

Ronald H. Brown Summer Law School Prep Program for York College students in collaboration with the St. John's University School of Law

Thank you for your interest in the Ronald H. Brown Summer Law School Prep Program. This multi-faceted program helps promising students from under-represented groups and/or low income and/or first-generation college students prepare for careers in law.

The program offers all of the key elements students need to become competitive candidates and eventually, legal practitioners. Sophomore and Junior students from all majors are selected each spring through a competitive application process to assure academic engagement, professional maturity, intellectual curiosity and a passion for the law.

The sophomore program is a 9 week program. It includes 3 weeks of intense study of law with St. John's University School of Law professors, simulating the law school experience; a 2 week judicial internship where a student is matched with a judge who mentors the student; and (matching the student's interest in law) a 4 week internship with a district attorney's office, a public defender's office or a number of top-tier private law firms. It also includes some LSAT preparation. The junior program includes judicial and specialized internships and an intense 15 week LSAT preparation and one-on-one mentoring from a legal practitioner.

The program is unique and has tremendous success in getting students into law school, many with complete or partial scholarships to a wide range of law schools, including some of the most prestigious in the country. The program is now entering its 9th year.

We are seeking qualified sophomore students this year. Accepted students are expected to participate in the sophomore and junior programs, take the LSAT, attend an admissions fair and apply to at least five law schools. Academic credits are available for students completing the entire program. Financial reimbursement for the LSAT and application process is available for students completing the program.

The process for admission to the program is to submit a completed application packet by the deadline. York College reviews the applications to see that you meet the eligibility criteria. The applications are then forwarded to St. John's University Law School, where a panel of law professors, lawyers and judges review the packet and offer interviews to selected candidates. The candidate is interviewed and, if selected, informed of the decision by early May. The program begins in early June and lasts through the beginning of August for sophomores and the beginning of October for juniors.

Your application includes:

- 1) A completed, timely submitted application form;
- 2) Two recommendation letters (at least one must be from one of your professors);
- 3) Official transcripts from all schools attended after high school/GED;
- 4) An updated resume;
- 5) A writing sample;
- 6) A personal statement.

The program is **open to students from all majors** who have an interest in pursuing legal careers.

The application deadline is FRIDAY, March 14, 2014.

Return all applications to Room 4D06 to Dr. Robin Harper, Pre-Law Advisor, Department of Behavioral Sciences.

Questions? Contact Dr. Robin Harper at rharper@york.cuny.edu or in person in 4D06.

Family Information:

Mother's highest educational level obtained? _____

Father's highest educational level obtained? _____

How many members are included in your household? _____ (include self)

List: (include self)

Name	Relationship to Self	Name	Relationship to Self
_____	Self	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Annual household income information \$ _____

If you are a dependent student, what is the source of your parents' income, based on the following?

1040 tax return \$ _____

Public assistance (SSI, TANF, etc.), enter amount per month \$ _____

Student Financial Information:

Are you employed full time? _____

Are you employed part-time? _____

Approximately how much of your earnings are used to support yourself? _____

If you are employed, list name of employer _____

Type of Job _____

Your position _____

Are you receiving any financial aid? If so, specify sources and amounts for the academic years.

TAP _____ Work Study _____ PELL _____ SEEK _____ Other _____

Are you a veteran or currently active in the military? Yes No

Indicate two faculty members you have asked to recommend you:

Faculty Name _____ Department _____ Telephone # _____

Faculty Name _____ Department _____ Telephone # _____

Criminal History:

Have you ever, either as an adult or a juvenile, been cited, arrested, taken into custody, charged with, indicted, convicted, tried for, or pleaded guilty to, the commission of any felony or misdemeanor or the violation of any law, except minor parking violations, or been the subject of any juvenile delinquency or youthful offender proceeding? Yes No

If you answer yes, state the charge or charges, the disposition thereof and the underlying facts in an attached addendum. Although a conviction may have been expunged from the records by an order of a court, it nevertheless should be disclosed in the answer to this question. Please note that you should have available and be prepared to submit or exhibit copies of police and court records regarding any matter you disclose in reply to this question.

Are any criminal charges pending against you? Yes No If yes, please attach an addendum explaining the circumstances.

Personal Statement: On a separate sheet of paper, in 250-300 words, please clearly type a personal statement that addresses the following: (1) the reason(s) for your interest in the study of law and (2) how you have worked to overcome your disadvantaged background. Your writing skills in preparing this statement will also be evaluated.

Resume: Please attach a complete and updated resume to this application.

Writing Sample: Attach any writing you have done that you believe expresses your best work.

Program Rules:

1. Students are expected to attend every session and event. Absences will not be tolerated. You may be excused for family or medical emergencies, but must present written documentation of any emergencies. Excessive absences even for excused family or medical reasons may result in expulsion from the program.
2. Students are expected to be prepared and do all the homework assigned for the class. Failure to do the homework will result in a deduction from the students' stipend and also may result in expulsion from the program.
3. Students must turn off all electronic devices during class.
4. Study period is not optional; it is mandatory. During study period, students are expected to study. Study periods are supervised by teaching assistants.
5. Students are expected to come to class on time and attend classes in their entirety. Arriving late or leaving early or excessive absences, without written documentation of an emergency, will result in a deduction to the students' stipend. Excessive lateness or absences or early departures may also result in expulsion from the program.
6. Students are expected to be on time for their internships and to work diligently at their internship. Arriving late or leaving early or excessive absences during the internship component will result in a deduction to the students' stipend. Excessive lateness or absences or early departure may also result in expulsion from the program.
7. Students are expected to participate and pay attention during class. Sleeping in class is strictly forbidden. Other than a documented medical condition, students who fall asleep in class may have their stipend docked or be expelled from the Program.
8. Unless otherwise excused by the Director of The Ronald H. Brown Law School Summer Prep Program, students are required to spend their full-time on the program during the course of the Summer Prep Program. *This means that students cannot take undergraduate courses, engage in extracurricular school or other activities, or work full- or part-time during the course of the Program. Students in violation of this Rule may be expelled from the Program.*
9. In compliance with New York State Public Health Law 2167, all resident students must complete the medical form related to immunization against meningococcal meningitis.
10. If students stay in the dorms, they must keep and leave them in a clean manner at all times. If it is determined that the dorms are dirty upon the completion of the Program, by the sole discretion of St. John's University, each roommate will be assessed a financial penalty.
11. Students taking the LSAT review course must take every diagnostic LSAT exam in class and when assigned. Diagnostic LSATs must be treated like the real test. Students must arrive early and be prepared. Missing a diagnostic test without written emergency

documentation will result in either expulsion or a stipend reduction.

12. Each and every scheduled LSAT class is mandatory. Students taking the LSAT review class must take each class as assigned and not double up on classes in order to take a day off. Attendance at each LSAT study period is mandatory. Students must be present for the full duration of the study period, and should fully utilize the allotted-for time. Failure to comply with these rules will result in expulsion from the program or deduction in the students' stipends.
13. Students taking the LSAT review course must sign up and take the LSAT in September/October of his/her senior year unless excused by his/her faculty advisor.
14. Students are prohibited from drinking, consuming alcoholic beverages, wines, liquors or beer or doing any kinds of illegal drugs anywhere on St. John's Campus. Students found to violate this rule will be automatically expelled from the program.
15. Students agree to release all diagnostic LSAT score reports to the Ronald H. Brown Summer Law School Prep Program Director, tutors, and pre-law advisors associated with this program.
16. Once the student takes the LSAT, the student agrees to send his/her score report to his/her pre-law advisors, the Director of the Ronald H. Brown Summer Law School Prep Program, and the St. John's University School of Law. Students are further required to apply to an agreed upon number of schools (always more than 10) and to share the outcome of those applications with the program.
17. Students staying in the dorms shall not have guests who are not part of the program visit them in the dorms.
18. Students shall not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, age, sex (including sexual harassment), sexual orientation, marital status, citizenship status, disability, genetic predisposition or carrier status, or status in the uniformed services of the United States (including veteran status). Students are also prohibited from retaliating against anyone who has complained about discrimination or discrimination-related harassment. Any student who is found to discriminate or retaliate against anyone who complained about discrimination or discrimination-related harassment may be expelled from the program.
19. I give permission to my undergraduate college advisor, St. John's University School of Law, and members of the Ronald H. Brown Summer Prep Program planning committee to have access to my undergraduate grades until my graduation. I fully understand that this information will be solely used for data gathering purposes, which include tracking my academic progress as a form of outcomes assessment of the Ronald H. Brown Summer Prep Program.
20. Provided that our funding application is approved, you will be required to attend an admissions fair where you will meet representatives from law schools. There, you will get a chance to discuss your admissions prospects and receive information from each of these schools. Attendance is mandatory. The admissions fair is tentatively scheduled for November 2014.
21. IT IS NOT CERTAIN THAT THE RONALD H. BROWN LAW SCHOOL SUMMER PREP PROGRAM WILL BE ABLE TO OFFER STIPENDS MENTIONED IN THESE RULES. THE MENTIONING OF STIPENDS IN THESE RULES IS NOT A COMMITMENT OR AN OBLIGATION BY ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY, ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, THE RONALD H. BROWN SUMMER PREP PROGRAM OR ANY OF PERSONNEL OR STAFF TO PROVIDE STIPENDS TO THE PREP PROGRAM STUDENTS FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE LAW SCHOOL SUMMER PREP PROGRAM.

I have read the Ronald H. Brown Law School Summer Prep Program rules and agree to abide by them during the course of the Summer Prep Program.

Signature

Print Name

Date

FERPA Waiver and Permission:

WHEREAS, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA") (20 U.S.C. §1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. FERPA applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education.

WHEREAS, FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's education records, these rights transfer to the "eligible students" when he or she reaches the age of 18 or attends a school beyond the high school level.

WHEREAS, schools generally must have written permission from the parent or "eligible student" to release any information from a student's education record to any outside individuals, entities and/or institutions.

NOW THEREFORE, by signing this FERPA Waiver and Permission, I waive my rights under FERPA and give permission, in our sole discretion, to disseminate my personal information as follows:

1. I agree to give full expressed acknowledgment, waiver, and permission allowing CUNY and St. John's University School of Law personnel to review the information that I submit as part of being an applicant and/or participant in the Ronald H. Brown Pre-Law Program ("Program").
2. I agree that the submitted information as an applicant and/or participant in the Program will also include all of my academic records (and other relevant information) from now until completion of my undergraduate degree. These records also include all LSAT scores, including any and all diagnostic LSAT scores.
3. All student information may be shared regularly with CUNY and/or St. John's administrators and personnel that are or can be potential funders for this Program.
4. I agree to allow those involved with the Program, including but not limited to Dr. Robin Harper, to use such academic information and my student information for further research and scholarship, including but not limited to, academic publications and/or scholarly articles, This may include the distribution of my student information to outside institutions not affiliated or related to CUNY or St. John's University School of Law.
5. Best efforts will be taken to keep my student information (such as, but not limited to, my student name and social security number) confidential.
6. My signature below indicates that I have read and fully understand the contents of this FERPA Waiver and Permission.
7. I also affirm that my signature is fully voluntary and agree to all the terms set forth in this waiver and permission.

I authorize the Department of Behavioral Sciences at York College to obtain from the Admissions Office, the Financial Aid Office, and the Registrar's Office any academic records/data pertinent to my participation in the Pre-Law Program. All information collected as part of my application may be shared with the St. John's University School of Law as part of the admissions process into the Pre-Law Program.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Parent's signature (if under 18) _____

Date

**ACADEMIC RECOMMENDATION FORM
YORK COLLEGE
IN COLLABORATION WITH ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
SUMMER PRE-LAW PROGRAM**

**PLEASE MAIL TO:
DR. ROBIN HARPER
DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES - POLITICAL SCIENCE DISCIPLINE
YORK COLLEGE
THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
94-20 GUY R. BREWER BOULEVARD
JAMAICA, NY 11451**

Please fill out the section below and give this form to one of your professors. References should be sent directly to the above address or they can be hand-delivered if the professor has signed her/his name across the back of the sealed envelope.

Type or print clearly

Name of
Applicant

Last	First	Middle Initial
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Name of
Recommender

To the Recommender: Please complete form and attach a typed letter of recommendation on your letterhead.

How long have you known the applicant? _____ Years _____ Months

In what capacity have you
known the applicant?

Summary of Evaluation

_____ I do not recommend the applicant for admission.

_____ I believe that the applicant's qualifications are marginal although the applicant has potential.

_____ I recommend this applicant for admission.

_____ I strongly recommend this applicant for admission.

Please evaluate the applicant in each of the following categories below by placing an "X" in the appropriate box.

How does this applicant compare to the other () sophomores () lower juniors

	Poor	Average	Good	Outstanding	Unable to Judge
Academic Promise					
Motivation					
Teaching Potential					
Research Potential					
Speaking Skills					
Writing Skills					
Mathematical ability					
Maturity					
Emotional Stability					
Ability to Accept Constructive Criticism					
Ability to work with others					

Evaluator's Signature

Date

Evaluator's Name (Type or Print)

Position

Phone

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Research Potential					
Speaking Skills					
Writing Skills					
Mathematical ability					
Maturity					
Emotional Stability					
Ability to Accept Constructive Criticism					
Ability to work with others					

Evaluator's Signature

Date