W&L Law Program Facts:

# of Clinics: 6
# of Students Participating in Clinics: 61
# of Students Participating in Externships: 56
# of International Practicums: 3
# of Students Participating in International Practicums: 15

School of Law

Supporting the Law Program

“Make Each Year Count”

At W&L Law, we offer a three-year educational experience that is not only professionally demanding and intellectually rigorous but also personal, collegial, and humane.

Our goal is to provide a three-year learning progression. Each year of study has a distinct and defined purpose at W&L Law. Just as the first year lays the foundation upon which the remainder of our legal education program will build, the second year requires students to engage in a more specialized and challenging course of study, also with opportunities for skills development through a range of “moot” programs.

The new third year curriculum at W&L is entirely based on learning through engagement – combining practicum courses, practice simulations, client interactions, the formation of professional identity and the cultivation of practice skills. Third year students move from learning law the way law students traditionally have learned to the way lawyers learn law.

Students build on the substance and analytic methods of the first and second years and begin the transition to the profession. This emphasis on lawyering and developing a professional identity serve as a true capstone for a W&L legal education.

Contributions from alumni, parents, and friends will help ensure that future generations are able to pursue their legal education at a transformative place like Washington and Lee.
**Programmatic Support Endowment Opportunities**

**Clinic Endowment**

The Third Year Program requires every student to have an actual practice experience. The majority of the students will receive this type of interaction through their work in the clinics. The Law School currently has six clinics: Black Lung, Tax, Community Legal Practice Clinic, Virginia Capital Case Clearinghouse, the Citizenship and Immigration Program, and the Criminal Defense Clinic. Endowment funds are needed to ensure long-term viability for the clinics.

**Professionalism Program**

Professionalism education—developing an understanding of the culture, the economics, and the public and private roles of the profession—has become critical preparing law graduates for the world they will face. This endowment fund would enhance and enrich the professionalism education across all three years. Funds from this endowment would, among other things, enable faculty members to develop unique professionalism modules for individual courses.

**Externship/Clinical Travel Fund**

Students’ participation in externships and clinics at times takes them outside Lexington, for example to Washington, DC, Richmond, or Roanoke. Students rely on their own transportation for such travel. This endowment fund would provide the resources to reimburse a portion of the student travel expenses.

**International Travel Fund**

International law practicums offer students an opportunity to engage in advanced legal writing, research, and development of advocacy materials in matters of substantive international and foreign national law. Goals are to harmonize classroom legal learning with the practical work of lawyers in a diversity of settings, providing a capstone experience in international law which bridges the gap between the study and practice of law. Much of the work for the international practicums is conducted via videoconferencing and email. Travel to the client site enhances the students’ learning experience by allowing them to see the progress that has been made, to witness the challenges that remain, and to partner with local organizations. This fund would support the students’ travel to practicum locations such as Liberia, Cambodia, The Hague, and Belgrade, Serbia.

**Dollar figures listed are the minimum endowment levels required to establish a fund for the given purpose.**