

DUAL DEGREE PROGRAMS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What are the Dual Degree Programs?

Students completing the J.D. program are permitted to take another graduate level program concurrently at another college within NSU with whom the College of Law has an approved collaborative agreement. These agreements allow students to reciprocally transfer a limited number of credits between both programs, thus speeding up the time it takes to accomplish both degrees. The J.D. program is considered your primary program and the graduate program at another College within the university is your secondary program. You can see a list of approved dual degree programs [HERE](#).

2. How are students admitted to and graduate from the programs?

Students must make regular application for admission to, and be accepted by, both the College of Law and the secondary degree program. Applications to each program can be done at the same time, or by applying to the secondary program during the first year of law study. Should a student have begun in the secondary program before beginning their JD Degree, they may not transfer any credits that were taken in that program before the completion of their 1L course of studies at the College of Law. The decision to admit a student under the Dual Degree agreement is made independently by each college, and the decision to award a degree is independent for each college. Graduation from each program is not dependent on the completion of the additional degree.

3. Who advises Dual Degree Students?

J.D. students interested in a dual degree program should initially consult with the admissions office for the secondary graduate program before proceeding with the application process. Dual degree students must meet with their official advisers for both programs to confirm the rules governing each program. The law school's Office of Student Services works closely with students to guide them at admissions through to transferring credits to the J.D. program.

Dual degree students are expected to meet with their official advisers for both programs prior to registering for each semester's courses.

4. What are the registration requirements governing the Dual Degree program?

Students are required to register for the minimum number of credits allowed under the curriculum each semester for the J.D. program before adding courses for the graduate program. Courses to be transferred as electives toward the J.D program must be approved by the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs prior to the start of the course in that secondary degree.

5. What is the GPA requirement to be a dual degree student?

No student matriculating fall 2018 and prior, whose cumulative GPA is 2.80 or below may in the same semester, simultaneously take courses in another program as part of a dual degree program. Students who wish to take such courses may take them only in a term during which they are not taking any Law School courses.

No student matriculating fall 2019 and beyond, whose cumulative GPA is below 3.0 is allowed to simultaneously take courses in another program as part of a dual degree program. Students who wish to take such courses may take them only in a term during which they are not taking any Law School courses.

6. What are the guidelines for transferring credits from my secondary program toward my JD degree?

To receive College of Law credits for non-law courses under the Dual Degree arrangement, a student must meet with the Office of Student Services and obtain written approval from the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs *before* taking the course. On completion of the course, a student must have received at least a B (or a P in a P/F course) on their transcript for the secondary degree course to be considered transferrable toward the JD degree. No credits earned before College of Law matriculation may be transferred to the JD degree.

7. How many Dual Degree credits are allowed as transfers toward the JD Degree?

For most Dual Degree programs, the College of Law will approve no more nine (9) non-law transferrable credits, none of which may be counted in the required 64 credit hours of regularly scheduled classroom sessions or direct faculty instruction. See Code of Academic Regulations, **2.7.5.2. Dual Degree Students**. These credits are included in the overall 30-credit limit on courses taken other than at the College of Law. Depending on the specific dual degree arrangement, an additional 3 credits may be granted toward the JD degree. Students should ask about the specific agreed upon credit transfer arrangement before matriculating in the secondary degree.

8. What is the suggested sequence for taking both degrees?

Dual Degree programs must be carefully planned and managed. It is recommended that students begin the secondary program classes during the summer following the first year of their primary program and plan to complete this program following the completion of the J.D. degree and sitting for an appropriate bar exam. While students may make additional progress toward their secondary degree as they pursue their JD degree, they need to be mindful of minimum credit enrollment requirements at each school and the rigors of the JD program bar exam preparation while doing so.

9. What is the tuition arrangement for the dual degree program?

Tuition for the J.D. program is assigned a flat rate charge applied accordingly, to each division (Full-Time- 13 to 18 credits or Part-Time - 8 to 12 credits), for winter and fall semesters. Summer term is assigned a per credit charge for credits below 13 for full-time division, and below 8 for part-time division. Students should consult their graduate program adviser for tuition awards. Financial Aid will be disbursed based on their enrollment in their primary program (J.D.). Students may not count transferred credits from another college toward their minimum credit requirement in their JD division.

10. Where can I find the request form?

The form for approval to take courses for transfer, “**Request to take Non-Law Graduate Courses**” may be found on the College of Law website [HERE](#), under Student Services on the left bar and in the Student Forms tab.