



UNIVERSITY of
DENVER

STURM COLLEGE OF LAW

DUAL DEGREES AT DENVER LAW

(6/10/2015)

1. What is a Formal Dual Degree and what is a Flexible Dual Degree?

- Formal Dual Degree: The law school and certain other DU schools or departments have formalized an arrangement for seeking a Dual Degree. In these cases, the terms of sharing credits are established and, often, the curriculum is designed.
- Flexible Dual Degree: Where a Formal Dual Degree does not exist, the student sets up the program, on an ad hoc basis, with the DU school or department of his/her choice.
- For more information on Formal and Flexible Dual Degrees, consult the [DU Graduate Bulletin](#).

These Formal Dual Degrees are offered through the Graduate Legal Studies department at SCOL:

- JD/LLM in International Business Transactions (SCOL)
- JD/LLM in Environmental and Natural Resources Law and Policy (SCOL)
- JD/LLM in Taxation (SCOL)
- JD/MS in Legal Administration (SCOL)
- To learn more about these Dual Degrees, please contact [Graduate Legal Studies](#).

These Formal Dual Degrees are offered through the SCOL and other schools and departments at DU:

- JD/MBA (Daniels College of Business)
- JD/MPP (Institute for Public Policy Studies)
- JD/MA in International Studies (Korbel School of International Studies)
- JD/MSW (Graduate School of Social Work)
- JD/MS in Healthcare Leadership (University College)
- To learn more about Formal Dual Degrees, please contact [Randy Wagner](#).

In the recent past, Denver Law students have pursued these Flexible Dual Degrees:

- JD/Masters in Biological Sciences
- JD/Masters in Economics
- JD/Masters in Forensic Psychology
- JD/Masters in Philosophy
- To learn more about Flexible Dual Degrees, please contact [Randy Wagner](#).

2. When do you need to commit to a Dual Degree program?

Dual Degrees must be pursued concurrently, not consecutively. In order to meet this requirement, students interested in pursuing a dual degree must matriculate into the second program no later than the first available term following fifty percent (50%) course work completion of the first program. (Note: Petition to waive this requirement is possible.)

3. You must be accepted at both schools.

You can seek acceptance simultaneously, or (more commonly), you can begin at one unit (most likely SCOL) and then seek acceptance at the second unit.

In the second case, contact the Admissions Office there or consult the Admissions website. Ask these questions:

- What are the admission requirements?
- Are you required to take the GRE? Can you substitute your LSAT score for the GRE?
- What is the admission time line? This is important because of the requirement to matriculate into the second program no later than the first available term following fifty percent (50%) course work completion of the first program (see 2. above).

4. Academic calendars and credits differ between the Law School and the rest of DU.

- The law school is on semesters, the rest of DU is on quarters. You need to anticipate how this will affect your workload when you are taking courses in the law school along with courses in another DU school or department.
- Similarly, if you split the academic year evenly – if you spend one semester at SCOL and another at the second unit – it may make sense to do Fall at SCOL (when there is one DU quarter) and Winter-Spring quarters at the second unit (when there is one semester at SCOL).
- Because of this difference (semester versus quarter), be aware that 3 DU (quarter) credits = 2 law school (semester) credits.

5. Determine course credit reduction.

- As a Dual Degree student, you receive credit reductions, also referred to as “cross-counting of credits.” That is, each program has requirements to graduate, and the number of credits from each program is reduced if you earn a Dual Degree.

- For example, a JD requires 90 semester credits. A student pursuing a Formal or a Flexible Dual Degree may cross-count credits earned in the second unit for 10 JD credits. Thus, for a Dual Degree student completing both degrees at the same time the number of semester credits earned at the law school to complete the JD degree is reduced from 90 to 80.
- If you are a Dual Degree student, you will want to establish exactly what the credit reduction is toward earning the second degree. Typically, it is 15 quarter credits, but this can differ. The unit or department where you are earning the second degree establishes the credit reduction toward the degree earned there.
- You may contact the law school [Registrar's Office](#) to clarify credits earned or to be earned toward the JD.

6. You may take courses in another DU department or unit without being a Dual Degree candidate.

A law student not pursuing a Dual Degree may earn 8 of the 90 credits necessary to earn a JD from graduate-level courses taken in another unit. Important: Other units at DU are on the quarter system. Thus, 12 quarter credits = 8 JD (semester) credits.

7. What happens with financial aid if I am a Dual Degree student?

Investigate the financial aid consequences of being a Dual Degree student. For example:

- Scholarship money (tuition reduction) the law school has given you is disbursed
 - only for classes taken at SCOL,
 - equally between 6 semesters for day students or 8 semesters for evening students.
 - By arrangement with the Office of Student Financial Management, scholarships can be allocated on a different schedule than above.
- Your cost of attendance and loans are based on your enrollment at SCOL only; they can be adjusted to reflect your enrollment in 2 programs simultaneously or in the non-law program only, by submitting an [Enrollment Adjustment Form](#) to the Office of Financial Aid or by meeting with the Office of Student Financial Management
- Loans are disbursed on differing schedules.
 - For a student taking classes at SCOL, when the semester begins.
 - For a student taking classes at DU, when the quarter begins.
 - For a student taking classes both at SCOL and in another DU program, normally, when the semester begins.
- Your contact at SCOL for these matters is [Kasia Palm](#), Director of Student Financial Management. A Dual Degree student should check in with Ms. Palm regularly, e.g., once a semester.

8. How will I be billed?

- You will receive a bill for each term in which you are enrolled separately. For example, if you are taking classes in both the fall semester & fall quarter, you will receive one bill for the semester coursework in due August and one bill for the quarter coursework due in September.
- If you are borrowing loans to help cover tuition, and are taking credits during both the semester and quarter, your loans will disburse on the semester schedule and a portion of the refund that you receive will need to be used to pay the quarter tuition.
- You are encouraged to meet with Kasia Palm in the Office of Student Financial Management if you have any questions about billing and financial aid.

9. You must officially notify the Office of Graduate Studies, within the prescribed time limits, of your intention to pursue a Dual Degree.

- Formal Dual Degree Verification: to be acknowledged as a Dual Degree student, you must complete [this form](#) and submit it to the law school Registrar's Office within the first term of attendance in the second program. The Law Registrar's Office will submit the form to the Office of Graduate Studies.
- Flexible Dual Degree Proposal form: to get approval for a flexible Dual Degree, you must complete [this form](#) and submit it to the law school Registrar's Office no later than one term prior to matriculation into the second degree program. The Law Registrar's Office will submit the form to the Office of Graduate Studies.
- Note: There are other steps you must take prior to submitting this form; consult the [DU Graduate Bulletin](#).
- Your contact person at the Office of Graduate Studies is [Molly Hooker](#), Director of Graduate Student Services.

10. Notifying the Registrar at Denver Law

Once accepted into a Dual Degree program, you must notify the law school [Registrar's Office](#) of this change in your curriculum plan.