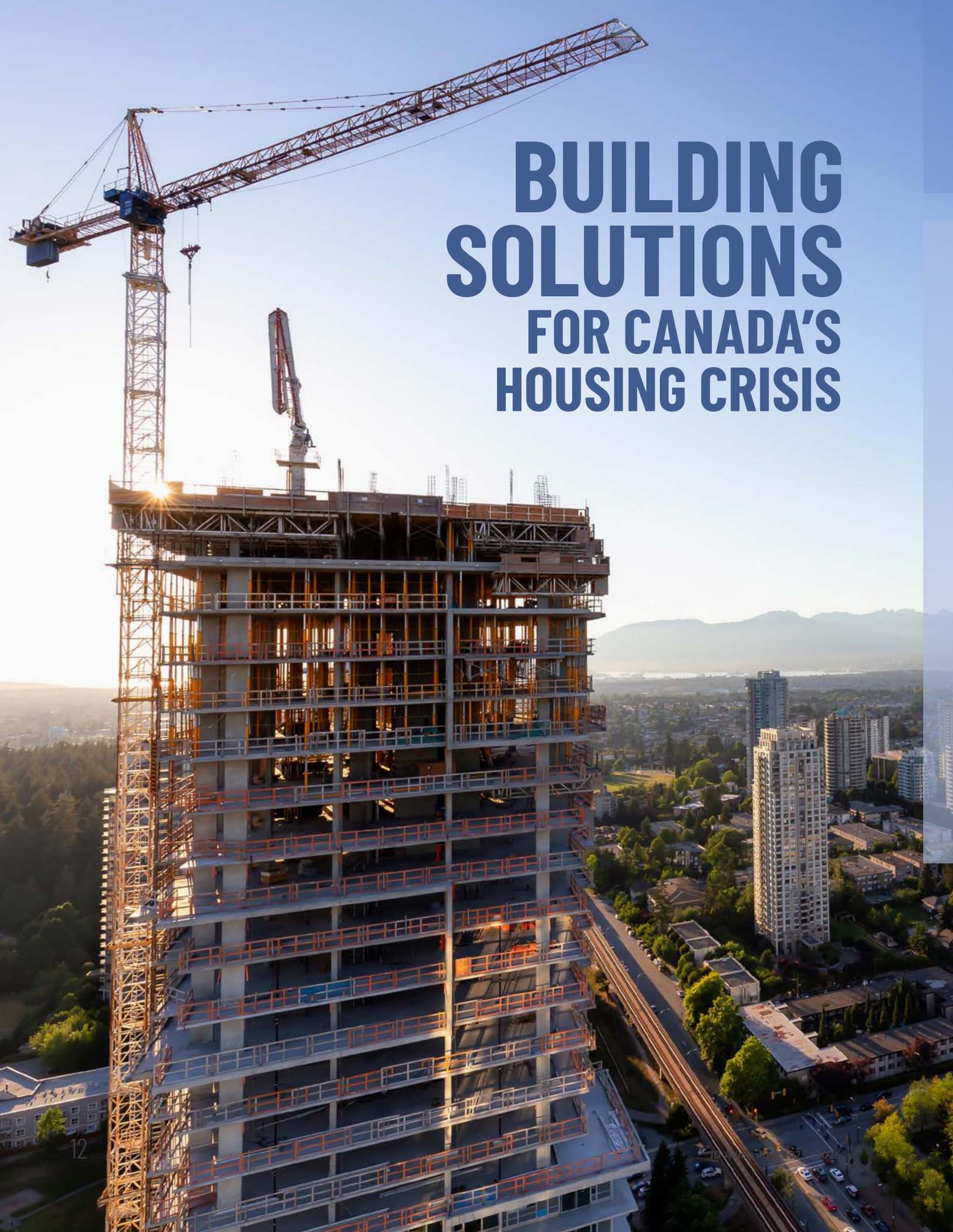
THE JESSUP INTERNATIONAL LAW MOOT COMPETITION is the largest moot court competition, with over 700 law school teams competing annually. Student teams take sides in fictional disputes between countries, focused on timely issues of public international law.

THE GALE MOOT COMPETITION is a national moot that attracts teams from across Canada. Student teams focus on a criminal law topic, often involving the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Final rounds are argued before at least one Supreme Court of Canada Justice.

THE JULIUS ALEXANDER ISAAC MOOT is a competitive moot typically held at the Ontario Court of Appeal, administered by the Black Law Students’ Association of Canada. The moot focuses on issues of equity and diversity, often incorporating elements of critical race theory into the problem.

THE CANADIAN CORPORATE AND SECURITIES LAW COMPETITION provides an opportunity to meet — formally and informally — with judges, corporate and securities regulators, academics and practitioners to debate legal issues of importance to the Canadian business community.

GET A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF EACH OF OUR MOOTS AND LEARN MORE AT ALLARD.UBC.CA/MOOTS



BUILDING SOLUTIONS FOR CANADA'S HOUSING CRISIS



Housing costs have soared across Canada with little relief in sight. The impact is felt in all corners of the country and most acutely by vulnerable populations. **What's causing Canada's housing crisis and what will it take to solve it?**



Dr. Alexandra Flynn, an associate professor at the Peter A. Allard School of Law and director of UBC's Housing Research Collaborative, is an expert on municipal law and governance. Her research focuses on Indigenous-municipal legal relationships, housing and homelessness, and the constitutional status of cities.

What are some of the biggest issues contributing to Canada's current housing crisis?

This crisis did not emerge overnight — it's the product of decades of policy decisions. One of the most significant contributors is the financialization of housing, where real estate is increasingly treated as an investment vehicle, rather than a place to live.

The Canadian government has also significantly reduced its investment in non-market housing over the past four decades. This withdrawal of federal funding for social housing has resulted in a persistent shortage of affordable housing options for people with low incomes.

There are other contributors to the housing crisis as well. In many municipalities, zoning codes reflect outdated planning ideals, favouring single-family homes and restricting multi-unit developments. Reforming local land use policy is essential to addressing the housing crisis, but change can be politically fraught and legally complicated. The erosion of tenant protections, such as loopholes in rent control and eviction-friendly legal regimes, also means that many tenants live in precarious situations.

Immigration and interprovincial migration have also placed pressure on housing markets in major cities. While immigration is essential to Canada's social and economic fabric, housing policy has not kept pace with population growth.

Municipal and federal politicians often argue they've been unable to make progress on housing because it's a provincial or territorial responsibility. How true is this?

The federal government has often argued that provinces and territories have constitutional responsibility for housing and land use regulation, but that the Constitution is silent on which government has responsibility for housing.

“At the heart of the issue is a fundamental question: **where can people go when there is no safe, adequate housing available?**”

In fact, Ottawa has the ability to shape housing policy across the country. The federal government has significant powers related to peace, order and good government, taxation, spending and Indigenous issues, which can all be mobilized to influence housing outcomes.

Historically, the federal government played a major role in building and funding social housing, especially after the Second World War. The retreat from that role over the past decades has had devastating effects.

Municipalities are often described as “creatures of the provinces,” but they wield considerable influence through zoning, permitting and development incentives. Municipal councils control the pace and shape of new construction. They can encourage affordable and inclusive housing — or obstruct it. While they may be constrained by provincial law, they’re not without agency.

In practice, the housing crisis reflects a failure of political will and coordination. Too often, governments point fingers at one another to avoid accountability. What’s needed is a shared framework for action, with clearly defined roles and responsibilities.



One effect we’ve seen from the housing crisis is an increase in the number of tent encampments and conflicts with police trying to clear them. What does the law say about this issue?

Encampments are a visible symptom of a deeper housing and poverty crisis. At the heart of the issue is a fundamental question: where can people go when there is no safe, adequate housing available?

The most significant legal development in this area comes from the 2008 decision in *Victoria (City) v. Adams*, where the B.C. Supreme Court and B.C. Court of Appeal found that prohibiting homeless people from erecting temporary shelter in public spaces violated their Section 7 Charter rights to life, liberty and security of the person. The court held that when adequate shelter is not available, bylaws cannot stop people from sleeping outdoors at night. There have also been successful judicial reviews of municipal decision-makers who displace people from tent encampments.

This reasoning was upheld in subsequent cases, mainly in BC and Ontario. There are new cases in the courts now, including one concerning daytime sheltering.

However, these rulings do not create an absolute right to occupy public space indefinitely. This is still a legal grey zone where outcomes vary depending on local conditions, available services and judicial interpretation. What's missing from the legal landscape is a clear, coordinated response grounded in human rights.

Can we legislate our way out of the housing crisis?

Law plays a central role in addressing the housing crisis. In my view, legislation must begin with a clear recognition that housing is a human right. Canada took an important step with the National Housing Strategy Act, but we still lack enforceable rights for individuals and mechanisms to compel governments to act. For legislation to be effective, it must include clear accountability.

Laws that regulate the private rental market — such as rent control, eviction protections and maintenance standards — are crucial. Stronger tenant protections, properly enforced, can help prevent homelessness and displacement.

Land use and planning laws are another critical area for reform. Exclusionary zoning continues to limit housing supply and entrench inequality. Legal changes that allow for gentle density, like duplexes and triplexes, and encourage mixed-income developments can make a difference.

However, no law mandating affordable housing will succeed if governments do not invest in housing. This includes support for cooperative housing, community land trusts and Indigenous-led housing initiatives. These models are more resilient to market volatility and more responsive to community needs.

How can Allard Law students who are concerned about the housing crisis engage with this issue, during or after law school?

There are quite a few options. Law students can critically engage with how the law impacts housing access through courses specifically on housing law, property law or social justice. You can also choose paper topics and directed research projects that focus on housing and approach professors working in these areas for research opportunities.

Applying for internships with legal advocacy clinics, public interest law firms or human rights NGOs that work on housing rights issues can help you get more real-world experience. Several of Allard Law's legal clinics also offer a chance to work on these issues and to deepen your advocacy skills.

After law school, there are many paths into housing work. Some of our grads are working as litigators in housing law at firms, legal aid clinics and nonprofit organizations. Others focus on housing policy and research in government, think tanks or academic institutions.

Housing advocacy also intersects with Indigenous rights, disability rights, environmental justice and more — so there are many opportunities for Allard Law grads who are interested in making a difference. 🏠

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE LARGEST HOUSING RESEARCH HUB IN WESTERN CANADA AT [HRC.UBC.CA](https://hrc.ubc.ca)





CAREER SERVICES OFFICE

THE SUPPORT AND NETWORKS TO ACHIEVE YOUR CAREER GOALS

Allard Law's Career Services Office team offers support ranging from one-on-one career advising and resume review to networking opportunities and career fairs.

Our dedicated team of professionals at the Allard Law Career Services Office will work with you to help you achieve your career goals. From coaching and training to career fairs and networking events, we support your success from your first day of law school until 20 months after you graduate.

In 2024, over **98%** of students who sought articling positions were successful — one of the highest rates in the country.

LEARN ABOUT ALL THE SERVICES OFFERED BY THE CAREER SERVICES OFFICE AT ALLARD.UBC.CA/CSO



FINDING YOUR CAREER PATH

“I gave this advice to a friend who was just starting law school: the most important thing is to understand what you hope to gain from the experience. You don't have to have a firm plan about your future career, but understand how law school builds upon your understanding of the world. Understand which tools you're trying to develop and ask the questions that feel relevant to you.”

Aaron Pete, Class of 2022

CAREER ADVICE FOR ASPIRING LAW STUDENTS



WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH YOUR LAW DEGREE?

Career Services
Office Assistant
Dean **Stephanie Mui** explains how you can successfully navigate the twists and turns of your legal career.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO NEW LAW STUDENTS WHO AREN'T SURE ABOUT THEIR CAREER PATH?

That is normal for many students. One of the best things about law school is that you'll be introduced to so many new ideas and experiences that will wind up shaping your career, sometimes in unexpected ways.

You might come to law school thinking you really want to do employment law, but then you take a certain course or meet somebody at a firm who does criminal law, for example, and then suddenly start thinking about what life might be like as a defense attorney.

Come with an open mind and embrace the many opportunities that are going to be presented to you.

BESIDES BECOMING A LAWYER, WHAT OTHER CAREER OPTIONS ARE OPEN TO LAW GRADS?

I think our grads can do almost anything they want with their degree. Our students who decide not to practice law go into many different areas, for example in government, finance, management consulting and journalism. We've also seen our grads really

succeed as entrepreneurs who have started their own businesses.

Law students gain so many transferable skills, in part because our curriculum teaches you how to think critically, see both sides of an argument and clearly advocate for your position.

WHAT MAKES ALLARD LAW A GOOD CHOICE FOR STUDENTS LOOKING TO LAUNCH THEIR CAREERS?

Legal professionals around the world know Allard Law as one of the top law schools in Canada.

Perhaps not so coincidentally, our students do extremely well in terms of finding articling positions. Continuing our historical trend of incredibly high placement rates, in 2024 over 98% of grads who wanted an articling position were able to get one. That's one of the highest rates in the country! I think that speaks not only to Allard Law's reputation, but also to the quality of students we tend to attract and the resources that are available to help students put their best foot forward. 🎓



EXPERT SCHOLARS, PASSIONATE TEACHERS



At the Allard School of Law, your professors are innovative teachers and scholars who have gained national and international recognition for their contributions in areas ranging from human rights to environmental sustainability to business law. They're also dedicated to helping you build a strong foundation for your legal career, explore your interests and discover new ones.

67
FACULTY
MEMBERS

MEET OUR PROFESSORS

PROFESSOR EMMA CUNLIFFE studies how courts decide the facts of contested cases, with a focus on expert evidence, implicit bias and legal processes regarding gendered and racialized violence, particularly those impacting Indigenous people. At Allard Law, Professor Cunliffe teaches criminal law, evidence, jurisprudence and seminars in factual reasoning and research methodologies. From 2021 - 2023, she served as the Research and Policy Director at the Mass Casualty Commission.



PROFESSOR ROBERT CLIFFORD is W̱SÁNEĆ and a member of the Tsawout First Nation. His research explores how W̱SÁNEĆ laws relate to the values, philosophies and lands of the W̱SÁNEĆ people. Dr. Clifford's field course gives law students the opportunity to experience immersive, land-based learning on W̱SÁNEĆ territory, on and around Vancouver Island. Students develop relationships with Indigenous community members, learn about W̱SÁNEĆ legal structures and help support community projects.

PROFESSOR JOEL BAKAN is an internationally renowned legal scholar whose work examines the social, economic and political dimensions of law. He is the author of the award-winning and critically acclaimed books and documentary films *The Corporation* (2004) and *The New Corporation* (2020). Professor Bakan has worked on landmark legal cases and government policy and frequently serves as a media commentator.



PROFESSOR JOCELYN STACEY is an expert in environmental crises and how law creates, regulates and prevents these events. She works closely with BC First Nations on Indigenous jurisdiction in times of crisis, serves as President of the Pacific Centre for Environmental Law and Litigation, a non-profit society dedicated to training law students and young lawyers, and served as a member of the Research Council of the Public Order Emergency Commission.

BROWSE ALL OUR FACULTY MEMBER PROFILES AT [ALLARD.UBC.CA/FACULTY](https://allard.ubc.ca/faculty)



EDI Office Team (from left to right): Carlos Nunez, Coordinator; Supriya Routh, Associate Dean, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion; Mio Tomisawa, Senior Manager.

MEET ALLARD LAW'S EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION TEAM

In September 2024, a new Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Office launched at Allard Law. The EDI Office works collaboratively with students, faculty and staff to support education, training and initiatives focused on building an inclusive environment and anti-racism.

Senior Manager Mio Tomisawa and Coordinator Carlos Nunez discussed their team's work to build community and belonging at Allard Law.

How will the Allard Law community benefit from the EDI Office?

Carlos: The Allard community will benefit from the EDI Office in several ways. We aim to create initiatives that foster belonging and understanding, provide resources and support for students facing systemic challenges, and advocate for policies that promote fairness and inclusion. Throughout the year, we offer workshops and training sessions to equip students — as well as staff and faculty — with tools to challenge biases and foster more inclusive environments.

Whether through workshops, events or simply having a safe space to share their experiences, we aim to empower students and help them feel seen and heard.

“One of the most powerful ways to contribute is by showing up with openness, curiosity and a willingness to learn from others’ lived experiences.”

How does the EDI team support students in feeling a sense of belonging at Allard Law?

Mio: Our team is supporting a number of new initiatives at Allard Law focused on fostering equity and belonging, from efforts to further increase representational diversity in admissions to initiatives that promote inclusion and support students’ academic success.

This year, our EDI Office helped support a first-year academic success program with the UBC Black Law Students’ Association and Professor Nikos Harris, hosting a range of workshops covering exam preparation, how to review cases and preparing for moots.

The IDEA Leaders program, which launched in August 2024, is another program that welcomes students from diverse backgrounds to join a cohort of emerging leaders in the legal field. Participants take part in a three-day pre-orientation and are offered year-long programming to support the first-year experience and foster a strong, connected community.

This past year, we also created a centralized repository of EDI resources for students, faculty and staff offering information and tools related to equity, well-being and building inclusive communities.

How is EDI reflected in Allard Law’s JD curriculum and course offerings?

Mio: EDI is integrated throughout the JD curriculum in a way that critically addresses how law can both create and perpetuate social and political inequalities, as well as its potential to advance social justice and create change using the legal system.

We offer numerous courses with a social justice focus, including Disability and Law and Poverty, Rights, Social

Citizenship and Legal Activism. Students can also choose to complete a Specialization in Law and Social Justice and experiential learning opportunities with a social justice focus, such as the Indigenous Community Legal Clinic and the Rise Women’s Legal Clinic. These are just a small sample of the many courses and opportunities students can participate in.

In response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Call to Action #28, all our students take compulsory courses that aim to foster a deep understanding of decolonial approaches to law and the unique constitutional status and rights of Indigenous Peoples in Canada.

How can incoming JD students get involved and help contribute to a more inclusive law school community?

Carlos: All students can play a meaningful role in fostering an inclusive law school community. One of the most powerful ways to contribute is by showing up with openness, curiosity and a willingness to learn from others’ lived experiences. That includes being thoughtful about language, actively listening and reflecting on the impact of our actions, even when the intent is positive.

As a new student, you can get involved with student affinity groups — creating solidarity and advocacy spaces for underrepresented communities. These groups often host events, panels and discussions where all students are welcome to participate and learn.

There are also opportunities to work with the EDI Office by volunteering at events, contributing to initiatives like orientation programming or sharing feedback about what inclusion looks like to you. We welcome your ideas, collaboration and insights. This work is ongoing, and everyone has a role to play. 



A PLACE TO LEARN, PLAY & THRIVE

It's easy to see why Vancouver ranks among the most livable cities in the world. A multicultural city set on the doorstep of a beautiful landscape, Vancouver provides endless possibilities. Named "greenest city" in the world, Vancouver boasts numerous large parks, city beaches and highly walkable, bikeable and transit-friendly neighbourhoods. A diverse and rich food culture, thriving city life and access to mountains, forests and the ocean provide the opportunity for year-round adventures.

A MILD CLIMATE WITH ADVENTURES IN EVERY SEASON

Vancouver's four seasons and mild winters provide ample opportunities to explore the outdoors and enjoy everything the city has to offer. Year-round temperatures average around 2°C to 25°C. Summers are pleasantly warm and winters rarely dip below freezing for long.



Source: Walk Score® by Redfin



Source: Destination Vancouver

5 THINGS TO SEE AND DO AROUND VANCOUVER

1 VANCOUVER SEAWALL

Bike or walk the world's longest uninterrupted waterfront path. The 28km "Seawall" seaside greenway extends around downtown, through the world-renowned Stanley Park (bigger than New York's Central Park!), and continues to Kits beach. Follow designated bike paths to continue through to Jericho Beach, Spanish Banks Beach, and on to the UBC campus.

2 CITY BEACHES

A beach is just a short walk or bus ride away. The clothing-optional Wreck Beach is 490 steps down from the UBC campus. A local favourite, Kits Beach (pictured) is a 20-minute bus ride from campus, providing ample sun, sand, volleyball, people watching and a large saltwater outdoor pool.

3 SUSHI

Vancouver is well known for its variety and quality of Asian food and sushi is a local favourite. Whether it be cheap and cheerful combos or treating yourself to one of Vancouver's world-class sushi restaurants, you will soon find your favourite spot.



1



2



3



4



5

4 GARIBALDI LAKE

The turquoise-coloured water and glacier backdrop makes Garibaldi Lake a popular hike. The numerous trails in and around Vancouver provide opportunities for all level of hikers and makes it easy to enjoy the forests and mountains.

5 GROUSE MOUNTAIN

Less than an hour's drive from UBC, explore Vancouver's local skiing and snowboarding mountains. Grouse Mountain, one of Vancouver's three local ski hills, is accessible by bus and accommodates all snow seekers. In the summer, enjoy hiking, ziplining and a wildlife refuge.

USA BORDER (WASHINGTON STATE)

Catch a Seattle Mariners baseball game, a 3-hour road trip south of the border.

YVR AIRPORT

How about a sun vacation? From Vancouver, a 6-hour direct flight to Hawaii or 5 hours to sunny destinations in Mexico.

DOWNTOWN VANCOUVER

STANLEY PARK

LOOKING FOR A SHORT GETAWAY?

OKANAGAN VALLEY

Explore the Okanagan Valley's wineries, orchards, beaches and warm summers — a scenic 4-hour drive east.

Image: Freepik (@aeb3_16)



PETER A. ALLARD SCHOOL OF LAW

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

VANCOUVER ISLAND

Take a scenic 90-minute ferry ride to beautiful Vancouver Island and explore the wilderness parks, marvel at the orcas, black bears and other wildlife, or enjoy the charming, slower-paced city of Victoria.

WHISTLER BLACKCOMB SKI RESORT

Carve up the slopes at North America's largest ski resort, Whistler-Blackcomb — just 2 hours north of Vancouver. Or choose from 13 other major ski resorts around BC. In the summer, explore the many hiking trails, lakes and expansive network of mountain biking trails.

GROUSE MOUNTAIN SKI RESORT

Less than 1 hour away from UBC, enjoy skiing & snowboarding all winter or hike the grueling 2,830 steps up the "Grouse Grind" in the summer.



FIND YOUR PASSIONS

**WITH OVER 350 CLUBS AT UBC
AND OVER 30 AT THE LAW SCHOOL,
IT'S EASY TO FIND YOUR NICHE
AND MEET LIKEMINDED FRIENDS.**



EVENTS & WORKSHOPS

Explore new topics and expand your interests by attending lunch-and-learns, expert panels, student-organized events and wellness workshops held throughout the year at Allard Hall.

Among other programming, students interested in legal research and advocacy work can attend the many events offered through our Centres, which host local and international law experts. Engage with a diverse community of students and professors on pressing issues through each of our Centres:

THE CENTRE FOR ASIAN LEGAL STUDIES

is the largest group of academics teaching and researching Asian legal issues in Canada, focusing on the law and legal culture of East and Southeast Asia.

THE CENTRE FOR BUSINESS LAW is a vibrant intellectual hub for the scholarship and practice of business law and financial policy within Canada and internationally.

THE CENTRE FOR FEMINIST LEGAL STUDIES is dedicated to fostering inclusive feminist engagement through research, teaching and community building.

THE CENTRE FOR LAW AND THE ENVIRONMENT is a hub for creating and spreading knowledge, ideas and practices about the role of law in securing a healthy environment and a sustainable society.



“One of the unique things about Allard Law is the sheer number of events, often during lunch time. From career panels to club socials, I’ve made meaningful connections, learned about professors’ research and enjoyed some free food! These events have also allowed me to engage with the legal field beyond the classroom.”

Cindy Fu, Allard Law student

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Allard Law students can contribute to *The UBC Law Review* and *The Canadian Journal of Family Law*.





Beaty Biodiversity Museum at UBC



Museum of Anthropology at UBC

THE LAW STUDENTS' LEGAL ADVICE PROGRAM

This student-run organization provides free legal advice to those who would not otherwise be able to afford it. It is one of the largest providers of free legal services in BC and advises 5,000 clients each year at clinics located throughout the Lower Mainland.



Downtown Vancouver

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

The *UBC Law Student Society* and the *Indigenous Law Students Association* are two student organizations with a governance role to get involved in.





STUDENT SUCCESS AND SUPPORT

*Allard Law students in front
of Allard Hall.*



We're here to support you throughout your studies at the Allard School of Law. Whether it's wellbeing support from our in-house counsellor, academic advising or advice for finding a summer job, we're here to help.

STUDENT SUPPORT

ACADEMIC SUCCESS & PEER TUTOR PROGRAM

Attend academic workshops to build your skills and get matched with upper-year student volunteers who provide guidance on study skills, learning strategies and exam writing tips.

CAREER SERVICES OFFICE

With dedicated staff to assist you, the CSO offers one-on-one advising, professional development workshops, recruitment and networking events, a resource library and online career portal. Our Public Interest Coordinator is available to support students who are interested in a public interest law career or in working for a non-profit organization. Learn more at allard.ubc.ca/cso.

INDIGENOUS LEGAL STUDIES

Indigenous Legal Studies provides student advising to Indigenous students and those interested in participating in Indigenous Legal Studies offerings, including courses, the Specialization in Indigenous Legal Studies, the Kawaskimhon Moot, and the Indigenous Community Legal Clinic. Indigenous JD students may participate in the ILS Academic Leadership Certificate, comprised of weekly small group academic and leadership sessions throughout the year. Learn more about the services offered by Indigenous Legal Studies on page 6 and at allard.ubc.ca/ils.

LAW LIBRARY AT ALLARD HALL

The Law Library has been the 'heart' of the Allard School of Law since it first opened in 1945. Located on three floors of Allard Hall, the Law Library houses a comprehensive research collection. As part of the UBC Library system, students can access materials across campus or through our connection with other Canadian academic law libraries. Learn more at law.library.ubc.ca.



ORIENTATION WEEK

Orientation prepares you for your first year of law school. It's also a great way to meet other first years, professors, senior students, and staff who are here to support you.

ON-CAMPUS SERVICES

As a student at the Allard School of Law, you have access to the many support services at UBC. This includes, but is not limited to:

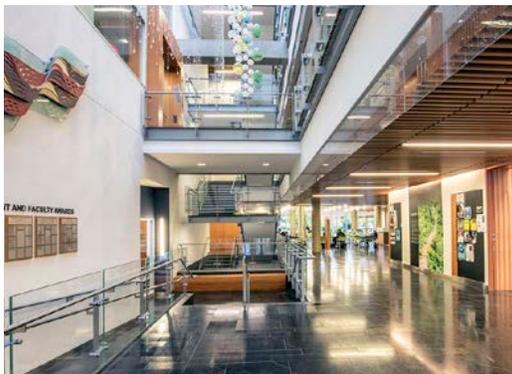
- Centre for Accessibility
- Counselling Services
- Financial Advising through UBC's Enrolment Services Advisors
- Health Services
- UBC First Nations House of Learning



MODERN FACILITIES TO HELP YOU LEARN

The UBC campus has been located on the traditional, unceded territory of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) people for most of its 100-year history. More than four square kilometers in size, the stunning UBC Vancouver campus is surrounded by forest on three sides and ocean on the fourth, and is just a 30-minute bus ride to Vancouver’s downtown core.

Built in 2011, Allard Hall is an environmentally sustainable building that offers light-filled, state-of-the-art classrooms and an abundance of space for studying and socializing, surrounded by a backdrop of mountains and ocean.



Book a tour with one of our student ambassadors at allard.ubc.ca/tours or view our virtual building tour at allard.ubc.ca/vrtour.

BY THE NUMBERS

MOST RECENT ENTERING CLASS (2024)



195
STUDENTS

YOUNGEST
20 years old

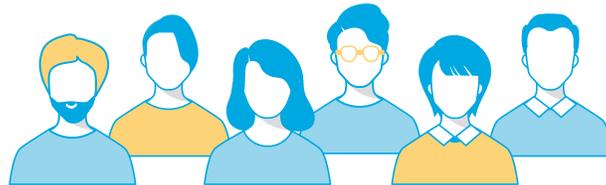
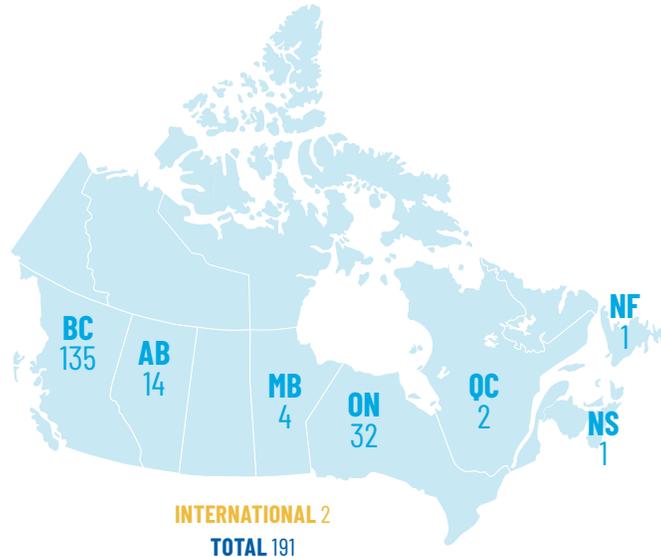
30+ YEARS OLD:
19 students

29%
Of students' parents did not complete a bachelor's degree



101
Incoming students speak a second language

More than
28
different spoken languages



52%
of student respondents identify as a woman

46%
of student respondents identify as a man

2%
of student respondents identify as non-binary

Racialized Peoples:
51%
of student respondents

Indigenous Person of Canada:
8%
of student respondents

Over
30%
of student respondents identify as being part of the LGBTQ2SIA+ community

32%
of student respondents self-identify as a person with a disability; a person with a chronic physical or mental health condition; or as a person who is neurodivergent

The data on this page represents information from the voluntary self-reported incoming students survey and application data. Response rates per question vary. Visit allard.ubc.ca/demographics for more detailed information.

ADMISSIONS AND HOW TO APPLY



HOW TO APPLY

Complete the online application form at allard.ubc.ca/apply and submit the following materials:

- 1 Personal Statement**
- 2 Official Transcripts**
- 3 LSAT File Number**
- 4 Supporting Documents** (+ any other documents that may apply to your specific situation)

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

First-year applicants are given the option to apply under one of three different categories. While most people will fall under the General category, we encourage prospective applicants to review all three categories in order to decide which fits them best.

GENERAL APPLICANTS

Your academic performance, LSAT score and personal statement are given equal priority in this category.

General applicants must have the following to be eligible for selection:

- undergraduate degree from a university, or
- completed three years (minimum 90 credits) from a university, 30 credits of which must be at the upper level.

You will need to submit undergraduate transcripts, an LSAT score and a personal statement with your application.

**JANUARY IS THE LAST LSAT SCORE WE ACCEPT.
ALLARD CONSIDERS YOUR BEST LSAT SCORE.**

DISCRETIONARY APPLICANTS

Because of special factors in life, you may not satisfy one or more of the requirements for general applicants, but may have other relevant achievements and experience. The Admissions Committee has the discretion to take into account factors such as:

- a disability or special needs
- membership in a historically disadvantaged group
- financial or personal challenges
- relevant personal achievements
- relevant work experience, including volunteer work
- contributions to your community
- other relevant factors

To be eligible, you must have completed at least two years of a program leading toward a university degree. Applicants with at least three years completed will also be considered for admission under the General category.

Discretionary applicants must submit the same documents as General applicants, plus two letters of reference, an expanded personal statement and documents that support any special circumstances.

**SEPTEMBER
19**

Applications open

**DECEMBER
1**

Deadline to apply for **first-year** students

**APRIL
30**

Deadline to apply for **upper-year** students



INDIGENOUS APPLICANTS

If you are of First Nations, Inuit or Métis ancestry, you are invited to apply through the Indigenous category. Your application will also be automatically considered under the General category.

Applicants under the Indigenous category must have the following to be eligible for selection:

- undergraduate degree from a university, or
- three years (minimum 90 credits) from a university, 30 credits of which must be comprised of upper-level courses.

We will prioritize applicants who:

- are involved with or committed to Indigenous communities and organizations, and
- intend to use their legal training to advance Indigenous concerns and interests.

Indigenous applicants must submit undergraduate transcripts, an LSAT score, a personal statement, two letters of reference and evidence of their Indigenous identity; this can be a photocopy of an enrolment card, an ancestry document or any other document from the federal, provincial, territorial or Indigenous government that supports your self-identification.

Applicants who are considering applying under the Indigenous category are encouraged to email Indigenous Legal Studies at ils@allard.ubc.ca for further information.

BLACK STUDENT APPLICATION PROCESS (BSAP)

Allard Law is dedicated to addressing the underrepresentation of Black legal professionals in Canada and beyond.

The BSAP process is a voluntary process that allows Black applicants an expedited review by a dedicated file review committee, with the majority of its members being Black.

Prospective students interested in the BSAP can opt-in on their application and apply under any of our admissions categories (General, Discretionary or Indigenous). No additional documents are required. BSAP applicants are encouraged to reflect on their relationship with Black excellence in their personal statement.

JD/MBA PROGRAM

Applicants interested in this four-year joint program are required to apply to both the Allard School of Law and the Sauder School of Business. You may indicate your desire to be considered for this joint program on your application form. Scores from both the LSAT and GMAT are required. Learn more at: allard.ubc.ca/jdmba.

TRANSFER

Applicants who started their JD at another Canadian law school may apply to transfer to Allard Law after completing their first year. If the first-year curriculum differs from that offered at UBC, an applicant may be required to complete one or more first-year classes in conjunction with their upper-level classes.

VISITING (LETTER OF PERMISSION)

Students enrolled in a law program at an approved law school may request permission from their current school to attend one year or one term of either the second- or third-year program at Allard Law.

FINANCES

In 2024, we distributed over **\$1.35 million in bursaries** to students who demonstrate financial need. We also award numerous scholarships based on academic merit and other accomplishments, such as leadership and community service. Visit allard.ubc.ca/finance to learn more.

TUITION

TUITION AT THE ALLARD SCHOOL OF LAW FOR 2025/26:



DOMESTIC

\$444.78	\$14,232.96
Per credit	Full year



INTERNATIONAL

\$1,433.94	\$45,886.08
Per credit	Full year

All accepted applicants are automatically considered for entrance scholarships based on academic merit.

QUESTIONS?

If you have questions about tuition or funding your studies, we have a designated team of Enrolment Service Advisors available to assist you with any financial-related questions. Contact them at es.lawsupport@ubc.ca.

SCHOLARSHIPS & BURSARIES

HOW MUCH WILL I GET IN BURSARIES?

Use our online calculator to estimate what you could receive from our bursary program at allard.ubc.ca/bursarycalc.

ALLARD LAW AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS TO SUPPORT STUDENTS WHO IDENTIFY AS INDIGENOUS, BLACK OR AS A PERSON OF COLOUR

We're committed to building a law school community that celebrates diversity, equity and inclusiveness. This includes providing support to help overcome the financial barriers to attending law school to members of groups that have historically been excluded from higher education. Learn more on our blog at allard.ubc.ca/ediawards.

FEES & BOOKS

STUDENT FEES

approximately
\$1,400 per year

JD TEXTBOOKS

approximately
\$1,600 in first year and
\$1,400 annually in your
second and third years

LEARN MORE AT
[ALLARD.UBC.CA/FINANCES](https://allard.ubc.ca/finances)



6 TIPS

FOR WRITING A GREAT PERSONAL STATEMENT

As part of your JD application to Allard Law, most applicants — those applying under the General Category — will need to submit a personal statement. The personal statement is your opportunity to present us with a clear picture of who you are, what's important to you and why you're interested in Allard Law.

There isn't a set of "right answers" and each person's unique circumstances will shape their personal statement.



REACH OUT TO OUR STUDENT AMBASSADORS TO GET A FIRST-HAND IMPRESSION OF LAW SCHOOL AND LIVING IN VANCOUVER, OR TO ASK ANY OTHER QUESTIONS.

VISIT ALLARD.UBC.CA/AMBASSADOR TO LEARN MORE.

- **ANSWER THE QUESTIONS.**

It can be easy to get carried away with your response and forget about what was being asked. Read the questions carefully and don't forget to circle back to them.

- **TELL US SOMETHING NEW.**

Find a way to answer the questions in interesting and compelling ways by pulling from past experiences that are unique to you.

- **USE CRITICAL REFLECTION.**

When revisiting your personal experiences, think about what happened and note things that you would do differently or that you were happy about in the end.

- **PROVIDE SPECIFIC EXAMPLES.**

We're eager to read about how you are a great public speaker, or a highly organized and focused individual, or a natural leader, but it's not enough to simply state that you possess a certain skill or ability; back it up with evidence. Talk about how you have used these skills and how you will continue to use them.

- **RELATE THINGS BACK TO ALLARD LAW.**

We're interested in knowing why you would be a good fit for Allard Law. Research the school and reflect on why you want to study here.

- **BE HONEST.**

Focus on telling us about who you are rather than what you think we want to hear.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



WHAT UNDERGRADUATE COURSES SHOULD I TAKE TO ENSURE I GET INTO THE ALLARD SCHOOL OF LAW?

There is no specific educational background that will guarantee admission into the Allard School of Law. Instead, we suggest that you study in a field that you are interested in, and one in which you will excel. We encourage applicants from diverse backgrounds and fields of study to apply. We have accepted past applicants from a variety of programs including Architecture, Criminology, Forestry, Commerce, Science, International Relations, and Engineering.

DO YOU OFFER PART-TIME OPTIONS?

Yes. To be eligible for the part-time program, students must demonstrate special needs resulting from such factors as family responsibilities or financial or health problems. Applicants must include an additional letter outlining their request and demonstrating their need to study part time. A maximum of ten students per year will be admitted on this basis.

WHEN ARE OFFERS SENT OUT? DOES APPLYING EARLY INCREASE MY CHANCE OF RECEIVING AN OFFER?

Offers are given on a “rolling admission” basis. If we receive a file that is complete and is highly competitive, an offer may be made as early as November. However, we honour the December deadline as well as the January writing of the LSAT, and do not fill all our spaces early. A majority of General Category admission offers are made between December and June. Offers to students who have submitted Discretionary and Indigenous Category applications, which undergo a holistic review of additional documentation, are made between February and June.

VIEW ALL OUR FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AT [ALLARD.UBC.CA/FAQ](https://allard.ubc.ca/faq).



DEAN'S WELCOME

A COMMUNITY TO DISCOVER AND NURTURE YOUR PASSIONS

One of our greatest strengths is the remarkable diversity of experiences and achievements that our students, faculty and staff bring to the law school. Being part of the Allard Law community provides you an ideal entry point into the legal profession. The connections you make here will inspire you and help you succeed — and many will turn into lifelong friendships.

Our core curriculum will provide you with an exceptional legal education. Our unique experiential learning opportunities offer you unmatched real-world experiences where you will develop in-demand skills and discover your interests. And as a leader in Indigenous legal education in North America, we are committed to decolonizing law school and to ensuring Indigenous legal orders, knowledges and perspectives are integrated across our courses. You will join a community committed to reconciliation as a critical and foundational aspect of learning and practicing law.

At Allard Law you will be learning from leading scholars who are dedicated to teaching and mentorship. Our professors are internationally recognized in areas such as criminal law, environmental law, international law,

business law, Indigenous legal studies, and social justice. First-year classes are taught in small groups of 50 students, ensuring you get to know your classmates and your professors. The staff at Allard Law take pride in delivering exceptional services and support to our students, including academic, wellness, career and professional development support.

As someone who recently moved to Vancouver, I'm continually inspired and energized by the natural West Coast beauty of Vancouver. From sandy ocean beaches on the UBC campus to the local North Shore mountains, there is no shortage of opportunities to connect with nature and the land. Studying law in one of the world's most multicultural, vibrant cities — and one of Canada's major legal employment markets — provides an incredible opportunity to nurture your passions and launch your legal career.

I encourage you to reach out to our admissions team and ambassadors to see if Allard Law is the right choice for you and to learn more about the opportunities that await you. I look forward to meeting you soon.

Ngai Pindell
Dean and Professor, Peter A. Allard School of Law



Steps away from Allard Hall, the UBC Rose Garden offers panoramic ocean and mountain views.



PETER A. ALLARD SCHOOL OF LAW

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

QUESTIONS? WE'RE HERE TO HELP.

Email: admissions@allard.ubc.ca

Phone: 604-822-6303

Email a student ambassador:
ambassadors@allard.ubc.ca

Peter A. Allard School of Law
University of British Columbia
Allard Hall 1822 East Mall
Vancouver, BC Canada V6T 1Z1

ALLARD.UBC.CA



Photography by: Martin Dee, Freepik (@edb3_16),
Hover Collective, Paul Joseph, UBC Brand & Marketing,
Macy Yap