

BerkeleyLaw



Who Uses the Law Library?

The [law library](#) at Berkeley Law, an affiliated library, serves a growing population of law students, faculty, visiting scholars, clinics, research centers, legal studies majors, and the Jurisprudence & Social Policy program. [Berkeley Law's catalog](#) and circulation system are dedicated exclusively to the law library collection and its primary users. However, the law library also frequently serves the wider Berkeley campus, local attorneys, law firms, and many others with legal research pursuits. While some resources are available exclusively to law school affiliates, many of the tools are available to all campus-wide.

Degrees Offered at Berkeley Law

J.D. Three-year program; usually required to practice law in the U.S.

LL.M. Advanced law certification that has global credibility; at Berkeley Law it's primarily for international students who wish to gain knowledge of American law and for J.D. graduates who desire advanced legal study; program is either one school year or two summers.

J.S.D. Three-year doctorate level program; requires LL.M. degree.

Ph.D. Interdisciplinary degree awarded by the Jurisprudence & Social Policy (JSP) program.

Access to Law Library

Library and Reference Desk [hours](#) are on the website. Undergraduates may use the library Monday - Friday, 8 AM - 5 PM. The library has ID checkers weeknight evenings and all day on weekends. ID Checkers will admit non-undergraduates who have identification such as a driver's license, passport, or attorney bar card and who have legal research to conduct. During final examinations, library use is restricted to law students and faculty. Note that Berkeley Law's final exam schedule differs from the main campus. Librarians may refer graduate students who need legal research assistance during the exam period. Referrals may be made by phoning the Reference Desk or by contacting a reference librarian directly.

Circulation Policy

Borrowing privileges are restricted to Berkeley Law affiliates, and to UCB faculty and graduate students who come into the library and fill out a special privileges application form. Other libraries on campus, including IGS and Haas, may have material applicable to legal and interdisciplinary research.

Reference Services

Any patron may request help from a librarian at the Reference Desk. Check [hours](#) on website as weekend reference services may change. Links to student research appointments and chat reference are for law students only. Appointments with non-law UC students for research help are available by phoning the Reference Desk or by contacting a reference librarian directly. Lexis Advance, Westlaw, and Bloomberg Law are not available for non-Berkeley Law affiliates. LexisNexis Academic can be accessed across campus.

Legal Advice

Reference librarians do not give legal advice, such as helping patrons fill out legal forms or interpreting the law. Law school clinics do not serve clients other than those identified and solicited by clinic faculty. The law library maintains a [Legal Advice and Referrals research guide](#).

Public Patrons

Public patrons often are better served by a referral to the Alameda County Law Library, whose mission includes providing access to legal information to the public and whose collection reflects the public's needs. The library is located in Oakland at 125 Twelfth St, and their Reference Desk phone number is 510-208-4832. Check their [website](#) for hours.

Computers; Scanners

Computer lab is for law students only. The law library has 12 public terminals. These terminals do not offer any word processing capabilities, and users must have a CalNet ID in order to do any general, non-research web-browsing. Scanners are available to all patrons. There is no charge for scanning to either a flash drive or to an email address.

Robbins Collection

Non-circulating research collection in the fields of civil, religious, and comparative law containing many rare books and manuscripts. Some materials are shelved in the law library, but many are housed in a separate area within the law school, which has its own access policies and restrictions. See the [Robbins Collection website](#) for details.

Staff Directory

Lists [staff](#) by department within the law library. Note that Shelly McLaughlin is not a government documents librarian. She handles the intake of these documents.

Law Library Circulation Desk (Patron Services) - 510-642-0621

Law Library Reference Desk - 510-642-0900