

Learn how to join
Legal Profession



Law is one of the popular career choices in our country for a long time. Anyone can choose to study law as long as one has the passion for it.

- Students could specialise in either civil or criminal laws.
- Now students can opt to specialise in any of the various options offered like patent laws, corporate laws, etc.
- A degree in law not only lets you practice as a lawyer in the courts, in the company but also opens up career options in sectors like corporate management, legal services and administrative services.



Type of course



Students interested in making a career in law can either do a three-year law course or a 5 years' course.

In most cases the 3 years' course are taken by working professionals who want to do LLB as an additional qualification.

The five year course is meant for those who want to take up law as a career – be it as a litigator, or any other kind of legal professional.



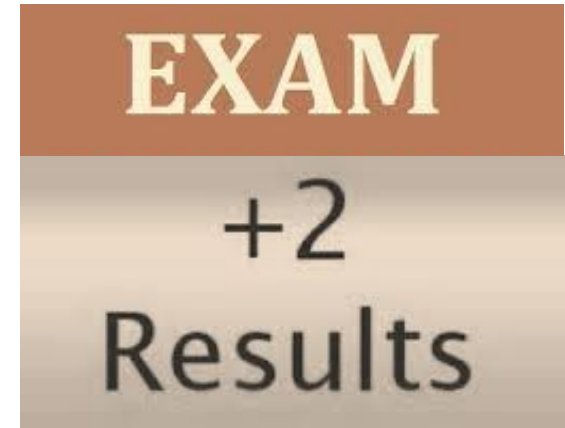
The LLB course is regulated by the Bar Council of India which sets rules and regulations regarding legal practice in the country.

How & When to start?

A candidate should start preparing for the national level Law entrance exam soon after completing 10 standard. This is for those who want to take up 5 years' BA LLB degree.

Some universities offer the three years' LLB degree once again through a entrance exam.

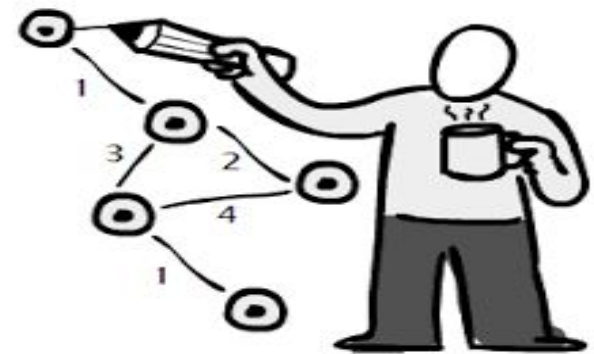
The national law entrance exam, CLAT (Combined Law Admission Test) basically tests the student's general english, legal aptitude, general awareness, logical skills, etc.



Is it the Right profession for me?

Law is a career that requires loads of patience and logical skills.

- It takes loads of hard work and dedication to become a successful lawyer.
- Great communication skills and a faculty for critical analysis and articulation are pre-requisites for lawyers.
- Therefore, one should analyze these points before opting for law as a career.



What would it Cost me ?



- Three years' LLB course is in the of range of Rs 20,000 to Rs 30,000 for three years.
- The 5 years' BA LLB can be upto Rs 3,00,000 for five years.

Job Prospects

There are a plethora of opportunities for a law graduate.

- One can either practice as an advocate in a court of law or work with corporate firms.
- By clearing exams conducted by Public Service Commissions, a law graduate can become a judge.
- After gaining experience, a law graduate can hope to become Solicitor General, a Public Prosecutor or offer services to government departments and ministries.
- One can also work as a legal adviser for various organisations.
- Teaching in colleges, working with NGOs and working as a reporter



Corporate Lawyer

Pay Packet



- A lawyer practicing in court can get a stipend of Rs 5000 to Rs 40,000.
- A law graduate working with Legal Process Outsourcing receives can earn attractive salary in the range of Rs 20,000 and Rs 50,000.

Demand and Supply

- There is an acute shortage of qualified lawyers in India. The Bar Council of India has often expressed its concern that young lawyers do not join the Bar.

Market Watch

- Talks are on to expand the scope for legal practice in India and open the gates for law firms from outside India. Law graduates can expect better job opportunities when foreign law firms start their operations in India.

International Focus

- Legal education in India is similar to the one in Britain. Whereas several universities in UK offer legal education to Indian students, Indian students quite enjoy working in the UK wherein they receive attractive salary packages. A recent trend has been that students from India study in law colleges in the USA and receive attractive jobs after completion of the course.

Positives/Negatives



Lawyers like other professionals such as doctors and chartered accountants require experience to polish their skills

- Candidates determined to succeed in the profession have to be patient in the initial phase of their career.
- There is no limit to success and money as well as power for a lawyer.
- Lawyers are not only respected but also help people in their battle for justice.

Different Roles, Different Names

- **Criminal Lawyer:** Specialises in criminal laws CrPC, IPC, Evidence Act and various other penal laws.
- **Civil Litigation Lawyer:** Specializes in civil laws e.g. taxation laws, excise laws.
- **Legal Analyst:** Works for corporate firms or law firms and analyses laws pertaining to the sphere of the company and its operation.
- **Document Drafting Lawyer:** Specialises in drafting various documents containing agreements, terms and conditions, case material, etc.
- **Legal Journalist:** Covers crime beats, legal proceedings in courts, arbitration courts, international courts and arbitration events.
- **Legal Advisor:** Offers consultancy to corporate firms regarding their legal obligations, duties, legal relations with other firms.
- **Government Lawyer:** Works for the government and in close coordination with the police.
- **Judge:** Offers judgment after conducting the court proceedings and hearing all the concerned parties.

Tips for Getting Hired

- Candidates who do five years BA LLB from top law schools get attractive job offers from law firms and ITES firms.
- Many also opt to start their own practice.
- All law graduates who wish to practice in the courts have to register themselves in the Bar Council of India (BCI) and practice in courts under senior lawyers.
- Practical training in court can enhance your chances of getting hired by law firms and with senior lawyers.
- Though most of the law colleges impart practical legal education to final year law students, it is students who should take initiative and start visiting court proceedings in the final year to understand the day-to-day affair.



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