

Board Meeting
January 21, 2021

ELIMINATE THE MASTER OF LAWS IN ESTATE PLANNING, UIC JOHN
MARSHALL LAW SCHOOL, CHICAGO

Action: Eliminate the Master of Laws in Estate Planning, UIC John Marshall Law School

Funding: No New Funding Required

The Chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago, and Vice President, University of Illinois System with the advice of the Chicago Senate and UIC John Marshall Law School recommends the elimination of the Master of Laws (LLM) in Estate Planning.

The LLM degree builds on the general legal education provided by the Juris Doctor (JD) degree, and give students the opportunity to study within a specialized field in much greater depth. Applicants must have a JD from an accredited institution in the United States or an equivalent degree from an institution outside the U.S. The LLM in Estate Planning was launched by The John Marshall Law School in 2012, prior to its acquisition by UIC.

An analysis by the faculty determined that program enrollments have not met projections and that the program is peripheral to the strategic priorities of the law school in the areas of intellectual property, law and health sciences, and public lawyering. No new students will be allowed to enroll, although current students will be allowed to

complete their degrees. The program will be phased out over the next one to four years, with the longer time frame reflecting that most enrolled students are part-time. Courses from the eliminated program that remain relevant to the JD or align with the school's strategic priorities will be retained. Three additional LLM degrees are being concurrently recommended for elimination: the LLM in International Business and Trade Law, the LLM in Privacy and Technology Law, and the LLM in Tax Law. The law school will continue to offer three LLM degrees in Employee Benefits, Intellectual Property Law, and Real Estate Law.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respects 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.