

Clinical Law Program

Established in 1969, the Law Clinic serves the community and the legal profession. In client representation clinics, third-year students work under supervision to represent low-income clients and citizen groups who would not otherwise have access to the legal system.

Eight client clinics operate within the Law Clinic: Civil Law, Juvenile Law, Domestic Violence, Civil Mediation, Criminal Law, Sports Law, Wrongful Conviction and Tax Law. The Course Descriptions section contains a description of each clinic. The Law Clinic promotes the development advocacy, negotiation, and counseling skills, as well as a context for scrutinizing the questions of professional responsibility that arise in the practice of law.

[Learn more about the Clinical Law Program at Valparaiso Law...](#)

Current Representation

In addition to the Law Clinic, students have the opportunity to work in connection with legal representation currently being provided by members of the faculty. In this context students receive the same supervision, varied and extensive experience, and individual support that the Law Clinic provides.

Externship Programs

Externship programs provide students with an opportunity to perform legal research and writing and to work closely with attorneys, prosecutors public defenders, government agencies, legal services, and state and federal judges. Externship programs ranging from one to three credit hours are upper-level students.

[Learn more about Externship Programs at Valparaiso Law...](#)

Practicum Component

A one- to two-credit practicum component may be added to exiting courses.

Pro Bono Requirement

All students complete 40 hours of public service under the supervision of an attorney prior to graduation. The pro bono requirement can be satisfied by assisting attorneys representing governmental agencies, indigents, or non-profit organizations. Assisting judges as law clerks may also satisfy the requirement.

“ A lawyer should render public interest legal service. A lawyer may discharge this responsibility by providing professional services at no fee or at a reduced price to persons of limited means or to public service or charitable groups or organizations , by service in activities for improving the law, the legal system or the legal profession and by financial support

Rule 6.1 of the Indiana Rules of Professional Conduct

The program is administered through the Career Planning Center, which holds an informational meeting for second-year students each spring. Informational materials, which include the placement confirmation form, student’s log of hours, and supervisor’s report, are provided at this meeting and are available in the CPC throughout the year.