

HUMAN RESOURCES AND EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS

Joint Degrees

Joint J.D. / M.S. with Penn State Law

Requirements listed here are in addition to requirements listed in GCAC-211 Joint Degree Programs (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-211-joint-degree-programs/>).

Penn State Law and the Human Resources and Employment Relations graduate program (HRER) offer a joint degree program leading to a Juris Doctor (J.D.) and a Master of Science (M.S.) in Human Resources and Employment Relations.

Admission Requirements

The number of openings in the joint degree J.D./M.S. program will be limited to students with an outstanding academic record who have successfully completed the first-year curriculum (<https://pennstatelaw.psu.edu/academics/jd-program>) at Penn State Law. Admissions requirements and applications for admission for Penn State Law are available at the J.D. Admissions (<https://pennstatelaw.psu.edu/penn-state-law-jd-admissions>) section of the Penn State Law website.

Students apply to the joint degree program via the Graduate School application for admission (<http://www.gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply/>), and must meet the admission requirements of the Graduate School, as well as the admission requirements for the Master of Science degree in HRER.

Applicants to the joint degree program:

- must have been admitted to Penn State Law;
- must have successfully completed the first-year curriculum at Penn State Law with a minimum grade point average of 3.0;
- must complete a plan of study, to be determined in consultation with the student's Law School Adviser and the Director of the HRER Graduate Program;
- must submit two letters of recommendations from Penn State Law faculty;
- must submit two transcripts from Penn State Law; and
- must submit a career statement outlining the student's objectives and reasons for applying to the program.

Please note that applicants to the J.D./M.S. HRER program are not required to submit GRE or GMAT scores.

Degree Requirements

Students must fulfill all requirements for each degree in order to be awarded that degree, subject to the double-counting of credits as outlined below. Degree requirements for the J.D. program are listed on the Penn State Law website (<https://pennstatelaw.psu.edu/academics/jd-program>). Degree requirements for the M.S. degree in HRER are listed on the Degree Requirements tab.

If students accepted into the joint degree program are unable to complete the J.D. degree, they are still eligible to receive the M.S. degree if all the M.S. degree requirements have been satisfied.

Double-Counting of Credits

Penn State Law: Up to twelve (12) credits of relevant course work for the HRER graduate program can be double-counted towards the requirements for the J.D. degree. The only two HRER courses that will not be credited toward the J.D. degree are HRER 501 and HRER 510.

HRER: Up to twelve (12) credits of relevant course work from Penn State Law can be double-counted toward the degree requirements for the M.S. degree. The twelve credits can be chosen from the courses below:

Code	Title	Credits
Courses Eligible to Double Count for Both Degrees		
LABR 962	The Employment Relationship	3
LABR 964	Employment Discrimination	3
LABR 965	Workers' Compensation Law	3
LABR 966	The Law of Employee Benefits	3
LABR 970	Labor Law	3

Advising

All students in the program will have two advisers, one from Penn State Law and one from the School of Labor and Employment Relations. Periodic interaction between the two advisers is encouraged. A program of study will be developed for each student, taking into account the fact that some courses at both locations are offered on a rotating or intermittent basis.