





Hanging in the USC Rice School of Law's grand lobby is Dale Chihuly's Burnished Bronze and Garnet Chandelier, 2017, 11.5' x 10.5' x 9.5'.

## Putting Passion into Practice The Academic Program

The Juris Doctor (J.D.) program is a three-year, full-time program requiring 90 credits.

**YOUR FIRST-YEAR** courses cover basic legal principles and prepare you for more specialized courses your second and third years. First-year courses are:

- Civil Procedure
- Constitutional Law
- Contracts
- Criminal Law
- Property
- Torts
- Introduction to the Legal Profession
- $\bullet$  Legal Research, Analysis and Writing I & II

**UPPER-LEVEL ELECTIVES** encourage you to follow your passion or find a new one. We offer more than 100 upper-level electives in areas such as Business and Commercial Law, Children and Family Law, Environmental Law, Health Law, Intellectual Property, International and Comparative Law, Labor and Employment Law, Litigation, Probate and Estate Planning, Real Estate Law, Sports & Entertainment Law, Taxation, and Technology Law.



### **Faculty**

USC Rice School of Law employs more than 50 full-time and numerous adjunct professors, including judges and practicing attorneys. Their expertise and insight provide familiarity and context to the most current and pressing legal issues.

# Experiential Learning USC Rice School of Law offers a variety of hands-on learning opportunities.

**CLINICS** offer 2L and 3L students the opportunity to represent actual clients under the supervision of full-time faculty.

#### **Clinics include:**

- Carolina Health Advocacy Medicolegal Partnership (CHAMPS) Clinic
- Criminal Practice Clinic
- Domestic Violence Clinic
- Education Rights Clinic
- Low Income Taxpayer Clinic
- Veterans Legal Clinic
- Youth Defender Clinic

**EXTERNSHIPS** allow students to gain legal experience, academic credit, and develop valuable professional connections while closely observing the work of attorneys in those settings. Externships are available through federal and state agencies, such as the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the South Carolina Attorney General's Office, as well as in law firms, corporate legal offices, legislative committees, and federal and state court, in the following areas:

- Administrative Law
- Children's Law
- Criminal Law
- Family & Small Business
- In-House Counsel
- Judicial
- Public Interest
- Technology and Innovation

80 EXTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE EACH YEAR

**CAPSTONE COURSES** encourage you to apply the skills you've learned by working with lawyers, judges, professors, and peers in a simulated practice environment in such areas as Federal Criminal Practice, Small Business Organizations, Civil Litigation, and Real Estate Transactions.

#### SUMMER PUBLIC INTEREST INTERNSHIP GRANTS,

established through generous donations by the Jeffcoat Law Firm, allow students to apply to work with organizations assisting South Carolina community members who need help to obtain legal assistance. As public interest opportunities are often unpaid, the law school secured dedicated funding for student stipends, exhibiting its commitment to community service.

PRO BONO PROGRAM is the first entirely voluntary Pro Bono Program in the nation and offers students the opportunity to get involved in more than 25 service projects, strengthening professional skills and building contacts while giving back. Because it is voluntary, the program emphasizes how pro bono services are an inherent part of a lawyer's professional identity.

## **Combination Degree**Programs

Enhance your career and save time and money with a combination degree program at USC Rice School of Law, including the highly ranked International MBA program at the Darla Moore School of Business.

Combine your J.D. with a master's in:

- Accountancy
- Business Administration
- Criminology & Criminal Justice
- Earth and Environmental Resources Management
- Economics

- Health Services Policy and Management
- Human Resources
- International Business Administration
- Mass Communication
- Public Administration
- Social Work



# USC RICE SCHOOL OF LAW MOCK TRIAL TEAM

WON 2 COMPETITIONS PLUS 9 FINAL OR SEMIFINALIST FINISHES IN 2024-2025. RANKED #3 PUBLIC LAW SCHOOL IN THE US NEWS TRIAL ADVOCACY RANKINGS,#5 IN THE HOFSTRA GAVEL RANKINGS, AND #6 IN THE FORDHAM TRIAL ADVOCACY COMPETITION RANKINGS **MOOT COURT AND MOCK TRIAL** programs provide opportunities to perfect your oral advocacy skills in either an appellate or trial setting at both regional and national competitions.

The University of South Carolina does not discriminate in educational or employment opportunities or decisions for qualified persons on the basis of age, ancestry, citizenship status, color, disability, ethnicity, familial status, gender (including transgender), gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDs status, military status, national origin, pregnancy (false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, childbirth, recovery therefrom or related medical conditions, breastfeeding), race, religion (including religious dress and grooming practices), sex, sexual orientation, veteran status, or any other bases under federal, state, local law, or regulations.

Statistics cited in this publication are from the 2024- 2025 academic year unless otherwise noted.



## **Collaborations** and Partnerships

As a student at the USC Rice School of Law, you can choose from an array of programs designed to complement your formal classroom learning, build skills, and enhance competencies to advance your career.

#### THE CAROLINA LAW RESEARCH SCHOLARS PROGRAM

enables eligible South Carolina residents access to our most robust scholarship program. Full tuition is offered for the 1L year along with tuition and fee waivers for the 2L and 3L years. Scholars also earn a stipend while engaged in research or projects with law faculty or other legal professionals. To be considered, candidates must have an LSAT score of 164 or higher and a 3.75 UGPA or higher as reflected on the LSAC CAS report.

**THE CHILDREN'S LAW CENTER** offers classes, research opportunities, and training for students, practitioners, policy makers, and professionals involved in children's safety and well-being. The center prioritizes hands-on experiences, connecting you with experts in their field.

**THE NATIONAL ADVOCACY CENTER** houses the U.S. Department of Justice's premiere training facility and is located directly on the university campus. The USC Rice School of Law frequently collaborates with the NAC, offering our students access to national and international experts that can't be found anywhere else.

**TECHINLAW COLLABORATIVE** The Technology, Innovation, and Law Collaborative provides opportunities for students to learn and share ideas about law, innovation and technology through interactive seminars, conferences, and workshops for the law school community.

THE NELSON MULLINS RILEY & SCARBOROUGH CENTER ON PROFESSIONALISM enriches student experiences through mentoring, research, and events that promote professionalism, civic leadership, and public service in the practice of law.

## **Preparation** for Practice

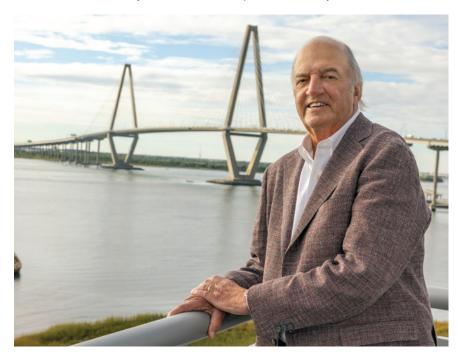
THE UNIFORM BAR EXAMINATION is a uniformly administered and graded bar examination with a portable score used to apply for bar admission in other participating states or jurisdictions. Forty-one states, including South Carolina, have adopted the UBE. It is designed to test knowledge and skills that every lawyer should demonstrate prior to becoming licensed to practice law. For more information about bar examinations, visit the National Conference of Bar Examiners' website or contact the bar admission agency in the state where you expect to practice.

**JOURNALS** are industry publications led by student editors who select and edit articles submitted by legal scholars. Consider joining one of our three scholarly journals:

South Carolina Law Review American Bar Association Real Property, Trust & Estate Law Journal South Carolina Journal of International Law & Business

**LAW STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS** connect you with likeminded members of the law and university communities, strengthening your interpersonal and leadership skills. We have more than 30 student organizations, allowing you to explore any aspect of the law that interests you.

# The University of South Carolina Joseph F. Rice School of Law is named for Joe Rice (USC JD '79; BSA '76).

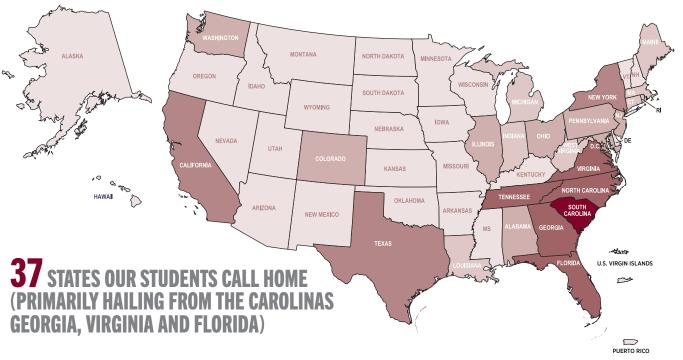


Through his leadership at Motley Rice, one of the nation's largest plaintiff's litigation firms, Joe has been heavily involved in some of the most historically significant litigation throughout the country and beyond. His entire legal career has been to help individuals as well as work on class actions and multidistrict litigation in a variety of subject matters. He has worked on cases involving asbestosrelated products and served as lead negotiating counsel on the 1998 National Tobacco Settlement. Further, he was the co-lead counsel representing 3,000 plaintiffs in an opioid litigation case.

Joe Rice, along with his wife Lisa (USC BA '77), and daughter Ann E. Rice Ervin (USC JD '09; BA '06) have provided significant gifts to the university over the years. These have provided endowed scholarships, professorships, as well as championing the law school's Children's Law Program.

## **Alumni**Connections

Although most of our 12,000-plus alumni are based in the United States, USC Rice School of Law graduates can be found throughout the world, mentoring and employing students long after earning their J.D. The shades of garnet on the map correspond to the concentration of our alumni across the United States.





largest cities, yet it retains a small-town charm. The USC Rice School of Law anchors Columbia's legal corridor and is located just steps from the State House, the South Carolina Supreme Court, the South Carolina Court of Appeals, the National Advocacy Center, and law firms small and large.

Columbia is rapidly growing into a regional hub for corporate relocation, college and professional students, and tourism. The city is relaxed and friendly, without pretense. Areas like the Vista, Five Points, and Main Street all border campus and provide shopping and entertainment, while nearby lakes, rivers, and parks provide recreational activities to keep you grounded. Local attractions include the Congaree National Park, the Riverbanks Zoo and Botanical Garden, and Lake Murray.

#### Connect with Us

#### Apply for Admission to USC Rice School of Law

Take your first steps toward admission by exploring our website at law.sc.edu, focusing on the detailed information about our admissions standards and the application process, our academic programs, our faculty, and our most recent class profile.

You will submit your application materials to the Law School Admission Council at LSAC.org. Applicants must create an account, take the LSAT or submit their scores on the GRE or GMAT, and participate in the LSAC Credential Assembly Service (CAS).

The Admissions Office is located at the historic Taylor House, 1501 Senate Street, in front of the USC Rice School of Law. Questions? Call us at (803) 777-6605.

#### **Visit or Tour?**

· Scan QR code to schedule a tour

#### Want to Learn More?

- Explore our website at law.sc.edu
- Review our academic programs and cocurricular opportunities









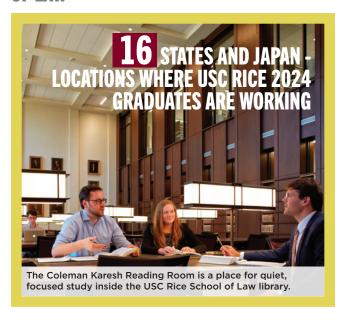




#### THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA IS THE PALMETTO STATE'S FLAGSHIP UNIVERSITY.

The University of South Carolina attracts and retains students from all over the country and the world. The USC system educates more South Carolinians than any other institution in the state. The vibrant university community includes just over 56,000 students - hailing from all 50 states and more than 100 foreign countries - enrolled in highly regarded undergraduate, honors, graduate, and professional programs. South Carolina also has the Carnegie Foundation's top-tier designation for research activity and community engagement, reflecting its dedication to academic excellence.

## **U**+ NUMBER OF ACTIVE STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AT USC RICE SCHOOL





Joseph F. Rice School of Law

### **Fall 2025 Entering Class Profile**

## **Graduate Employment Summary**

#### Class of 2028

**2114 Applicants** 631 admitted (29.85%)

**Entering Class** (35.02%)

**Residents** (59.72%)

**89 Non-Residents** (40.28%)

Minority Students (15.61%)\*

100 Female (45.45%)\*
120 Male (54.55%)\*

\*Of candidates disclosing race, ethnicity, and gender

164/3.91 75th percentile UGPA & LSAT

162/3.67 Median UGPA & LSAT

160/3.43 25th percentile UGPA & LSAT

#### MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2028 HAIL FROM 24 STATES & DC



#### 77 undergraduate schools were represented in the entering class:

University of South Carolina-Columbia (47), Clemson University (35), University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill (10), Furman University (9), Wofford College (8), University of Georgia (7), College of Charleston (5), Auburn University (4), University of Florida (4), James Madison University (3), The Citadel (3), University of Mississippi (3), University of Virginia (3), Virginia Tech (3), Baylor University (2), Coastal Carolina University (2), Davidson College (2), Georgia Southern University (2), Hampden-Sydney College (2), Lander University (2), North Carolina State University-Raleigh (2), Presbyterian College (2), Texas Christian University (2), University of Alabama (2), University of North Carolina-Charlotte (2), University of South Carolina-Upstate (2), University of Tennessee-Knoxville (2), Washington and Lee University (2)

- \*A complete list of undergraduate feeder schools is in the Class Profile on the law school website.
- \*\* All data are accurate as of 8/13/25 but could change before the class profile is verified by the American Bar Association in October 2025.

#### Class of 2024

#### **SOUTH CAROLINA GRADUATES GET JOBS**

USC Rice School of Law graduates engage in experiences that open their eyes - and open doors - to employment opportunities. Eighty-seven percent (87.12%) of USC Rice Law's 2024 graduates took jobs requiring bar passage, surpassing the record-high national rate of 84.3% for this "gold standard" employment outcome. Thirty-nine (39), or 19.30% of our Class of 2024 graduates, continued the pattern established by previous classes of accepting judicial clerkships at a significantly higher level than graduates nationwide. Just 10.0% of 2024 graduates nationwide reported judicial clerkships as their first post-graduate job,

**93.56% employed** or accepted offer of employment 10 months after graduation

**98.93%** of all employed graduates accepted a job for which bar passage was required or a JD was an advantage

**20.74%** of all employed graduates (19.30% of all graduates) accepted a judicial clerkship

16 number of states and Japan where graduates accepted a job

### **Employment Profile as of March 16, 2025**

(ABA reporting date)

176 In jobs requiring bar passage

10 In JD advantage jobs

In professional jobs

202
GRADUATES

188
EMPLOYED
10 MONTHS
AFTER
GRADUATION

4 Pursuing a post-JD degree in a specialized area

9 Unemployed and seeking a job

Employment status unknown

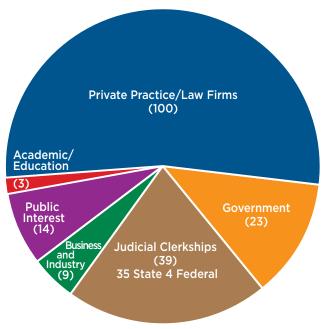
Detailed information about these summary findings is in the ABA mandated employment disclosure, *Employment Summary of 2024 Graduates*, available on our website at law.sc.edu.





### **Employment - Class of 2024**

#### **Employment Types - 202 Graduates**



NUMBER OF JOBS BY SIZE OF FIRM			
	Number of Jobs	<b>Number of Attorneys</b>	
	16	501+	
	10	251-500	
	7	101-250	
	11	51-100	
	8	26-50	
	12	11-25	
	35	1-10	
	1	Solo	

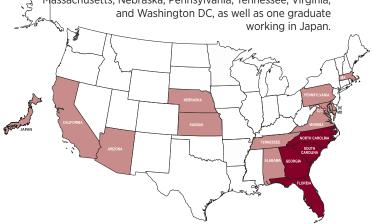
#### **CAREER AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

A student's success in the job search process is enhanced by self-awareness and active engagement in career exploration activities. USC Rice Law's Office of Career and Professional Development emphasizes individualized career planning to help students discover opportunities, choose satisfying jobs, envision a career pathway, and create strategies to reach their goals. Our team of professionals has years of experience in law practice, in the court system, and in the career and professional development of law students.

To speak with a career consultant, call (803) 777-8479. For detailed information about USC Rice Law's graduate employment outcomes, go to law.sc.edu/career.

#### 2024 GRADUATES WERE EMPLOYED IN 16 STATES

While most graduates accepted jobs in the Carolinas, Georgia, and Florida, 2024 USC Rice Law graduates were also working in Alabama, Arizona, California, Delaware, Kansas, Maryland Massachusetts, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, and Washington DC, as well as one graduate



#### JOBS & SALARIES REPORTED BY JOB TYPE - CLASS OF 2024\*

Starting salaries for law graduates vary dramatically within and between employment sectors and based on the location of the employer. Ask us, or any law school you consider, about the availability of jobs that appeal to you, the frequency and nature

Law Firms \$60,000-\$225,000

Business & Industry \$135,000

**Government** (includes Judicial Clerkships) **\$40,000-\$120,000** 

Public Interest \$65,000-\$70,200

of hiring new graduates in each sector, and the availability of entrylevel jobs within the typical geographic 'reach' of the law school.

\*These salary ranges are based upon reported salaries for full-time, long-term positions for which bar passage was required or a JD was an advantage.

#### **EMPLOYERS OF THE CLASS OF 2024**

More than 170 employers in 16 states hired our most recent graduates. Continuing the law school's long history of serving the judiciary, 39 of our graduates secured judicial clerkships at the state and federal level. Our graduates are serving their country in the Army, Navy, and Air Force, and their communities through positions with state and federal government agencies, prosecutor's offices, public defender's offices, and legal services organizations. Our graduates joined firms in large markets and small towns.



Joseph F. Rice School of Law

### Law School Courses

To learn more about these academic programs, visit our website at law.sc.edu. Choose Academics and scroll to 'Areas of Interest'.



#### **First Year Courses**

- Civil Procedure
- Constitutional Law
- Contracts
- Criminal Law
- Property
- Torts
- Introduction to the Legal Profession
- · Legal Research, Analysis and Writing I & II

### **Upper Level Courses**

#### **Business Law**

- Advanced Topics in Family Business law
  Antitrust Law and Trade Regulation

- Banking LawBusiness AssociationsBusiness Torts
- Copyright & Trademark LawCorporate Finance
- Corporate Tax
- Drafting Business Agreements
  Family Business Law
- Financing the Start Up Business & Venture Capital Financing
- Income TaxIntellectual Property
- International Business Transactions
- International Intellectual Property
- International Trade Law

- International Trade Law
  Law & Economics
  Law & the Political Economy
  Lean Law Firm Lab
  Mergers and Acquisitions
  Partnership & LLC Taxation
  Securities Regulation
  Small Business Capstone Course
  Social Impact of Business Activity Seminar

#### Children's and Family Law

- Advanced Family Law
   Carolina Health Advocacy Medicolegal Partnership (CHAMPS) Clinic
- Children's Law Externship
- Domestic Violence Clinic
- Education Law & PolicyEducation Rights Clinic
- Family Law
- Federal Indian LawGender Based Violence Seminar
- Immigration Law

- Juvenile Justice
  Parents, Children & the State
  South Carolina Children's Law, Policy, and Procedure
  • Special Education Law
  • Youth Defender Clinic

#### **Commercial Law and Bankruptcy**

- Banking Law
- Bankruptcy Consumer Law
- Secured Transactions
- Sales

- Constitutional Rights
  Civil Rights Litigation
  Constitutional Equality Law
- Contemporary Topics in National Security and International Law
- Eighth Amendment Law & Litigation
- Election Law Employment Discrimination
- Liberty SeminarState Constitutional Law
- The Reconstruction Constitution
- Voting Rights Seminar

#### **Criminal Law**

- Advanced Evidence
- Criminal Adjudication
- Criminal Law Externship
- Criminal Practice Clinic
- Criminal Procedure • Domestic Violence Clinic

- Eighth Amendment Law & Litigation
   Federal Criminal Practice Capstone
   Gender Based Violence Seminar
   Police Law & Policy
- Race, American Society, and the Law
- Regulation of Vice
   Regulation of Vice
   SC Criminal Law and Procedure
   Trial Advocacy
   Wrongful Conviction Seminar
   Youth Defender Clinic

#### Environmental Law

- · Administrative Law
- Beach Law Seminar
- Climate Change Seminar
  Coastal Law
- Energy Law
- Environmental Law and Policy
   Environmental Law of Natural Resources
   Environmental Law of South Carolina
- International Environmental Law
- Land Use Planning
- Public Lands Law
- · Water Law

- **Health Law** Administrative Law
- Bioethics Seminar
   Food & Drug Law

- Food Law & Policy
   Health Law & Policy
   Health Law and Policy Survey II:
   Financing and Organization
- Insurance
- Intersection of Health Law and Technology
- Public Health Law
  Topics in Insurance Law

- Intellectual Property Law

  Copyright and Trademark Law
  Intellectual Property
- International Intellectual Property
- Patent Law

- International and Comparative Law
   Contemporary Topics in National Security and International Law
- · Cross Border Dispute Resolution and
- Arbitration • International Business Transactions
- International Criminal Law
   International Environmental Law
   International Trade Law
   Public International Law

- Seminar on Comparative Inequality
   Use of Force and the Law of Armed Conflict
   Use of Force, Sanctions, and Technology Transfer Law

- Labor and Employment Law
   ADR in Employment Law Workshop
- Disability LawEmployment Discrimination
- Individual Employment Law
- Principles of Labor Law
  South Carolina Workers Compensation
- Administrative Law
- Advanced Legal Writing
- ADR in Employment Law Workshop
  Advanced Civil Procedure
- Advanced Evidence
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Appellate Advocacy

- Civil Litigation Capstone Course
- Conflict of Laws
- Criminal Practice Clinic
- Domestic Violence Clinic
- Evidence
- Federal CourtsFederal Criminal Practice Capstone

- Interviewing, Counseling, and Negotiation
   Legal and Equitable Remedies
   Problems in Professional Responsibility
- · Restitution and Unjust Enrichment
- Topics in Insurance Law
- Trial AdvocacyYouth Defender Clinic

## Probate and Estate Planning • Elder Law

- Estate Planning Fiduciary Administration
- Income Tax • Wills, Trusts, and Estates

- Real Estate Law
   Environmental Law and Policy
   Estate Planning
- Land Use Planning
- Real Estate Transactions I & II • Real Estate Transaction Capstone

- **Taxation**
- Corporate Tax
- Income Tax
- Low Income Taxpayer Clinic
  Partnership & LLC Taxation
- Small Business Capstone Course
- Tax Policy Seminar
- Tax PracticumTaxation of Property Transactions

- **Technology Law** Artificial Intelligence, Law, Ethics, and Policy
   Bioethics Seminar

- Climate Change Seminar Copyright and Trademark Law Cybersecurity Law and Policy Data Law
- Data Privacy
- Drafting Generative Al Energy Law

- Environmental Law and Policy
   FinTech Law, Financial Regulation, & Policy
   Intellectual Property
- International Intellectual Property
- Patent Law Products Liability
- Technology Innovation and Law Externship Technology Law & Criminal Prosecution
- Technology and the Practice of Law Technology Law: Law of the Newly Possible The Future of the Legal Profession

Transfer Law

Transportation Law
Use of Force, Sanctions, and Technology

### **Combination Degree Programs**

- Law and Accountancy, J.D./M. Acc.
  Law and Business Administration, J.D./M.B.A.
- Law and Criminology and Criminal Justice, Law and Economics, J.D./M.A.
  Law and Earth and Environmental Resources Management, J.D./M.E.E.R.M.
  Law and Health Administration, J.D./M.H.A.
- · Law and Human Resources, J.D./M.H.R. • Law and International Business Administration,
- J.D./I.M.B.A. Law and Mass Communication, J.D./M.M.C.
   Law and Public Administration, J.D./M.P.A.
   Law and Social Work, J.D./M.S.W.





