

Drake Law Announcements

January 21, 2026

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Security Reminder

Remember that Opperman and Cartwright Halls are open to the public during posted library hours. Please do not leave laptops or other valuables unattended. Also, if the building is locked, do not open the door for someone you do not recognize. Public Safety reports that unauthorized individuals have been let into the building after hours. Do not hesitate to contact a staff member or call Public Safety at 515-271-2222 anytime you have concerns.

Last Day to Add or Drop a Class

Welcome to spring semester! Some important deadlines for class changes:

Last day to Add a class – Monday, January 26

Last day to drop a class without a W – Tuesday, February 3

Last day to drop a class *with* a W – Sunday, March 22

ISG: So, You Finished 1L Fall... Now What? – Friday, January 23

Unhappy with your academic performance in your first semester? Unsure what to do to improve your grades in the spring? Not sure how to approach your resume and discussions about grades with employers? Join Ashley Madsen and Dean Laurie Dufoe in this optional ISG session to debrief last semester and talk about improving your performance, summer jobs, and handling grade discussions with employers. This session is recommended for any 1Ls who want to make changes in the spring semester and will be held on **Friday, January 23 at 8:30 a.m. in Cartwright 206**. Coffee and muffins provided!

Iowa Animal Law in Practice – Monday, January 26

Not everyone who practices animal law studies it... Drake Animal Legal Defense Fund (ALDF) is hosting a Q&A panel with Iowa legal professionals who have put animal law into practice (**11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. in Cartwright 203**). From private to public practice, these professionals did not go into animal law: animal law found them. They will explain how they've encountered animals in their cases, what they did, and what future lawyers should consider in similar situations. Space is limited to 24 attendees. Please sign up in Symplicity.

Speakers include:

- Counsel at Polk County Attorney's office
- Kelly Grossman (JD'19) at The Law Shop

Charting Powerful Careers as Women in the Law – Tuesday, January 27

Join the Drake Law Women at the Iowa State Bar Association office for this opportunity to hear from incredible guest speakers including Judge Sharon Greer, Julie Bittner, Jessie Benson, and Megan Culver. The event is from 5-7 p.m. Register in Symplicity. If you have questions, please contact Molli Bauer (molli.bauer@drake.edu).

Attention 3Ls – You are eligible to apply for the Order of the Barristers

The Order of the Barristers application period will open on **Monday, Feb. 2 at 8 a.m. and close on Monday, Feb. 9 at 5 p.m.** The National Order of the Barristers recognizes law students who have made outstanding contributions to advocacy programs and demonstrated exceptional skill in oral advocacy during law school. Drake Law School may select up to twelve honorees. Eligibility is limited to graduating 3Ls, including members of the Class of 2026 who graduated in December 2025. Honorees are selected by a vote of all members of the Moot Court Board, appellate teams, mock trial teams, and skills teams. The selected students will be announced at the Moot Court Banquet on Wednesday, March 25, at 6 p.m. in Kern Commons.

Applications will be emailed to all eligible students at 8 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 2. Please contact Tiffany Contreras (tiffany.contreras@drake.edu) you have any questions.

Black History Month Breakfast – Tuesday, February 3

Join us for a Breakfast Open House to celebrate Black History Month! It will be held in **Kern Commons** on **Tuesday February 3rd from 7:30-8:30 a.m.** This event is open to all Drake Law alumni, students, faculty and staff. Please register [here](#).

Oxford Summer Law Program – July 12-August 8, 2026—Zoom on January 22

The [2026 Ohio State University - Oxford Summer Law Program](#) will take place July 12–August 8, 2026. This ABA-approved program is open to JD students from ABA-accredited law schools and provides an enriching four-week academic experience, including four credit hours of coursework towards their JD degree.

The application is open for JD students to apply.

There is a virtual information session on **Thursday, January 22 at 12:10 pm ET (Zoom)**. The session will cover program highlights, course offerings, student experiences, and application details. Students will also have the chance to hear from the Program's Resident Director.

Students can [register here](#) to join the information session.

Additional program information is available here: <https://moritzlaw.osu.edu/academics/oxford-summer-law-program>

More questions? Please send them to MoritzOxford@osu.edu.

Food Security Survey

Drake University Food Security Coalition is conducting a campus-wide survey to better understand students' access to fresh, nutritious food. The law school has included a few questions specific to our Law School Food Pantry. We hope you'll share your experiences to help Drake respond to student need. https://drake.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0rpGD3al72807D8 Questions or suggestions about the food pantry may be directed to Lyra Halsten, lyra.halsten@drake.edu, or Dean Battles, liz.battles@drake.edu.

Food Insecurity Resources Available

Here is a link to resources to assist those who are facing food insecurity:

<https://t.e2ma.net/webview/r64lwj/03b7ffd51b70cfe31c075bcd1657d24b>

AccessLex Law School Scholarship Databank

Numerous postings for national law student scholarships and writing competitions are available at <https://www.accesslex.org/databank>. Students can search by scholarship details and deadlines.

TimelyCare – Drake's new virtual health and well-being platform

Drake recently partnered with [TimelyCare](#) to deliver a new virtual health and well-being platform for students. (Please note that TimelyCare replaces the previous virtual platform, Uwill.) With TimelyCare you can access free, 24/7 virtual care from anywhere. See attached flyer for more detail or scan the QR code to get started.



Join Drake Law Connect - 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.

Drake Public Safety carries Naloxone (Narcan)

Naloxone (Narcan) can potentially save someone's life by reversing the effects of an Opioid emergency, such as Fentanyl. Drake Public Safety (DPS) carry Narcan when patrolling campus, and their typical response time is 2-3 minutes. In addition, Narcan dispensary kits are now available in all residence halls and at Olmsted Center Student Services. DPS can be contacted 24/7 by calling 515-271-2222.