

Board Meeting
December 14, 2018

ESTABLISH THE JURIS DOCTOR, UIC JOHN MARSHALL LAW SCHOOL,
CHICAGO

Action: Establish the Juris Doctor, UIC John Marshall Law School

Funding: No New Funding Required

The Chancellor, University of Illinois at Chicago, and Vice President, University of Illinois with the advice of the Chicago Senate and UIC John Marshall Law School recommends the establishment of the Juris Doctor.

The Juris Doctor (JD) prepares individuals to enter the practice of law and to work in a wide variety of law-related or professional fields, including business and government. It also prepares students for the state bar examinations for professional licensure and to pursue further education and graduate programs related to law. The degree will be the city of Chicago's first and only JD at a public law school. The curriculum is distinctive in its number of required lawyering skills credits (10 hours), combined with its clinical/externship requirement (at least 3 hours) and required three-hour trial advocacy course.

Students with undergraduate degrees in any discipline may apply. The JD can be completed full- or part-time (day or evening), and students can start the program in January or August. The degree requires 90 hours, including 53 hours of required

courses and 37 hours of electives. Students may use this elective coursework to complete an optional concentration in one of four areas: intellectual property law, international human rights, sustainability, or trial advocacy and dispute resolution. Students must maintain an overall grade point average of 2.25/4.00, and the American Bar Association requires students to complete the JD in no fewer than 24 months and, absent extraordinary circumstances, no more than 84 months. In Fall 2019, an estimated 900 JD students (new and continuing) will be enrolled.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respect with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes*, *The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.

The Executive Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further Senate jurisdiction is involved.

The President of the University recommends approval. This action is subject to further review and approval by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.