



CENTER FOR SPORTS LAW AND POLICY

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Program Overview & Requirements: Center for Sports Law & Policy

The Center for Sports Law & Policy (CSLP) at Thomas Jefferson School of Law (TJSL) offers a Certificate to students who meet certain requirements. Please note that any given student may earn only one Certificate from one of the Centers at Thomas Jefferson School of Law because of the required juris doctor curriculum.

Following are the SEVEN requirements to receive the Certificate in Sports Law & Policy:

1. **Program Enrollment**: Students who are interested in working toward the Certificate in Sports Law & Policy must submit an Application to Enroll in the CSLP program. Application forms are available online. Students are encouraged to enroll as soon as possible after beginning law school. Completed enrollment forms and related materials may be left with a faculty assistant, or you can e-mail them to the Director. Please note: Your application must be approved in writing by the Director in advance in order to be considered as an enrolled student in the program.
2. **Units**: Certificate candidates must earn at least 11 elective units. Specifically, students must complete:
 - a. 6 units of eligible graded classroom sports and entertainment law courses, at least 4 units of which must be in sports law-based courses, unless otherwise approved by the Director;
 - b. a Substantial Writing requirement in sports law of 2 units, with oversight by a faculty member at TJSL; and
 - c. an approved internship (3 units).
 - d. **NOTE**: upon Director, Registrar, and Associate Dean of Academic Affairs approval in writing, graded courses taken at other law schools may be eligible for application toward Certificate completion.
3. **Internship**: a field placement must be approved through the CSLP Director and the Director of Clinical Externship & Pro Bono Programs. Note that the Internship may satisfy the Professional Skills Requirement in conjunction with Externship Seminar per the Student Handbook (see VI.A.4 of the Student Handbook).
4. **Substantial Writing**: Students must fulfill a Substantial Writing Requirement of 2 units unless a candidate fulfills the exception as provided below. Students may write the paper in conjunction with a CSLP-eligible course, or as a Directed Study related to sports law, subject to the six-unit (6) cap on all TJSL non-classroom units and other requirements laid out in the Student Handbook (see VI.A.7). To satisfy the Center Substantial Writing Requirement, all Directed Study projects must be pre-approved by the Director in writing, in advance of beginning the project. **NOTE**: the Substantial Writing Requirement may satisfy the general Upper Level Writing Requirement (see VI.A.3 of the Student Handbook). The same paper may and should (for efficiency purposes)

fulfill the Upper Level Writing Requirement; provided the faculty member teaching the class or supervising the directed study determines that the paper satisfies the Upper Level Writing Requirement.

Exception: if the certificate candidate does not wish or cannot fulfill the sports law-based Substantial Writing Requirement, the 2 units can be made up in graded classroom work, i.e., 8 units of classroom work, 4 units of which must be sports-law based courses, unless an exception is provided by the Director in writing. However, please be aware that the general Upper Level Writing Requirement must be satisfied in another approved fashion according to the Student Handbook if a candidate utilizes this exception.

5. **Grade Point Average (GPA):** Certificate candidates admitted to law school in the Fall 2009 semester or later must graduate with at least a 2.5 overall GPA and at least a 2.7 Center GPA. All grades earned for CSLP-eligible coursework are considered and averaged in calculating your CSLP GPA.

6. **Event Log:** CSLP program enrollees and Certificate candidates are expected to show a good-faith level of participation and attendance at CSLP-related events or activities at the law school or related events in the legal community, subject to Director approval. An attendance log suitable for recording the events you have attended is available online. Consider this aspect an “MCLE” type requirement for law students. Candidates must report and summarize their activities only once when applying for the Certificate near the end of the program, but should keep track of event attendance for efficiency and memorization purposes. Assisting with the planning and organization of the Center’s events, specifically, the annual National Sports Law Negotiation Competition and Sports Law Conference (held near the end of every September) is one such example. Your main goal here is attending and participating in extracurricular activities in sports and entertainment law to grow your knowledge, career, and network, which includes participating in law school competitions, mentoring and career development programs, educational, networking, community-based, and professional development related events. The Director will approve whether an event qualifies. Serving on the Student Advisory Board (the “Sports Law Society”) in a leadership/service role may also qualify for attendance toward the event log. Please use this log to keep track. If you have any questions, please contact the Director.

7. **The Certificate Application:** Candidates for the Certificate in Sports Law & Policy must complete a certificate application form prior to the start of their last semester of law school. Certificate application forms are available online, and completed forms must be submitted to the Director for internal processing. Graduating students who have applied and are on track to potentially satisfy the Certificate requirements are eligible to wear the CSLP cord during Commencement.

List of Approved Center courses that apply toward the required classroom units: Amateur Sports Law (2 units), Introduction to Sports Law (2 units), Professional Sports Law (2 units), International Sports Law (2 units), Infractions and Compliance (2 units), Collective Bargaining in Professional Sports (2 units), Race and Gender in Sports (2 units), Trademark Clinic Seminar (2 units), Entertainment Law Transactions (3 units), Contracts Drafting (2 units), Negotiation Theory & Skills (2-3 units), Copyright Law (3 units), ADR Competition Team (units vary), Entertainment Law (3 units), Law Practice Management (3 units), Business Planning (3 units), Client Interviewing and Counseling (2 units), Labor Law (2-3 units), Employment Law (3 units), Celebrity Advertising (2 units), Music Law (2-3 units), Intellectual Property, Mediation, and Arbitration related courses (units vary). **Other courses may be approved by the Director. Note that the availability of courses varies.*

The TJSL course schedule can be accessed here:

<http://www.tjssl.edu/academics/curriculum-requirements/class-exam-schedules>

The TJSL Student Handbook can be found here:

<http://www.tjssl.edu/student-life/student-handbook>

The CSLP website can be found here:

<http://www.tjssl.edu/sports-law-policy>