Summer-Abroad Law Programs Policy

Revision history: Formerly a part of the annually revised Student Handbook; established as a standalone policy August 2022; technical edits made in July 2023.

Related policies: Financial Aid Policy; Maximum JD Unit Policy; and Transfer and Visiting Students Policy.

Scheduled Review Date: June 2024 (Student Services Office)

A. Overview

Southwestern Law School sponsors a summer-abroad law program. Participants in the program must have completed their first year of study and be in good academic standing before the program’s start to be eligible to participate. Additionally, the summer-abroad program director can limit enrollment to students with an academic record exceeding good standing.

If more than one summer-abroad program is offered, students may generally attend one Southwestern summer-abroad law program during their time at Southwestern. Students may attend a second Southwestern summer-abroad program at the program director’s discretion in consultation with the Associate Dean for Students Services. A maximum of eight units from Southwestern abroad programs may be applied toward completing the J.D. degree. A director of a Southwestern-sponsored summer-abroad law program and the Associate Dean for Student Services must approve any deviation from the eight-unit maximum requirement in writing. In determining whether a student may attend a second program, the director will consider whether space exists in the program so that the student seeking to attend a second program would not displace a student who has not yet had the opportunity to participate in a summer-abroad experience. Students interested in participating in summer-abroad programs sponsored by other law schools should consult the Transfer and Visiting Students Policy for procedures for approval and maximum unit restrictions.

B. Financial Aid Availability

Students should be aware that there may be limitations on financial aid availability for these programs and are strongly advised to contact the Financial Aid Office as early as
possible before registering or paying any program fees.