Online Master of Jurisprudence in Children’s Law and Policy

Educate, Advocate, Lead
Leading the Way

Why a degree in children’s law and policy?

Do you seek a better understanding of how the law impacts the children and families you serve? Are you committed to improving the lives of children through your work and advocacy? Are you ready to acquire the knowledge and skills required to become an emerging leader in your field or organization?

Loyola’s MJ in Children’s Law and Policy is specifically designed for professionals who are committed to promoting children’s health, safety, education, and well-being, but whose responsibilities do not allow them to pursue a campus-based degree.

As the only online degree of its kind, offered by one of the nation’s premier law school programs in children’s law, the MJ in Children’s Law and Policy is a different kind of degree that prepares inspired graduates to enhance their professional skills, achieve their career objectives, and advocate more effectively for children and youth. The MJ is a graduate degree similar to a traditional master’s degree and does not qualify graduates to sit for the bar or practice law.

Here are a few examples of positions held by our MJ graduates:

Chief of Staff, Assistant Secretary of Education, US Department of Education

Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Preventive Medicine, Feinberg School of Medicine

Director of Youth Programs, Center on Halsted

Executive Director, Latino Family Institute

Director of Early Childhood Development, American Academy of Pediatrics, Illinois Chapter

Executive Director, Flight Attendants Medical Research Institute

Clinical Coordinator, Cook County Juvenile Court Clinic

Development Director, Family Service: Prevention, Education and Counseling

Adjunct Professor of Psychology

“As a result of Loyola’s MJ program, I can now more effectively integrate legal and public health concepts into youth-oriented disease prevention and health promotion strategies.”

Art Elster (MD, MJ ’09), Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Preventive Medicine, Feinberg School of Medicine
Online Learning at Loyola

Loyola uses a Learning Management System that is a highly interactive, sophisticated learning environment that is designed for today’s busy working professional. Classroom instruction is delivered through a combination of downloadable audio and video lectures and live, professor-led class discussions. Most classes are available “on-demand” over the Internet 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, from any part of the globe. Students complete reading and writing assignments similar to those required in a campus-based program. They also take exams and quizzes online and engage in discussions with faculty and other students through bulletin board postings. Students receive extensive and timely comments on their assignments and have direct access to faculty through the online classroom. Students are also able to access a full range of student services online.
Admissions

Admission Standards

Admission to Loyola’s MJ program is competitive. The MJ Admissions Committee seeks applicants who will bring a broad range of backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives to their legal studies and who aspire to become leaders in their field. Applicants must have a bachelor’s degree and a minimum of two year’s of experience in a field working with, on behalf of, or otherwise focused on children, youth and families.

Application Process

Applicants for the MJ Degree in Children’s Law and Policy must complete an online application available on our website. Applicants must also provide Loyola with official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended, two letters of recommendation from persons familiar with their education or work experience, and an essay or writing sample. Qualified applicants are reviewed by the MJ Admissions Committee on a rolling basis. Students may begin the program in either the fall or winter term.

For More Information

Online MJ Program
Civitas ChildLaw Center
Loyola University Chicago School of Law
25 East Pearson Street
Chicago, IL 60611
Toll free at 800.424.3980
LUC.edu/childlaw
Curriculum*

**Required Courses**
- Introduction to the Study of Law and the Legal System
- Introduction to Children’s Law, Policy and Practice
- Leadership Development
- Thesis/Capstone Project

**Elective Courses**
- Education Law and Policy
- Child Welfare Law and Policy
- Juvenile Justice Law and Policy
- Family Law and Policy
- Mental Health Law and Children
- International Children’s Rights
- Legislation and Law Reform
- Children’s Health Law and Policy

**Education Immersion Weekend**
During the EIWs, held in September each year, students gather in person to workshop and/or present their thesis/capstone project to faculty and student panels, attend campus workshops led by experts in the field; and interact with faculty, students and alumni. Costs associated with the EIW are at the student’s expense.

**Program of Study**
The online MJ degree is a 24 credit part-time program. Students take 4 credits (one or two courses) in each of six consecutive terms, including summers. This schedule allows students to complete the degree in two calendar years.

* Please visit our website at LUC.edu/childlaw for a complete list of curricular requirements and course descriptions for the MJ program.
About the Civitas ChildLaw Center

Loyola’s Civitas ChildLaw Center was established in 1993 to address the unique legal needs of children and their families. It accomplishes its mission of preparing lawyers and other leaders to be effective advocates for children through a program of teaching, scholarship, service and law reform. The Center also sponsors conferences and edits, in collaboration with the ABA Center on Children and the Law, the Children’s Legal Rights Journal, a quarterly interdisciplinary publication for practitioners in the field. The Center and its faculty are the recipients of numerous awards, including the National Association of Counsel for Children’s Outstanding Child Advocacy Award, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges Award of Excellence, and a federal EPA award recognizing the Center’s efforts to improve children’s health through the elimination of childhood lead poisoning.
NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY
Loyola University of Chicago admits students without regard to their race, color, sex, age, national or ethnic origin, religion, sexual orientation, ancestry, military discharge or status, marital status, parental status, or any other protected status to all the rights, privileges, programs, and other activities generally accorded or made available to students at Loyola. Loyola University of Chicago does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, age, national or ethnic origin, religion, sexual orientation, ancestry, military discharge or status, marital status, parental status, or any other protected status in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other Loyola administered programs. Otherwise qualified persons are not subject to discrimination on the basis of disability.

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