

MSL Application Packet: 2020–21

Environmental, Natural Resources, and Energy Law

Summary of Program

The program leading to the master of studies in environmental, natural resources, and energy law (MSL) is for U.S. and international graduates who want to emphasize this area in practice, teaching, research, or public policy. This program is intended for those interested in learning about environmental, natural resources, or energy law, but who do not wish to practice law or obtain a law degree. It is not suitable for students seeking an introduction to U.S. law.

Lewis & Clark's MSL program requires completion of 26 semester hours of credit. The program can be completed in two semesters or spread over three years. Absent unusual circumstances, we require students to begin in mid-August in order to attend the Intro to U.S. Environmental Law seminar, a 2-credit course designed to help prepare students for study in a law school environment.

Please consult our website, go.lclark.edu/environmental/law, for a complete description of the MSL program, courses, and faculty.

Admissions Criteria

Applicants must have a bachelor's degree from an accredited U.S. college, or comparable degree from a foreign institution, and must demonstrate an excellent academic record, strong research and writing skills, and an interest in environmental, natural resources, and energy law or policy.

Each application is evaluated as a whole. We are interested in your scholarly capacity, your academic performance, and your interest in the environmental, natural resources, and energy law field. Students can expect extensive reading assignments, vigorous class discussion, and either a written examination or extensive research paper in each course.

Costs and Financial Aid

Tuition for the 2019–20 academic year was \$1,779 per credit, or \$46,254 for 26 credits. The actual cost in any semester depends on the number of credits a student takes. In addition, a fee of \$42.50 per semester plus \$1,469.50* per semester for health insurance should be calculated into academic expenses, along with a book allowance of about \$800 per semester. Students should also anticipate a budget of \$10,000 for living expenses per semester. **All tuition and fees are subject to change on an annual basis.**

Federal financial aid (in the form of loans) is available to qualified U.S. students. A limited number of tuition awards are available to outstanding U.S. and international students based on merit and need. To be considered for an award, students should include a letter with their application materials explaining their need for assistance.

If you plan to apply for federal financial aid, you should complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which is available at fafsa.ed.gov, as soon as possible. Because financial aid decisions may lag behind admission decisions, *you should not wait until you have received an offer of admission to apply for financial aid.*

*Rate may change in spring semester.

Application Deadlines

Applications for fall semester (August 2020 admission) are due July 15. However, we consider applications on a rolling basis and accept applications throughout the year. We will also consider applications past the admissions deadlines if there is still room in the class.

Application Instructions

To apply, please submit the following to the MSL program director (address on application form):

- Completed MSL application (attached), *signed and dated*.
- Nonrefundable \$50 application fee.
- Letter explaining, in about 200 words, why you seek an MSL in environmental and natural resources law.
- Three letters of reference written by people who know you well. These letters should be written to help the Admissions Committee evaluate your academic capacity, ethical character, and writing and research skills. The letters do not need to be sealed and may be submitted directly to the law school or with the other application materials.
- Current resume or curriculum vitae.
- Writing sample of approximately 10–15 pages that will demonstrate your ability to organize, reason, and communicate. The sample need not be environmental in nature, but should be a writing example that demonstrates your best writing, research, and analytical skills.
- Official transcripts from all undergraduate and other graduate institutions attended.

Admission Process

Your admission file is created when the law school receives your completed application form and application fee. You may choose to submit all of your documents at once or to submit as many of the documents as you can at one time, with other items such as transcripts and reference letters, to follow. For U.S. students seeking federal financial aid, please submit and file financial aid forms as soon as possible; *do not wait until you have received an offer of admission.*

Once your file is complete, the Admissions Committee will review it and contact you regarding the decision. If you accept an offer of admission, you must submit a nonrefundable tuition deposit of \$250 within three weeks after notification of admission to hold your place in the class.

Academic Calendar

The law school is on the semester system, with 13 weeks of classes and two weeks of exams in each semester. The fall semester generally begins the last week of August and ends the third or fourth week of December for a three-week winter break. The spring semester generally begins in mid-January and ends in early May, with a one-week spring break in March. The Intro to U.S. Environmental Law seminar begins in mid-August prior to the start of fall classes.

Questions

For more information about the MSL program, please contact:

Janice L. Weis
Associate Dean and Program Director
Environmental, Natural Resources, and Energy Law Program
Lewis & Clark Law School
10015 S.W. Terwilliger Blvd.
Portland, Oregon 97219-7799
503-768-6649 or 503-768-6784
elaw@lclark.edu

Lucy Brehm
Associate Program Director
Environmental, Natural Resources, and Energy Law Program
Lewis & Clark Law School
10015 S.W. Terwilliger Blvd.
Portland, Oregon 97219-7799
503-768-6882 or 503-768-6784
elaw@lclark.edu

Lewis & Clark Law School is fully accredited by the American Bar Association and is a member of the Association of American Law Schools.

The law school adheres to a nondiscriminatory policy with respect to employment, enrollment, and program. Lewis & Clark does not discriminate on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, sex, religion, age, marital status, national origin, the presence of any physical or sensory disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or any other basis prohibited by applicable federal, state, and local laws, and has a firm commitment to promote the letter and spirit of all equal opportunity and civil rights laws, including Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, as well as their implementing regulations. Questions regarding Title IX may be directed to one of Lewis & Clark's Title IX coordinators (go.lclark.edu/about/title_ix) or to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights.

Application for Admission: MSL

Office Use: ID #

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LEWIS & CLARK LAW SCHOOL

Applications should be mailed to:

MSL Program Director
Lewis & Clark Law School
10015 S.W. Terwilliger Blvd.
Portland, Oregon 97219-7799
Phone: 503-768-6649 or 503-768-6784
Email: elaw@lclark.edu

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Social Security number
(U.S. citizens)

NAME: Last First Middle

CURRENT ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE: Home () Work ()

PERMANENT ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE: () EMAIL

Application for Year _____

International Students Required Statements

If not a citizen of the U.S., are you a Permanent Resident? Yes No VISA TYPE

COUNTRY OF: Citizenship Residence Birth

Education Information

List all colleges, universities, graduate, and professional schools you have attended. Attach separate sheet if necessary.

SCHOOL	MAJOR	DATES OF ATTENDANCE	DEGREE	DATE AWARDED OR EXPECTED
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Please attach a current resume or curriculum vitae which includes all scholastic or academic honors you have received after secondary school including scholarships, fellowships, prizes, honor societies, etc.

References

List three individuals who will furnish the required letters of recommendation.

NAME	RELATIONSHIP TO APPLICANT
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Work Experience

List your last four positions of employment, including present employment and summer employment.

DATES	EMPLOYER	POSITION/DUTIES
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Miscellaneous

Have you been charged, convicted, or forfeited bond or bail in any court proceeding of a criminal nature (including major traffic offenses)? Yes No If yes, attach a detailed explanation on a separate sheet.

Have you ever been dismissed from or suspended by any school, college, university, or law school? Yes No If yes, attach a detailed explanation on a separate sheet.

Answering “yes” to either of the above two questions does not automatically disqualify you from consideration for admission.

Have you served in the armed forces? Yes No If yes, indicate location(s), name, branch, rank, date, and type of discharge.

You need to submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to the federal processor at the earliest possible date if you want to be considered for loans. The FAFSA is available online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Answers to the following questions are needed if you are admitted, but are not used by the law school to make an admission decision.

DATE OF BIRTH <small>MM/DD/YY</small>	PLACE OF BIRTH	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP
_____	_____	_____

Sex assigned at birth M F

Is your gender identity different from your sex assignment at birth? Yes No

If yes, please indicate your gender identity and pronoun. _____

How do you describe your race and/or ethnicity?

The U.S. Department of Education requires that we collect data on race and ethnicity in the following manner. Please answer to the best of your ability and indicate any of the following that apply.

Hispanic or Latino

- Chicano/Mexican American
- Puerto Rican
- Other Hispanic/Latino (please specify)

Not Hispanic or Latino

- American Indian/Alaska Native: Tribe/Enrollment #
- Asian
- Black/African American
- Canadian Aboriginal

- Middle Eastern
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
- White/Caucasian
- Other (please specify)

If you wish to discuss any special factors in your personal, family, social, ethnic, or economic background that we should consider in evaluating your application, please attach an explanation.

How did you hear about our MSL Program? _____

To the best of my knowledge, the information in this application is complete and accurate.

SIGNATURE _____	DATE _____
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