



The Sayra and Neil Meyerhoff Center for Families, Children and the Courts (CFCC)

University of Baltimore School of Law

ONLINE POST-J.D. CERTIFICATE IN FAMILY LAW

This unique online certificate in family law provides an in-depth, interdisciplinary, and practice-focused curriculum that prepares attorneys for the full range of issues arising in this fast-growing, in-demand legal area.

STUDY WITH TOP FAMILY LAW PROFESSIONALS

Designed both for new attorneys beginning to focus on family law and experienced attorneys seeking to add family law expertise, the Post-J.D. Certificate in Family Law integrates theory and practice. Through convenient online classes, it provides the core skills, knowledge, and experiences that attorneys can use immediately to expand and improve their work. Program faculty include experienced attorneys and judges, who bring decades of real-world insight to every class.

The Sayra and Neil Meyerhoff Center for Families, Children and the Courts (CFCC) at the University of Baltimore School of Law, in conjunction with UB law faculty, leading family law practitioners, and judges, developed the program. They aimed to build a curriculum designed to address a critical need for professional development in the practice of family law.

PUT THEORY INTO PRACTICE

This hands-on program offers an interdisciplinary education in all aspects of family law—including family psychology, child development, financial issues, problem-solving, advocacy, and the business of operating a family law firm. All courses provide opportunities for students to put subject-matter content into action in a real-world context. The program culminates in a summer capstone class, during which students work collaboratively through a family law case, from initial client consultation to case resolution. An optional independent study allows students to design a special project, such as clinical fieldwork or research related to career goals.

“The faculty take a personal interest in your success. We are learning with attorneys and judges who are practicing now. I feel prepared to apply the skills gained in the program to my practice.”

—Castell Abner, Jr. '19

“I looked at LLM programs, but I liked that this program can be completed in one year. Law school gave us the important fundamentals. This program helps you transition to the next level.”

—Lauren Henry '19

“I am taking this program because I need to be familiar with how family law works. I don’t plan to be handling cases in this area, but I want to be able to better serve my clients when a family law issue arises.”

—Douglass List '20

Fall	Spring
Psychology, Child Development and Mental Health in Family Law Matters (3 credits)	The Craft of Problem-Solving and Advocacy in Family Law (3 credits)
Financial Foundations for Family Lawyers (3 credits)	Understanding the Business of Practicing Family Law (3 credits)
Summer Capstone	
Working Through a Family Law Case—Start to Finish (4 credits)	
OPTIONAL	
Independent Study (1-3 credits)	

WHY FOCUS ON FAMILY LAW?

Family law is a key component of many attorneys' practices. The volume of family law cases is increasing dramatically nationwide, outpacing that of other cases in courts. For example, in Maryland during the 2018 fiscal year, 46 percent of trial court filings consisted of family law cases. A rise in self-represented litigants, the current shift away from family law litigation toward alternative dispute resolution, and the multi-dimensional health and social issues faced by families in crisis all contribute to make family law cases increasingly complex.

WHY CHOOSE AN ONLINE CERTIFICATE?

The Post-J.D. Certificate in Family Law is appropriate and convenient for working attorneys. Students can complete the certificate's 16 credits in 12 months of study, or they can take classes individually at their own pace. With all remote class meetings in the evenings, this online program is tailored to the busy schedules of attorneys.

WHY CHOOSE THE UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE SCHOOL OF LAW?

UB is recognized widely for the quality and breadth of its family law courses, clinical and experiential offerings, family law center, and the family law area of concentration within the J.D. program.

The certificate program is housed in the University of Baltimore School of Law's Sayra and Neil Meyerhoff Center for Families, Children and the Courts (CFCC), a nationally renowned center of advocacy, legal education, and community-based action dedicated to transforming the family justice system, improving family courts, and connecting courts to communities. CFCC works to ensure that the practice of family law in Maryland, the nation, and around the world improves the lives of families and children and the health of communities.

IS FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE?

Financial aid in the form of federal student loans is available to students in the program who meet the credit requirements for federal financial aid: 6 credits in spring or fall, 4 credits in summer.

I STUDIED FAMILY LAW IN LAW SCHOOL—CAN I APPLY FOR ADVANCED STANDING?

Applicants may request a course waiver for "The Craft of Problem-Solving and Advocacy in Family Law" if they are:

- UB School of Law graduates who completed the family law area of concentration as part of their J.D. program.
- Graduates from other law schools who completed, within the last 5 years, 15 credits of family law or related coursework with a GPA of 2.67 or higher in those courses.

LEADERSHIP

BARBARA BABB

DIRECTOR, POST-J.D. CERTIFICATE IN FAMILY LAW
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE
SCHOOL OF LAW

DIRECTOR, SAYRA AND NEIL MEYERHOFF CENTER
FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN AND THE COURTS

University of Baltimore School of Law
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LEARN MORE AND APPLY ONLINE:

law.ubalt.edu/familylawcert



WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION?

Visit the program website at law.ubalt.edu/familylawcert for detailed admission requirements and an online application. We seek candidates with a J.D. degree from an ABA-accredited law school or a J.D. degree and admission to (or eligibility for admission to) the Maryland Bar.

Students may apply for admission in the fall or spring semester. The deadlines for receipt of the completed application (located on the program's website), including an official transcript from each law school attended, are as follows:

August 1 for the fall semester
January 1 for the spring semester

