



Malibu, California

PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF LAW  
STRAUS INSTITUTE FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION

## APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

MASTER OF LAW (LLM)  
MASTER OF DISPUTE RESOLUTION (MDR)  
CERTIFICATE IN DISPUTE RESOLUTION

### *Instructions for Applicants*

Applicants for admission to the Master of Law (LL.M.) program must have completed the first degree in law required for law practice or law teaching in the country in which law studies were pursued. U.S. applicants must have an ABA-accredited J.D. degree. In exceptional cases, U.S. applicants with non-ABA-accredited law degrees may be considered. Applicants for admission to the Master of Dispute Resolution or Dispute Resolution Certificate must have received a bachelor's degree from an approved college or university prior to registration. The following steps must be completed prior to consideration for admission:

#### **1. Filing of Application**

Complete the Application for Admission. Please make sure that all questions have been answered completely, since failure to do so will delay consideration by the Admissions Committee. Questions that cannot be answered in the space provided may be continued on a separate page.

**Applications for the LL.M. program can also be completed online through [www.lsc.org](http://www.lsc.org).**

Applicants for the LLM will need to list alternative programs in the event that their desired program is full, since several programs have limited enrollment.

Your application must be accompanied by a \$50 nonrefundable application fee in the form of a check or money order made payable to Pepperdine University. Please ensure that your name and social security number are on your check.

**Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.** We encourage applicants to apply as early as possible prior to the intended start date with courses starting in mid-August (Fall) and January (Spring). If the initial term is full, your application will be considered for the next available term. Applicants can contact Pepperdine directly to follow up on their application, and can reach out to Seth Hackett at [seth.hackett@pepperdine.edu](mailto:seth.hackett@pepperdine.edu) or 310-506-4655.

#### **2. Testing Requirements**

Applicants to the Master of Dispute Resolution who have not completed a graduate degree from an approved college or university must complete the Graduate Records Examination (GRE) or the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) and request that the score be reported to the School of Law.

GRE and LSAT scores are valid for three years. An applicant who has successfully completed a graduate degree from an approved college or university has the option of submitting this application on the basis of his/her graduate level academic record in lieu of a GRE or LSAT score. **A GRE or LSAT score is not necessary for application to the LL.M. or Certificate Programs.**

All international applicants are required to demonstrate English proficiency by taking the TOEFL or IELTS exam. Information on the requisite exams can be found on the following websites:

GRE - <http://www.ets.org/gre>,  
LSAT - <http://www.lsc.org>,  
TOEFL - <http://www.ets.org/toefl>, and  
IELTS - <http://www.ielts.org/>.

The GRE, TOEFL and IELTS exam are given via scheduled appointment at your local testing center. The LSAT exam is given four times a year: February, June, October, and December. Students attending an English program at a UC school can visit [straus.pepperdine.edu](http://straus.pepperdine.edu) for a special waiver program.

#### **3. Letters of Recommendation**

Three Prospective Student Evaluation Forms or narrative letters of recommendation are required. We strongly urge that one of the three recommendations be submitted by an individual associated with the dispute resolution field including professional mediators, attorneys, judges, or potential referral sources for mediators, arbitrators, or dispute resolution consultants. People familiar with your aptitude for dispute resolution are appropriate, and feedback from allied professionals and potential clients is especially important in this field. No decision regarding admission will be made until these forms have been received by the School of Law.

#### **4. Transcripts**

Official copies of transcripts from all colleges or universities attended is required. *Applicants who possess a J.D. degree must also provide their class rank.*

Please mail application to:

Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution,  
Pepperdine Univ. School of Law,  
24255 Pacific Coast Highway,  
Malibu, California 90263.

For questions please contact:  
(310) 506-4655 [dracademics@pepperdine.edu](mailto:dracademics@pepperdine.edu).  
[straus.pepperdine.edu](http://straus.pepperdine.edu)



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<i>For Office Use Only</i>	DATE	DATE	DATE	COMMITTEE
	A	H	D	

**APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION**

Beginning Term

Please check one:

- LLM IN DISPUTE RESOLUTION
- LLM IN INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION (ICA)
- LLM IN INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL LAW AND ARBITRATION (ICLA)
- LLM IN INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL LAW AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ICLDR)
- LLM IN U.S. LAW AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION
- MASTER OF DISPUTE RESOLUTION
- CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IN DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- Fall 20\_\_
- Winter Intensive 20\_\_
- Spring 20\_\_
- Summer 20\_\_

Please provide alternative selections  
if your desired program is not available:

2nd CHOICE

3rd CHOICE

LAST NAME	FIRST	MIDDLE	SOCIAL SECURITY #
STREET			HOME TELEPHONE
CITY	STATE	ZIP	EMAIL ADDRESS

<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	PRESENT EMPLOYER
AGE	ADDRESS
DATE OF BIRTH M / D / Y	CITY                      STATE                      ZIP                      BUSINESS PHONE
STATE RESIDENCE	CITIZENSHIP                      VISA STATUS

**VOLUNTARY:** While race or ethnic origin may be a factor in admission because of the University's desire to have a diverse student population, the following data will primarily be used for statistical reporting only.

Are you Hispanic or Latino?

- No       Yes

Please check one or more of the following groups in which you consider yourself to be a member of:

- |  |  |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chicano/Mexican       | <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaska Native | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cuban                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Caucasian/White               | <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian/<br>Other Pacific Islander | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other Hispanic/Latino |  |   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Puerto Rican          |  |   |   |

Please indicate your current U.S. military status:

- Active Duty       Dependent       Post-9/11 Veteran       Pre-9/11 Veteran

**EDUCATION** (List most recent first)

\* Please have each of the institutions listed below send an official transcript to the Admissions Office.

Name of Institution	Location	Degree	Date Earned
<i>Intl Applicants Only-</i> English Program Attended	Location	Level Completed	Date



## PERSONAL STATEMENT

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The LL.M., Master's Degree and Certificate Programs in Dispute Resolution are designed to combine a graduate level academic experience with a commitment to the development of professional skills, especially those related to dispute resolution.

Please include a three to four page personal statement indicating your reasons for wanting to study dispute resolution, why you chose to apply to Pepperdine University School of Law, what use you anticipate making of the education you receive, what contribution you will make to the program, and any further information that you feel should be considered by the Admissions Committee. Please include in your personal statement a discussion of any economic, educational, or social disadvantages that you have encountered, what you have done to overcome these disadvantages, community service endeavors that you may have participated in, and your plans as they now relate to future community service.

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### **Your application cannot be evaluated until your file is complete with:**

- A three to four page personal statement;
- Current resume or vita;
- \$50 application fee;
- Three completed Personal Evaluation Forms or narrative letters of recommendation;
- Official copies of your college or university transcripts (including class rank for those who possess a J.D. degree); and,
- GRE or LSAT scores - *Only for masters degree applicants who have not completed a graduate degree from an approved college or university*

### **International student applicants must also include:**

- Evaluation of transcripts through a credential evaluation agency with a full report sent directly to the School of Law
  - LLM Applicants are required to use LSAC's LL.M. Credential Assembly Service (<http://llm.lsac.org>)
  - Certificate and M.D.R. Applicants are required to use World Education Services (<http://www.wes.org>); and,
- TOEFL or IELTS score.

Additional information for international student applicants is available at [straus.pepperdine.edu](http://straus.pepperdine.edu).

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1. **Certification of Information.** I certify that the information in the above application is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I intend that Pepperdine University shall rely on the information given.
2. **Reservation of Rights by the University.** I understand that Pepperdine University has the right to modify the requirements of admission or graduation, to change the curriculum, to make and alter rules and regulations concerning the student body, and to vary the tuition, fees, and manner of payment.
3. **Disciplinary Regulations.** I understand that violations of school policies and regulations or conduct inimical to the best interest of the School or to other students may lead to suspension, dismissal, withholding the granting of a degree, or other disciplinary measures.

**PLEASE READ CAREFULLY - YOUR SIGNATURE BELOW REPRESENTS THAT YOU HAVE READ THE FOREGOING AND AGREE THERETO AND THAT ALL REPRESENTATIONS MADE HEREIN BY YOU ARE ACCURATE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF YOUR KNOWLEDGE.**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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**PROSPECTIVE STUDENT EVALUATION**

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT IN INK

APPLICANT LAST NAME	FIRST	MIDDLE	DATE OF BIRTH
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**TO THE APPLICANT:** Under the provisions of the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, you are guaranteed the right of access to your file upon your matriculation as a student. Accordingly, you are requested to indicate below, prior to delivering this form to the person who will complete it, whether you wish to waive your right of access to this evaluation form when completed.

- I waive my right of access to this evaluation report.       I do not waive my right of access to this evaluation report.

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**TO THE EVALUATOR:** The person whose name appears above has applied for admission to the LL.M., Master's Degree or Certificate Program in Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine University School of Law. The following questions have been devised to elicit information of a subjective nature to properly evaluate the applicant. As specifically as possible, indicate what makes this applicant especially promising as a mediator, arbitrator, or dispute resolution consultant. Please state any reservations you have about the applicant's potential for success in this field.

**Your comments will be an important factor in the selection process  
 and the applicant cannot be considered until this recommendation is on file.**

Thank you for your time and interest.

NAME OF EVALUATOR \_\_\_\_\_

POSITION OR TITLE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS / COLLEGE / ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you known the applicant?  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Under what circumstances have you known the applicant?  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

What do you consider to be the applicant's most outstanding traits?  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

In what areas of personal development could the applicant most benefit by additional growth?  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

How would you evaluate the applicant's emotional stability and maturity?  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

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What is your perception of the applicant's initiative and motivation to achieve goals?

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How well does the applicant express himself or herself both orally and in writing?

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What do you believe to be the applicant's ability to think analytically and creatively?

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Pepperdine University School of Law seeks to provide an academically excellent education in an environment that recognizes Christian values and encourages adherence to the highest moral and ethical standards. In your best judgment, what is the applicant's reputation as to character, honesty, and integrity?

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How would you rate the applicant's ability in comparison with others whom you have known at comparable stages of their careers?

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outstanding (among best 5%) | <input type="checkbox"/> Good (among best 25%) | <input type="checkbox"/> Below Average (below best 50%) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Unusual (among best 10%)    | <input type="checkbox"/> Average               | <input type="checkbox"/> Unable to Estimate             |

What would your attitude be toward having the applicant as an associate?

- |                                  |                                      |   |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eager   | <input type="checkbox"/> Willing     | <input type="checkbox"/> Reluctant          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pleased | <input type="checkbox"/> Indifferent | <input type="checkbox"/> Unable to Estimate |

The Admissions Committee would appreciate any additional statement you may wish to make concerning the applicant. Please attach additional pages as you may deem appropriate.

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What is your recommendation concerning this applicant's admittance to the LL.M., Master's Degree or Certificate Program at Pepperdine University School of Law?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Strongly Recommend | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend With Some Reservations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend          | <input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Recommend                 |

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail to:**

Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution  
Pepperdine University School of Law  
24255 Pacific Coast Highway  
Malibu, California 90263

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