



Widener Law Health Law Institute

law.widener.edu/healthlaw





Health law is a growing specialty in legal practice and a major field of academic study. The United States currently spends one-seventh of its gross domestic product on health care, making health care policy a critical topic on the agenda of federal and state governments. Access to health care and its high cost continue to be major problems. The public's attention is captivated by national health care reform, physician-assisted suicide and euthanasia, innovative reproductive technologies, and conflicts of interest in clinical research and genetic research. There has also been rising interest in the areas of public health and policy.

A legal education is a critical tool for developing and implementing health policies in this rapidly changing and highly regulated component of the American economy. Widener's courses in health law offer the student an in-depth look at the legal issues created by the rapid restructuring of health care delivery, changes in the Medicare and Medicaid programs, state and federal regulation of managed care organizations and provider networks, the liability issues created by medical negligence and the risks of toxins, public health and safety, and a myriad of other health law topics.

Why Widener?

The Health Law Institute, founded in 1989, offers several advantages to students, lawyers, and other professionals who want to specialize in health law:

- A nationally top-ranked health law program.
- A robust externships program, offering students training with experienced health lawyers in active practice.
- Opportunities to conduct research and publish articles under the close supervision of nationally known health law professors.
- Proximity to major eastern metropolitan areas with thriving health law practices and major health care industries—Philadelphia, Wilmington, Baltimore, New York City, and Washington, D.C.





The Health Law Institute

...one of the nation's leading health law programs, in one of the nation's premier health care regions.

Widener's Health Law Institute enjoys a reputation throughout the health care industry and among lawyers and scholars in the field as one of the nation's leading health law programs. The institute ranks highly among programs of its kind in *U.S. News & World Report's* national rankings. Its faculty members are nationally prominent, and its graduates have achieved distinction in firms, hospitals, insurance and managed care companies, pharmaceutical companies and governmental agencies throughout the region and beyond.

Juris Doctor (JD), Certificate in Health Law

...an edge in the job market.

The institute is an integral part of the Widener School of Law, fostering health law education within the Juris Doctor (JD) Program.

JD candidates may study full- or part-time and earn a certificate in health law by concentrating in health law courses. Certificate candidates and other qualifying JD students may elect supplemental research, writing and editing options, and pursue the institute's experience-based learning opportunities.

Other Health Law Institute degree-granting programs:

- Master of Laws (LLM)
- Master of Jurisprudence (MJ)
- Doctoral Programs in Health Law (SJD and DL)

■ Juris Doctor/Master of Public Health (JD/MPH) and Master of Jurisprudence/Master of Public Health (MJ-MPH), dual degree programs in conjunction with Thomas Jefferson University

Please visit law.widener.edu/healthlaw for more information.

"The Widener University School of Law Health Law Institute supplied me with a solid foundation to meet the challenges of the rapid changes in the health care industry. The institute's outstanding faculty provided comprehensive and practical training. I highly recommend the Health Law Institute to those who want to develop or enhance their expertise in health care."

—Richard F. Levins
Vice President and Deputy General Counsel
Independence Blue Cross



Faculty

Our nationally prominent faculty features professors with diverse specialties, including biotechnology, bioethics, health care finance and transactions, public health law, toxic torts, HIV policy, and elder law. Our professors are active in local, state, and federal health efforts, and our adjunct faculty includes assistant United States attorneys, partners in major health law firms, and other government officials. For more information on faculty, visit law.widener.edu/Academics/Faculty.aspx

Curriculum

Coursework in core doctrinal courses is broken down into five areas of specialization: biotech/bioethics; liability/quality control; business and finance; regulation; and public health.

Co-Curricular Opportunities

Experience-Based Learning: This institute values experience-based learning highly, and accordingly strives to make a range of opportunities available to its students.

Externships: A Health Law externship allows students to work under the supervision of practicing attorneys in the legal departments of area hospitals, health-care business and nonprofit organizations, enforcement agency law firms, and pharmaceutical companies. The range of externship options continues to expand, and has recently added work with the World Health Organization, the Delaware legislature, and in a medical-legal partnership that serves indigent patients.

On-Campus Opportunities

■ The Health Law Society, a student organization sponsoring job panels, a speaker series and charitable projects

■ *The Health Law Colloquium*, a student-edited newsletter

■ Veterans Law Clinic, representing appeals by veterans and dependents in Washington, D.C.

■ The Medical-Legal Partnership Clinic, which delivers legal services to underserved medical patients in the Chester, Pennsylvania area.

Conferences

The institute provides a national forum for public consideration of critical issues confronting the legal and health care professions.

Global Health Law Programs

In collaboration with the World Health Organization, Widener has recently embarked on an internship program under which qualified students may study and conduct research in Switzerland.





Widener University
School of Law

Health Law Institute

The Health Law Institute seeks to promote the knowledge and understanding of health care law and policy, and thereby to serve individuals and institutions concerned with health care throughout our community, region and country.

Contact Information

4601 Concord Pike
P.O. Box 7474
Wilmington, DE 19803-0474
Tel: 302-477-2704

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