Master of Jurisprudence (M.Jur.) Admission Policy for Faculty Committee on Admissions and Entering Awards

Stetson University College of Law, through its Admissions Committee, seeks diverse and highly-qualified students who will contribute to a stimulating intellectual environment. Such a diverse and inclusive environment challenges teachers, students, and others in the law school community to strive for excellence in all they do.

The determination of whether a given candidate will meet this standard is necessarily imprecise. To ensure fairness and consistency in the review process, each candidate will receive a holistic, individualized review that gives serious consideration to all the ways a candidate might contribute to the educational environment at the College of Law and to their success in the program. Final decisions on M.Jur. candidates will be made by the M.Jur. Program Directors, the Assistant Dean of International and Graduate Programs, and the Chair of the Faculty Committee on Admissions and Entering Awards, with the support of the Admissions Committee.

As a prerequisite to enrollment, applicants are required to have earned a baccalaureate degree from a college or university that is accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. A final, official transcript evidencing the award of the degree must be submitted to the College of Law prior to enrolling. All applicants must demonstrate strong academic achievement and must submit a valid GRE or GMAT score received within the last five years, a letter of recommendation, a personal statement, a resume, and proof of English language proficiency. The GRE/GMAT requirement may be waived based on appropriate work experience. Waiver decisions will be made by the M.Jur. Program Directors in consultation with the Assistant Dean of International and Graduate Programs and the Chair of the Faculty Committee on Admissions and Entering Awards.

The College of Law recognizes that competence and experience indicators may assist in assessing a candidate’s potential contribution to the law school’s intellectual environment and the diversity of that environment. This may be demonstrated, for example, by educational attainments beyond the bachelor’s degree, notable military service, or career achievements. Although there can be no definitive list, other such factors include the perceived rigor of the academic program the applicant has pursued, the tone and quality of the candidate’s personal statement, and the strength of letters of recommendation.

In addition to competence, a student can also contribute to a stimulating intellectual environment through the perspectives he or she brings to the life of the law school both inside the classroom and out. The richness of academic discourse depends on the presence of diverse viewpoints and experiences, in particular those viewpoints and experiences brought by members of groups that have been historically underrepresented or discriminated against.
Among the diversity factors that the College of Law considers important to its educational environment are racial and ethnic diversity; success in overcoming adversity and economic or social disadvantage; being the first in a family to attend college; sex, disability, age, geographic background, religion, national origin, marital status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression.

The Assistant Dean of International and Graduate Programs, along with the Program Director for the applicant’s program and the Chair of the Admissions Committee will consider a candidate's criminal background and history and any professional disciplinary actions in making admissions decisions. Applicants and matriculated students have a continuing duty to fully disclose to the College of Law all such information; failure to do so may constitute a violation of the Academic Honor Code or the Code of Student Professionalism and Conduct.

These procedures will be reviewed annually by the Chair of the Faculty Committee on Admissions and Awards and the Assistant Dean of International and Graduate Programs.

The Faculty Admissions Committee adheres to the College of Law’s Nondiscrimination Policy (available at http://www.stetson.edu/other/title-ix/media/titleix-policy-2017-18-updated.pdf and re-printed below) in making admission and scholarship decisions.

**Nondiscrimination Policy**

It is the policy of Stetson University College of Law not to discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race, age, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, ancestry, marital status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, physical characteristics, or any other category protected by federal, state, or local law in its educational programs, admissions policies, financial aid, employment, or other school-administered programs. The policy is enforced by Stetson and, where applicable, federal laws such as Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975. Inquiries regarding compliance with these statutes, and referrals to designated coordinators under the ADA/Section 504, Title IX, and the Age Discrimination Act may be directed to the Stetson University College of Law, Attn: Associate Vice President for Legal Affairs and Human Resources, 1401 61st Street South, Gulfport, FL 33707, 727-562-7800, or to the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20202-1100, 1-800-421-3481, TDD: 877-521-2172. The College of Law is an equal opportunity educational institution.

*Approved by the faculty on January 16, 2018.*