

# SOUTHWESTERN LAW SCHOOL

## L O S A N G E L E S



- ✔ **Latina Trial Court Judge**
- ✔ **Chinese-American in the Continental U.S. to Serve as a Federal Judge**
- ✔ **Native-American Judge in California**

- ✔ **Female Public Defender in the Nation**
- ✔ **Female African-American Appellate Justice in the Nation**
- ✔ **Armenian-American District Attorney in the U.S.**

### DEAN OF STUDENTS AND DIVERSITY AFFAIRS OFFICE

The Dean of Students and Diversity Affairs Office (DOSDA) develops and implements initiatives to increase the admission, retention, and graduation of students from groups underrepresented in the legal profession. By offering uniquely tailored programming for diverse and first generation students, DOSDA works to foster an inclusive campus environment.

### A DIVERSE COMMUNITY

Southwestern students represent 100+ undergraduate schools; range from age 21 to over 60 (average 26); report fluency in 35+ languages. Women make up 57% of our student body, and among our faculty, 50% are women, 29% are minorities, and 10% identify as LGBTQ. True to our history of 100+ years of inclusion, Southwestern has the second-highest number of

Hispanic students and the third-highest number of African-American students of any California ABA-accredited law school. 45% of our students identify as a minority, and among the 2019 entering class, 49% identify as a minority and 42% are first-generation law students.

### ACCOLADES

Southwestern is one of the most diverse law schools in the country, ranked 8th in diversity among ABA schools by *The National Jurist*. Among the most recent are:

- #1 Greatest Resources for Minority Students in Southern California (#3 in the state, #9 in the nation) by The Princeton Review
- #1 Law School for Hispanics by *preLaw Magazine*
- #11 Law School for Asians by *preLaw Magazine*
- #21 Law School for African-Americans by *preLaw Magazine*
- "Most Diverse Law School" by *preLaw Magazine*



## STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Our campus affinity groups provide students a sense of belonging and support through student-led social and academic events. Some of these 30+ groups include the Armenian Law Students Association, Asian-Pacific-American Law Students Association, Black Law Students Association, Jewish Law Students Association, Latino Law Students Association, OUTLaw, Persian Law Students Association, and Women's Law Association. Each year, these groups sponsor numerous workshops, mentorship programs, study groups, volunteer opportunities, community outreach initiatives, cultural and social events, alumni receptions, and speaker presentations to meet the diverse interests of our student community.

## SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

Southwestern offers scholarship programs to assist students from all backgrounds. Our Wildman/Schumacher Scholarship provides up-to-full-tuition renewable awards for entering students with remarkable leadership qualities and academic potential. The Southwestern Admissions Scholarship for First-Generation Law Students provides an award for an entering student's first year of law school and recognizes exceptional applicants who are the first in their family to attend law school. Continuing students can apply for other institutional scholarships, many of which seek to award applicants from underrepresented backgrounds.

## PIPELINE PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH AND EARLY COLLEGE STUDENTS

Through a variety of programs in local schools and community colleges, Southwestern encourages youth, young adults, and returning students from

underrepresented backgrounds to pursue careers in the law. Partnering with organizations such as the Los Angeles Unified School District, The Constitutional Rights Foundation, JusticeCorps, and others, our programs seek to illuminate a path to graduate education and demonstrate how a legal education can empower individuals and their communities.

## ADMISSIONS INITIATIVES

As part of our regular recruitment efforts, spanning communities across the country, Admissions representatives participate in a variety of graduate school fairs and other events specifically focused on bringing underrepresented students to the field of law. Events held on our campus, such as the annual Diversity Day and Succeeding in Law programs, address issues that students from underrepresented communities often face, and feature current students and alumni who can model a variety of pathways to law school. Additionally, understanding that the ability to succeed in law school can be demonstrated in a number of ways, the Admissions Committee carefully considers an applicant's background, life experiences, and significant work history in addition to traditional measures of ability such as the LSAT and undergraduate GPA.



Regardless of race, culture, age, or any other differentiating characteristic, we are all at Southwestern with a common goal of learning the legal craft. Listening to my peers' motivations, career goals, and perspective on our society as it stands today helped me to broaden my view on the world in which we live."

**ANTWAN ALEXANDER**

'18, LL.M. Program



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 [www.swlaw.edu/diversity](http://www.swlaw.edu/diversity)

*Southwestern Law School does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender (including identity and expression), disability, age, or any other basis prohibited by applicable law in its programs and activities. Please direct all inquiries regarding Southwestern's non-discrimination policies to: Diversity Affairs 3050 Wilshire Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90010 / (213) 738-6872*