

JD-MBA Concurrent Degree Program



The University of San Diego offers a concurrent degree program with the School of Law and the Knauss School of Business. Students may earn their JD and MBA degrees concurrently. Students who are interested in pursuing concurrent degrees must apply to and be accepted by both schools.

During your 1L year and two hybrid years (when you are taking both Law and Knauss courses) you will be billed the law school tuition rate and your financial aid will be processed by the School of Law Financial Aid Office. During your MBA-only year, your Knauss School scholarship will apply, you will be charged Knauss School tuition, and your financial aid will be processed by the University's Office for Financial Aid. There are other important financial aid implications for concurrent degree students.

It will take approximately four years to finish the JD and MBA degrees. Six units from each program can cross over and count towards the other degree. Please consult with both your JD and MBA academic advisors for information on how to apply these units as each school has its own process.

Students typically spend their first year at the School of Law, then their second year in the Knauss School of Business. The third and fourth years are spent taking classes at both schools. Below is a sample of a typical four-year academic plan:

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
First Year All classes ONLY at the School of Law. First year law classes are set for you.	Civil Procedure Criminal Law Torts Legal Writing & Research I Experiential Advocacy Practicum <hr/> 15 units	Contracts Property Constitutional Law I Legal Writing & Research II Experiential Advocacy Practicum <hr/> 15 units
Summer	Legal internship/clerkship/job Optional summer school at the School of Law	
Second Year All classes ONLY at the Knauss School of Business.	MBA Core Courses 12 units January intersession 2-5 units	MBA Core Courses 8 units MBA Electives 6-8 units
Summer	Business internship Optional summer school at the School of Law or Knauss School of Business	
Third Year Hybrid year with classes at both the School of Law and Knauss School of Business.	MBA Core Course MBA Core Course JD Courses <hr/> 16 units maximum	Agile Strategies (MBA Capstone) JD Courses <hr/> 16 units maximum
Summer	Depending on your career goals, you can have either a legal or business-related job. Consult with the Office of Career & Professional Development to discuss job opportunities.	
Fourth Year Hybrid year with classes at both the School of Law and School of Business.	JD Courses <hr/> 16 units maximum	JD Courses <hr/> 16 units maximum For Bar exam purposes, it is recommended that you end with a JD-only semester.
Summer	Study for and take the Bar Exam to become a licensed attorney. Please meet with the Office of Academic Success & Bar Programs to talk about your Bar prep plan.	

JD-MBA Concurrent Degree Program FAQs

Can I apply to both the JD and MBA programs with one application?

No. Students who are interested in pursuing concurrent degrees must separately apply to and be accepted by each school. Each school has its own entrance exam, admission application, and admission requirements.

What tuition rate will I be charged while pursuing my concurrent degrees?

During your 1L year, and the two hybrid years (taking classes at both the School of Law and Knauss School) you will be billed the School of Law tuition rate, with School of Law scholarships applied. During the MBA-only year, you will be billed the Knauss School tuition rate with Knauss School scholarships applied. For more information, please contact the School of Law Financial Aid Office, located in Warren Hall Room 203. They can also be reached at lawaid@sandiego.edu or (619) 260-4570.

As 1Ls and during the two hybrid years, you are only permitted to take a maximum of 16 units per semester. You may petition to take one additional unit, one time. That additional unit is charged at the School of Law's per unit rate.

During the first year of the MBA program, students are only permitted to take MBA courses. During this time, students take 12 units during the fall semester and a maximum of 16 units during the spring semester. If you take an MBA course abroad with the Ahlers Center for International Business during the intercession and/or summer terms, you will be charged the rate the Ahlers Center offers for study abroad programs.

Will the School of Law Financial Aid Office process my financial aid package during my year of enrollment with the MBA program?

No. The University's Financial Aid Office will process and disburse financial aid during the year of enrollment with the MAPJ program. The Cost of Attendance (COA) during this period of enrollment will differ due to the lower MAPJ program vs. JD program tuition rate and the traditionally lower comparative food and housing budget for the MAPJ program. Additionally, due to the later MAPJ start date, loan disbursements and refund timelines will not match those associated with the JD program. Therefore, students must plan accordingly and work with the University's Financial Aid Office to supply information required to proactively address any concerns. For questions, please contact the University's Financial Aid Office and One Stop Student Center, located in Hahn University Center 126. They can also be reached at onestop@sandiego.edu or (619) 260-4700.

Which program do I need to start with?

In order to maximize your unit crossover options, it is strongly recommended to start at the law school. If you have a minimum of two-years, full-time, post-graduate work experience, you may start either the JD or MBA program first. However, if not, you must start with the JD program. Regardless of which school you start at, you are required to be full-time in residence ONLY at the School of Law during your 1L year, and in residence ONLY at the Knauss School during one year, and then classes in both programs concurrently for the last two years.

Another option is to start and complete the JD degree and then apply to and be admitted to the MBA program just before you graduate. It is highly recommended that you take two classes at the Knauss School of Business while in the JD program to take full advantage of the courses that can count towards both programs. Please consult with both the JD and MBA academic advisors to ensure that you can take full advantage of the cross over.

Can I apply units from the MBA program towards my JD degree and vice versa?

Yes. Six units from each program can cross over and count towards the other degree (for a total of 12 units): six of the units you take for the MBA will count towards your JD degree, and six of the units you take for the JD will count towards your MBA degree. For both programs, you must receive a letter grade of B or higher to transfer the credits.

For six MBA units to count towards your JD degree, you must be enrolled in the JD program when you take the MBA courses and turn in the Permission to take Non-Law Courses at USD form before you graduate. Please see the Office for Law Student Affairs for more information on this process. For six JD units to count towards your MBA degree, you must request a credit transfer when you file your Petition to Graduate.

How long will it take me to finish the JD/MBA concurrent degree program?

It will take approximately four years to finish both the JD and MBA degrees. Please keep in mind that to finish both degrees, you will need to complete a total of 120 units. It is possible to complete both the JD and MBA degrees in four

years without summer school, although we recommend it for students hoping to lighten their credit load during the regular semester. A January intersession course is required during the MBA-only year.

Can I be a paid School of Law Research Assistant, Teaching Assistant, or Academic Success fellow during my MBA-only year?

It is not possible to hold a position as an RA, TA, or Academic Success Fellow during the year you are in full-time residence at the graduate school. It is often possible to defer your appointment to the year you return to the law school. There are many similar opportunities for you to get involved with at the graduate school, and we encourage you to engage fully in the life of your graduate school.

How many units may I take per semester?

At the School of Law, you may take a maximum of 16 units a semester.

If you have any questions, please contact us!

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