



Frequently Asked Questions About Valparaiso University Law School

What does the ABA censure mean?

Valparaiso University Law School was informed in November of 2016 that the Accreditation Committee of the American Bar Association (ABA) was directing the school to take specific remedial action regarding the standard that governs admissions policies, known as Standard 501. The censure notice and the list of required remedial actions can be found on the Valparaiso Law website under **ABA Required Disclosures**. The ABA's concerns are specific to one accreditation standard and stem from the data the ABA's site visit team reviewed in the spring of 2014. At that time, Valparaiso Law underwent its usual seven-year accreditation review, which is standard for all accredited law schools.

What is the Law School doing about this?

The median numeric indicators of entering classes at Valparaiso Law have been steadily increasing since 2014, so that by 2016 our median LSAT increased by 4 points over 2013. The Law School is continuing to refine recruitment and admissions processes to ensure we only admit students who are likely to complete Valparaiso Law's program of legal education, pass the bar exam, and secure employment that takes advantage of strong legal training. In the face of smaller numbers of law school applicants nationwide, this has informed our intentional decision to reduce our overall enrollment as we continue to increase selectivity. This means Valparaiso Law is moving back to its historical roots as a small, strong, selective law school.

Is the Law School still accredited?

Yes, Valparaiso University Law School is still fully accredited by the ABA, and has been continuously since 1929.

Can Valparaiso Law graduates succeed in their chosen careers?

The network of Valparaiso Law alumni numbers over 5,000 and includes judges, prosecutors, public defenders, solo and small firm practitioners, partners at Big Law, and corporate general counsels. We also have many graduates who don't practice law, but use their legal acumen to run businesses, work in compliance or work as law enforcement officers, law librarians, and even as authors and artists. Many graduates practice in Indiana and Illinois, but you can find Valparaiso Law graduates across the United States.

Valparaiso Law students are given the opportunity to build a strong foundation of legal research and writing in their first year, and then put those skills to use in a wide variety of experiential education opportunities; all in the context of a small law school that is inclusive and invested in your success – whether you aspire to represent immigrant families, work for the NCAA, start your own firm, work at a big law firm, or use your acquired legal skills doing non-legal work. Our small size, our selectivity and our commitment to your success all work for you.

Valparaiso Law students who apply themselves and embrace our innovative curriculum and practical skills training are well positioned to pass the bar exam and enter the legal marketplace with a competitive edge.