

# ***Drake Law Announcements***

***October 8, 2025***

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## **July 2026 Bar Application Info Session, Thurs. Oct. 9 at 2:30 p.m.:**

This information session is for anyone planning on taking the July 2026 bar exam to discuss when to start gathering information, important deadlines for applying for the bar (preview: in Iowa, the July application is due April 1), and understanding the process of applying for the bar. Come join us on **Thursday, October 9 at 2:30 p.m. in Cartwright 213** to get a heads up on things to track in the spring and get your bar exam-related questions answered. If you have any questions about the bar exam or application process, please contact Ashley Madsen at [ashley.r.madsen@drake.edu](mailto:ashley.r.madsen@drake.edu).

## **Clarence Darrow Performance Coming to Drake October 9**

The Clarence Darrow one-man play will be in Drake's Sheslow Auditorium on Thursday, October 9, at 7 p.m. This [David Rintels'](#) play features [Patrick Spradlin](#) as Clarence Darrow. The event is free and open to the public. Click [here](#) for more information.

## **Fire Drills on Campus – October 13 & 20**

Drake will hold its annual campus fire drills on Oct. 13, 14, 15, and 20 in compliance with the Higher Education Opportunity Act and in conjunction with National Fire Prevention month. All drills will be conducted at **10:45 a.m.** with the exception of the residence halls, which will be conducted from 6 to 9 p.m. on Oct. 20. Most of the drills will be completed during fall break.

- Monday, October 13 – Opperman & Cartwright (Fall Break)
- Monday, October 20 – Legal Clinic

More detailed information: <https://oncampus.wp.drake.edu/2025/10/06/drake-annual-campus-fire-drill/>

## **Legal Clinic Application Deadline: October 17 at noon**

Interested in Drake Legal Clinic for Spring 2026? Be sure to apply for the [clinic lottery here!](#) Applications accepted until Friday, October 17 at noon. Eligibility and course prerequisites available on the [Legal Clinic Registration webpage](#). Selected students will be notified by the end of October and will have the opportunity to ask questions before accepting a spot. Students must participate in clinic orientation January 15 and 16.

## **Cady Day of Service – Friday, Oct. 17**

This year's Mark S. Cady Day of Service will be held on Friday, Oct. 17. Cady Day is an annual day of service held in honor of the late Chief Justice of the Iowa Supreme Court Mark Cady. Check out some ways to get involved below – or see the full list/submit your own program [HERE](#).

### **Advanced Directives and Simple Wills Clinics – Friday, Oct. 17 - hosted by Drake Law School and Dickinson Bradshaw law firm**

**Student and attorney volunteers are needed** to help clients complete the required forms to establish financial and medical powers of attorney, living wills, and simple wills. This opportunity is open to all 1L, 2L, and 3L students. No previous experience is necessary. The Clinics will be held from 9-10:30 a.m., Noon-1:30 p.m., and 4-5:30 p.m. at the Law School. [Sign up to volunteer for one or more sessions here.](#)

### **Healthy Mom & Baby Diaper Drive - sponsored by Youth Law Society**

The Youth Law Society is sponsoring a diaper drive to benefit Healthy Birth Day's inaugural Des Moines Community Baby Shower. Their goal is to send each expecting parent home with a package of diapers and wipes. Huggies has pledged to match each donation made through our Amazon list.

Please consider donating items to shower expecting families in Central Iowa with the essentials needed to welcome a new baby into their family! Donate here: [bit.ly/CTKDiaperDrive](https://bit.ly/CTKDiaperDrive)

**Des Moines Community Baby Shower presented by UnityPoint Health, Sponsored by Healthy Birth Day - Friday, Oct. 17 - 3:30 - 7:30 PM - EMC Expo Center, Junior Ballroom**

Healthy Birth Day is looking for **30 to 40 volunteers** to assist at their inaugural Des Moines Community Baby Shower. They anticipate having 350-500 expecting parents and their guests join them for a fun and engaging event to learn about important tools and resources like Count the Kicks. Volunteers are needed to help with set up, greet and check in guests, at the diaper giveaway station, and for tear down. Please contact Reilly Cady at [cady.reilly@healthybirthday.org](mailto:cady.reilly@healthybirthday.org) or 515-408-3509 to volunteer.

(If there is a student org that would like to “sponsor” this event, please reach out to Tiffany ([tiffany.contreras@drake.edu](mailto:tiffany.contreras@drake.edu).)

**Road Closures – Sunday, October 19**

The IMT Marathon route will travel through and around Drake's campus from 8:30–11:30 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 19. Drake's iconic Blue Oval and the Drake campus will be part of the race around the nine-mile mark. Please expect traffic disruptions near campus. More information can be found here: <https://oncampus.wp.drake.edu/2025/10/07/road-closures-oct-20-for-des-moines-marathon/>

**Dean's Speaker Series: Leadership & civility in the Legal Profession – October 23 attachment picture 10-2-25 desktop**

Make plans to join the Dean's Speaker Series on **Thursday, October 23 at 3 p.m.** in the **James A. Albert Classroom**. There will be a reception following at 4:15 p.m. in Kern Commons. This year, the series places a special emphasis on civility and leadership—examining how respect, collaboration, and professionalism remain essential qualities for effective leaders in today's legal and civic arenas.

Speakers include: William Renn Gade, LA'82, JD'85, Deputy General Counsel for Intelligence & Security, U.S. Department of Defense; Dennis Taylor, JD'74, Former Secretary of Labor and Chief of Staff to the Gover of Kansas and Keith Ellison, Minnesota Attorney General and former U.S. Representative (MN-05).

Register [here](#).

**Judges Needed for Undergraduate Mock Trials October 24-26**

Judges are needed for the Drake University Mock Trial Tournament October 24-26. Law student and law faculty judges would be much appreciated at any of these trials: Friday at 6, Saturday at 9 and 2, and Sunday at 9. For more details or to sign up go [here](#), or contact [calkins.invitational@gmail.com](mailto:calkins.invitational@gmail.com). The invitational bears the name of former law dean Richard Calkins, who created Mock Trial at Drake in 1985.

**Judges \*ALSO\* Needed for Collegiate Moot Court Competition Nov. 14 and 15**

Drake Law School is partnering with the American Moot Court Association (AMCA) to host an undergraduate regional moot court tournament at Drake Law on Friday, Nov. 14, and Saturday, Nov. 15. **All law students and faculty are invited to judge.**

The competition begins in the afternoon of Nov. 14th. A round lasts about an hour, and volunteers can indicate availability for particular rounds via link provided below. On Saturday, rounds begin at 9 a.m., with the greatest need on Saturday for volunteers during the first two rounds. The case problem, bench brief, and a judge orientation are provided to all judges. This is a great opportunity to help students with a unique educational experience and to help welcome them to Drake.

[Click here to volunteer.](#)

### **Spring 2026 Class Schedule Available to View**

Start planning your spring semester! Check out the class options and times in Self-Service and find a time to meet with your faculty advisor. Registration opens November 12 and 13. Remember to review the [graduation requirements](#) and [registration details](#) and forms available on Drake Law's website. *1L students will register as a group during ISG on Friday, November 21<sup>st</sup>.*

### **Composite Photo**

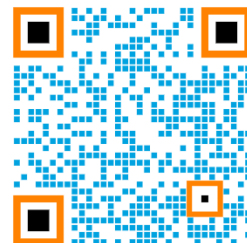
The 3L class composite photo sessions will be held in Olmsted rooms 312 and 313 on the following dates and times:

- Wednesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> from 1:00 pm-6:00 pm
- Thursday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00 am-4:00 pm
- Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup> (RETAKES) from 10:00 am-4:00 pm

Use this [link](#) to schedule a time to take your photo. Every student must be accounted for. If you do not get your picture taken, you will be listed as "Not Pictured" on the class composite. Please reach out to Amelia Garber ([amelia.garber@drake.edu](mailto:amelia.garber@drake.edu)) with any questions.

### **Suit Scholarship for 1Ls – October 19 application deadline**

The Lamson, Dugan & Murray (LDM) Suit Scholarship at Drake Law School is designed to reduce the barriers to entry in the legal profession and help law students put their best foot forward. With awards of up to \$500, the goal is to help alleviate the financial burden of purchasing business professional attire for On Campus Interviews (OCIs), open houses and other industry events as a law student. The Career Development Office has more information on this scholarship and how it may or may not impact your financial aid. Applications are due Sunday, October 19 at 11:45 p.m. Apply by using the QR code shown on the right.



### **Free Mock MPRE, Monday, Oct. 27 at 8:30 a.m.:**

Are you planning on taking the November MPRE? Join Kristine Browne from Helix Bar Review on Monday, October 27 at 8:30 a.m. in Opperman LL19 to take a free mock exam! Getting a practice run in well before exam day is a great opportunity to determine where you currently are, identify what you need to improve, and get a feel for what the exam will be like in November. To register, please

contact Kristine Browne at [kbrowne@helixbarreview.org](mailto:kbrowne@helixbarreview.org). If you have any questions, please contact your Ethics professor or Ashley Madsen.

### **February 2026 Bar Exam Application Deadline:**

If you are a December graduate planning on taking the February 2026 bar exam, please take note of your application deadline. In Iowa, the February deadline is Saturday, November 1, 2025. If you are taking the bar exam in another state in February, please check your jurisdiction's website to ensure you have the correct application deadline. If you have any questions about the bar exam or how to find the correct deadlines for your jurisdiction, please contact Ashley Madsen at [ashley.r.madsen@drake.edu](mailto:ashley.r.madsen@drake.edu).

### **Sease Awards – Deadline October 31, 2025**

Drake Law School is pleased to be able to offer the *Sease Awards* again this year.

The Sease Awards program is in honor of Adjunct Professor Edmund J. Sease ([learn more about his contributions here](#)).

Sease Awards support Drake Law School students interested in practicing Intellectual Property (IP) law (patent, trademark, copyright, right of publicity, trade secret, etc.).

#### **Who Can Apply?**

All Drake Law School students interested in IP law are encouraged to apply.

#### **How to Apply**

Students should submit their proposals by email to Associate Professor and Sease Faculty Research Scholar [Sayoko Blodgett-Ford](mailto:sayoko.blodgettford@drake.edu) ([sayoko.blodgettford@drake.edu](mailto:sayoko.blodgettford@drake.edu)).

Proposals should include a *brief* summary (around 1 page) of the proposed event or project, including:

- Relevant project dates and deadlines
- Estimated expenses for which reimbursement is requested.
- The IP law connection for the project

Application Deadline for 2025-2026 Sease Awards: October 31, 2025 (8 p.m. Central)

#### **Funding Details**

- Preference: Proposals requesting reimbursement of under \$500 are encouraged.
- Limits: Proposals over \$1,000 are highly unlikely to be funded.
- Partial funding: Sease Awards may cover the full or partial requested amount.

#### **Examples of Potentially Eligible Expenses**

- Reimbursement for registration for student memberships in professional organizations such as [INTA](#) (\$27 fee), [LES](#) (\$60 fee), or [IAPP](#) (\$50 fee)
  - NOTE: Students are also encouraged to register for FREE student memberships in [AIPLA](#) and bar associations of [Iowa](#) and any states of interest
- Conference registration & travel (e.g., [AIPLA](#), [INTA](#), or other IP-related events)
- Patent Bar [Exam](#) fees and patent bar review course fees

- Interdisciplinary (art, science, religion, history ...) or Industry-related (agriculture, insurance, entertainment, fashion ...) projects with an IP law connection.

#### Additional Notes

- Use of Sease Award funds must comply with all Drake Law School & University policies, and all procedures for reimbursement.
- Selection of any Sease Award recipients, and any amount (if any) of funding, is in the sole discretion of Prof. Blodgett-Ford and the Dean of the Drake Law School.
- The Sease Awards program may be modified or discontinued at any time.

Questions? Contact [Professor Blodgett-Ford](#).

### **Join Drake Law Connect - A new platform exclusively for members of the Drake Law community**

All students are invited to join Drake Law Connect, a professional development platform for students, alumni, faculty and staff focused on making connections. It's never been easier to connect with Drake Law alumni and build your network. [Click here to get started](#).

Questions? Please contact [Tiffany Contreras](#).

### **Religious Observance Accommodations**

If an academic deadline or exam conflicts with your religious observance, please contact Dean Battles before the conflict to arrange reasonable accommodations.

### **ADA accommodation renewal**

Remember that accommodations must be renewed annually! To establish or renew accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), contact the [Office of Access and Success](#) for an appointment. Drake provides reasonable accommodations, as required by federal law, so that students' success is not hindered by disabilities.

### **Drake Law Women Emergency Fund**

The DLW Emergency Fund offers confidential financial assistance to any Drake law student experiencing unforeseen emergencies. Applications for funding are anonymous and are open to all students. For more details and to fill out an application, visit the Resources tab of SBA's website here: <https://drakelawsba.org/dlw-emergency-fund/>. Questions can be directed to [roxsanna.allen@drake.edu](mailto:roxsanna.allen@drake.edu).