

ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

CHICAGO-KENT COLLEGE OF LAW

INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

Public/private	Private
Student-faculty ratio	7:1
% faculty part-time	61
% faculty female	30
% faculty minority	7
Total faculty	155

SURVEY SAYS...

Great research resources
Students love Chicago, IL

STUDENTS

Enrollment of law school	1,041
% male/female	53/47
% out-of-state	40
% full-time	78
% minority	20
% international	1
# of countries represented	14
Average age of entering class	24

ACADEMICS

Academic Experience Rating	88
Profs interesting rating	86
Profs accessible rating	77
Hours of study per day	3.77

Academic Specialties

Environmental law, intellectual property law, international law, labor law, litigation and alternative dispute resolution, public interest law.

Advanced Degrees Offered

JD 3 to 4 years, LLM 1 to 4 years.

Combined Degrees Offered

JD/MBA 3.5 to 5 years, JD/LLM 4 to 5 years, JD/MS (financial markets) 4 to 5 years, JD/MPA 3.5 to 5 years, JD/MS (environmental management) 3.5 to 5 years, JD/MPH 3.5 years.

Clinical program required	No
Legal writing course requirement	Yes
Legal methods course requirement	No
Legal research course requirement	Yes

Academics

If you're looking to "feel both challenged and encouraged to learn" rather than "beaten down by the stereotypical combination of sadistic professors and hyper-competitive classmates," then you might want to try the Chicago-Kent College of Law which works to create a scholarly community under the auspices of a science and engineering heavy-weight. Placed "just high enough in the rankings to attract talented students who aren't arrogant, but not too high so that the professors are attracted for research rather than teaching," the school makes it clear up front that the experience "will be competitive," while also stressing "how important it is to not dwell on grades and rank even though they're important."

Known for its "intense" and "well-recognized" legal writing program (one of the few three-year programs in the country), students at Chicago-Kent must endure "several hellish weeks each semester" so that they can say, "The memo [I] did in the first three weeks of school is the equivalent of another school's 1L final project." "Every attorney I've worked with in the past three years has commented on the strength of my legal writing skills," boasts one third-year student. Other tough aspects of the school's curriculum include its grading curve, which gives transfer students an unfair advantage "because their GPA is not deflated by the first-year curve" and results in the school awarding more scholarships than students can retain "due to the academic standards that must be maintained." Many also cite the Intellectual Property Program and the variety of in-house clinics (in which students work with actual clients for credit) as strengths.

As one would expect judging from its parent institution, Chicago-Kent's "top-notch" classrooms are "enabled with the best educational technology," including myriad outlets, and the entire campus is blanketed with wireless Internet (some even claim the technology "outranks" the institute itself). The comprehensive library provides plenty of study space, and is run by a "knowledgeable" staff that is "willing to assist you with any issues." Chicago-Kent's location in the West Loop "is crucial to practical experience" and "maximizes chances for great externships," though summer jobs "aren't all that easy to come by with the competition of Northwestern, University of Chicago, U of I, and Michigan so close by."

Despite a large contingent of part-time faculty in the upper-level courses, professors at Chicago-Kent are "passionately engaged in the subject matter" and "totally committed to the students as well as to their research." They "work hard to encourage you and support you outside of the classroom," and are particularly good at "treating the students as adults and expecting them to perform at a higher level," according to a first-year student. Though they're not without complaints, most here say that the administration is "very accommodating [of] students' needs," and "are always quick to reply to questions." The general opinion of the Career Services Office is one of mild discontent, and a large number of students wish the school could "expand its ability to place students in the legal workplace nationwide" having noticed that most of the "prestigious" law firms only hire the top 10 percent of Chicago-Kent students. "For some reason, I say we are associated with IIT and people outside of the legal community think I am going to truck driving school," complains a 3L. After three years at Chicago-Kent, one student can safely say that "students are happy, teachers want to teach, and learning is fun, yet also difficult."

Moot court requirement	Yes
Public interest law requirement	No

ADMISSIONS

Selectivity Rating	86
# applications received	3,034
# applicants accepted	887
# acceptees attending	215
Average LSAT	161
LSAT Range	158–164
Average undergrad GPA	3.5
Application fee	\$60
Regular application	3/1
Regular notification	Rolling
Rolling notification	Yes
Early application program	Yes
Early application deadline	11/1
Early application notification	12/15
Transfer students accepted	Yes
Evening division offered	Yes
Part-time accepted	Yes
LSDAS accepted	Yes

Applicants Also Look At

American University, DePaul University, The George Washington University, The John Marshall Law School, Loyola University—Chicago, Northwestern University, University of Illinois.

International Students

TOEFL required	
of international students	No
TOEFL recommended	
of international students	No

FINANCIAL FACTS

Annual tuition	\$31,150
Books and supplies	\$610
Tuition per credit	\$1,035
Room and board (on/off-campus)	\$10,750/\$13,860
% first-year students receiving some sort of aid	96
% receiving some sort of aid	91
% of aid that is merit based	22
% receiving scholarships	52
Average grant	\$14,974
Average loan	\$29,059
Average total aid package	\$36,715
Average debt	\$81,707

Life

Numerous clubs and organizations “for everything you can imagine” mean that “there is a constant flow of speakers and programs for students to attend that cover all areas of the law.” After a hard day of classes and legal writing boot camp, students look forward to the Student Bar Association’s monthly “Kent Nights,” for which the SBA rents out a different downtown bar for a “really great way to get noses out of books and make the student body relax with each other to have a good time.” The student body at Chicago-Kent is a friendly bunch, and while there is a “subtle” competitive streak throughout the years, most agree that “there is definitely a friendly, helpful attitude that prevails among students here,” especially between the different sections of 1Ls. “I love being surrounded by individuals who allow me to have intelligent and insightful discussions about current issues or about what we are discussing in classes,” says one student. However, a definite divide exists between day and evening students, with evening students complaining that most of the extracurricular activities are “pretty much unavailable to the evening students due to the timing of special events.” While it’s true that students live scattered all throughout the Chicago area, preventing some from attending certain events, others see it as a plus: “Most students will spend the better part of their day interacting with each other, instead of simply coming to class and then going home,” explains a third-year student.

Getting In

Though admissions are on a rolling basis, Chicago-Kent’s binding Early Decision Program is somewhat unique in the field of law school admissions. Recently enrolled students at the 25th percentile had an LSAT score of 158 and an average GPA of 3.3, while admitted students at the 75th percentile had an LSAT score of 164 and a GPA of 3.8.

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

Career Rating	87	Grads Employed by Field (%)	
Rate of placement (nine months out)	96	Academic	1
Average starting salary	\$77,608	Business/Industry	19
State for bar exam	IL	Government	13
Pass rate for first-time bar	90	Judicial clerkships	5
Employers Who Frequently Hire Grads		Military	2
Small firms; midsize to large firms; government; public interest; judicial clerkship.		Private practice	57
Prominent Alumni		Public Interest	3

Honorable Ilana Diamond Rovner, U.S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit; Honorable Anne Burke, Illinois Supreme Court; Thomas Demetrio, partner, Corboy and Demetrio; Barry Maram, director, Illinois Department of Public Aid.