

Drake Law Announcements

September 24, 2025

SUMMARY

- Food Pantry and Snack Cupboard
- Drake Legal Clinic – Meet & Greet, Thursday, September 25
- Join the Drake Law Republicans for mini golf!
- NextGen Bar Exam Info Session, Wed. Oct. 8 at 2:30 p.m.
- July 2026 Bar Application Info Session, Thurs. Oct. 9 at 2:30 p.m.
- Cady Day of Service – Friday, Oct. 17
- Writing Competitions
- Composite Photo
- Free Mock MPRE, Monday, Oct. 27 at 8:30 a.m.:
- February 2026 Bar Exam Application Deadline
- Sease Awards – Deadline October 31, 2025
- Drake Law Press Release
- Join Drake Law Connect
- Religious Observance Accommodations
- ADA accommodation renewal
- Drake Law Women Emergency Fund

Food Pantry and Snack Cupboard

Is your grocery budget feeling a bit tight? Your brain learns best when your body has the nutrition it needs to focus and grow. The food pantry and snack cupboard in Kern Commons is there to supplement when you need it. Check the labeled sections of the fridge, freezer, and cupboard beside for snacks or the components of a larger meal to make at home. If you experience larger or more sustained food insecurity, please talk to Dean Battles.

Drake Legal Clinic – Meet & Greet, Thursday, September 25

Are you a 2L or 3L interested in Clinic work during the Spring 2026 semester? Do you want to learn more? Now is your time to learn more during Clinic Pre-Registration Time. Please plan to stop by Porterhouse Lounge on **Thursday, September 25 between 2-3 p.m.** to find out more about these amazing opportunities. There will also be a Clinic Info Session on **Monday, October 6 from 12:30-1 p.m. in Room 201, Cartwright.**

Clinic Student Pre-Registration Applications opened on Monday, September 22 at 12 p.m. and are accepted until Friday, October 17 at 12 p.m. Scan this QR code to apply.

Acceptance notifications will be sent to students on Friday, October 24.



Join the Drake Law Republicans for mini golf!

Friday, September 26th at 4:00 pm Drake Law Republicans kicks off their welcome to school event at Toad Valley where a fun game of mini golf will commence at 4:00 pm. Please RSVP to Ella Stafford (ella.stafford@drake.edu). Toad Valley is located at: 237 NE 80th St, Pleasant Hill, IA 50327.

NextGen Bar Exam Info Session, Wed. Oct. 8 at 2:30 p.m.:

If you are planning to or are considering taking the bar exam in Missouri, Washington, Idaho, Connecticut, Maryland, or Oregon in July 2026, please note that these states will transition to the NextGen Bar Exam. *All other states, including Iowa, will continue with their current iterations of the bar exam in July 2026.* Ashley Madsen will be holding an informational session on the NextGen Bar Exam on **Wednesday, October 8 at 2:30 in Cartwright 202** to discuss the new exam format. We highly encourage you to attend this information session *and* contact Ashley Madsen (ashley.r.madsen@drake.edu) to discuss considerations on how to approach the changing exam if you are intending to take the bar in one of those six states.

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.

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. We welcome your suggestions for projects or programs to be held in honor of Cady Day. While the "official" Cady Day is Oct. 17, any projects/programs held during the month of October and planned in honor of Cady Day will be recognized. Drake Law sponsored programs are just starting to come in and there will be many opportunities to get involved in the coming weeks. We hope you will participate in some way – either by supporting an existing project or planning your own. Check out the complete list of projects and programs or submit your own program [HERE](#).

One example of how our community is coming together is through a series of **Advanced Directives and Simple Wills Clinics** 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 on Friday, Oct. 17 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.](#)

Writing Competitions

If you have completed a paper for a class or have a research interest in a particular area, be sure to check out our [Writing Competitions Page](#). Almost every subject area is covered.

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 22nd from 1:00 pm-6:00 pm
- Thursday, October 23rd from 9:00 am-4:00 pm
- Tuesday, November 4th (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) with any questions.

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 Brown at 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.

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).

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.