



↑↑ IDEAL

Increasing Diversity in Education and the Law

Explore a career in law while increasing your leadership skills.

IDEAL is a free program for college students who are interested in pursuing a law degree or who have an interest in the law.

Through the program we seek to address issues relating to disadvantaged and underrepresented individuals in law school and the increasing need for racial and socioeconomic diversity in the legal profession. IDEAL identifies promising students and exposes them to a rich and dynamic educational curriculum that begins the sophomore year and culminates with graduation from their undergraduate institution.

IDEAL offers participating students early exposure to the study and practice of law. The two-and-a-half-year program provides participants with an opportunity to learn about and attend law school and to become leaders on a variety of issues that impact the legal profession, such as issues of racial, economic, and social justice. Additionally, participants will earn a stipend of \$1,475 for each summer session. We will prepare participants for the law school application process and for the challenges of law school.



I speak for all of the students of this cohort when I say that Fordham Law has been the highlight of our year and the best investment of our careers. This program has allowed us to develop a new set of skills and an understanding that is essential to our professional development.

Vanella Douglas

*IDEAL program participant,
CUNY—New York City
College of Technology,
class of 2021*



Internship placements

Past IDEAL students have interned with:

- Children's Defense Fund
- Bronx Legal Services
- District Attorney's Offices
- New York City
- New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG)
- Judges Offices

**▶ Final Application Deadline:
Early March, 2024**

Learn more and apply at
law.fordham.edu/idealprogram



The Experience*

Summer I — Prep Program

Early July - Early August, 2024

Students are enrolled in and complete Fordham's Pre-Law Institute. The Fordham Law School Pre-Law Institute is a 6-week online summer course designed to give undergraduate students and graduates insight into the law school experience and an introduction to foundational subjects in U.S. law. The program also includes a dialogue with a judge, a virtual visit to a law firm, and a panel on public interest lawyering. In addition, optional sessions prepare students for the law school admissions process and the first year of law school

** students are eligible to receive 3 college credits

Junior Year (Fall/Spring)

- Participate in the The Council on Legal Education Opportunity, Inc. (CLEO) Jumpstart LSAT program at Fordham Law School
- Attend diversity-related programming and special events put on by Fordham Law School
- Meet legislators, legislative staff, administrative agency staff, and judges

Summer II

- Students are enrolled in an LSAT preparation course
- Students will participate in professional development workshops featuring speakers from the legal community and the Fordham Law School network
- (OPTIONAL) Students may be placed in selected legal internships that reflect their interests and may work alongside mentoring attorneys in a practical setting

Senior Year (Fall/Spring)

- Attend information session hosted by Fordham Law School Admissions Staff
- Meet with Fordham Law alumni and law school student mentors and cultivate relationships
- Travel to Washington, D.C., to visit U.S. Supreme Court and other agencies

Summer III

- Students will be placed in selected legal internships that reflect their interests and will work alongside mentoring attorneys in a practical setting. Internship placements include:
 - Public Interest organizations
 - District attorney's offices
 - Judges Chambers
 - New York City law firms
- Students will again participate in professional development workshops featuring speakers from the legal community and Fordham Law School network

*Please note that activities and timelines are subject to change.

Apply in Early March 2024 at

law.fordham.edu/idealprogram

You must submit the following by the application deadline:

- Online application
- Resume
- Most recent college transcript
- Personal statement

Contact:

For questions about the IDEAL program please email Khanh V. Nguyen, Program Director for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
idealprogram@law.fordham.edu

IDEAL

Increasing Diversity in Education and the Law



Fordham Law School's Increasing Diversity in Education and the Law (IDEAL) is a pipeline program that identifies motivated and talented underrepresented students in the New York City area and exposes them to the many facets of the legal profession. With this initiative, we are embracing our responsibility to increase diversity in the legal profession. If our legal system is to provide equal justice, it must provide equal opportunity to become a lawyer.

Dean Matthew Diller
Fordham Law School



IDEAL students with Judge Denny Chin '78 of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and Justice Maria Araujo Kahn '89 of the Connecticut Supreme Court.

Fordham Law School
For Our Profession, Society, and World

