

# The State of Indian Law at ABA-Accredited Law Schools

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# 2019

NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION



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## Introduction

The National Native American Bar Association (NNABA) began in 1973 as the American Indian Lawyers Association. As the name Native American implies, NNABA represents the interests of all populations indigenous to the lands which are now collectively known as the United States: American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians. Towards that mission, NNABA works to both promote the study of Indian law and provide guidance and assistance to Native students in their pursuit of law degrees.

NNABA has been interested in cataloguing the American Indian law offerings and programs within U.S. law schools in order to inform prospective Native law students and students interested in practicing Indian law. Many metrics, both quantitative and qualitative, can help appraise the substance of a school's program, including; the diversity and regularity of curriculum, the presence of expert faculty, and the supporting nature of a school for Native students. However, for the simplicity of our assessment, we surveyed ABA-accredited law schools within the United States for seven metrics:

- Whether one course primarily focused on Indian law, such as Federal Indian Law, was offered in the 2017-2018 academic year or 2018-2019 academic year;
- Whether the faculty includes one faculty whose expertise includes Indian law or Indian law issues;
- Whether more than one course primarily focused on Indian law, such as Federal Indian Law, was offered in the 2017-2018 academic year or 2018-2019 academic year;
- Whether the faculty includes more than one faculty whose expertise includes Indian law or Indian law issues;
- Whether a Native American Law Students Association (NALSA) or similar Native student group exists among the law school student body;
- Whether the law school offers a certificate, specialization, or other credential in Indian law; and,
- Whether the law school offers a student journal devoted to Indian law issues.

During this year-long project, NNABA examined the website of each school to evaluate their American Indian law program according to the metrics outlined above. We were able to confirm our findings with approximately one-third of schools. NNABA is incredibly grateful to the California Indian Law Association (CILA) for beginning a similar project in 2014 in order to provide a resource for Native students interested in attending law school in California. The roadmap provided by CILA has been invaluable to this national effort by NNABA. Our goal is to update this resource every two years, please email [adminassistant@nativeamericanbar.org](mailto:adminassistant@nativeamericanbar.org) to provide updates or corrections to the information in this report.

## Alabama

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
The University of Alabama School of Law							
Faulkner University Thomas Goode Jones School of Law							
Samford University Cumberland School of Law							

## **Alaska**

Alaska does not currently have an ABA-Accredited law school.

## Arizona

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Arizona State University Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law	•	•	•	•	•	•	



## Arkansas

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
University of Arkansas School of Law		•			•		
University of Arkansas at Little Rock		•					

## California

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
California Western School of Law							
Chapman University School of Law							
Golden Gate University School of Law							
Loyola Law School (Los Angeles)							
Pepperdine University School of Law							
Santa Clara University School of Law							
Southwestern Law School		•		•	•		
Stanford Law School	•	•		•	•		
Thomas Jefferson School of Law					•		
University of California at Berkeley Berkeley Law		•		•	•		
University of California at Davis, King Hall School of Law	•	•		•	•		
University of California at Irvine School of Law							
University of California at Los Angeles School of Law	•	•	•	•	•		•
University of California Hastings College of the Law							
University of La Verne College of Law							
University of San Diego School of Law							
University of San Francisco School of Law							

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
University of Southern California Gould School of Law							
University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law							
Western State University College of Law							
Whittier Law School							

## Colorado

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
University of Colorado Law School	•	•	•		•	•	
University of Denver Sturm College of Law	•	•			•		

## Connecticut

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
University of Connecticut School of Law							
Quinnipiac University School of Law							
Yale Law School		•		•			

## Delaware

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
Widener University School of Law							

## Florida

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
Ave Maria School of Law							
Barry University Dwayne O. Andreas School of Law							
Florida A&M University College of Law		•					
Florida Coastal School of Law							
University of Florida Fredric G. Levin College of Law	•	•			•		
Florida International University College of Law							
The Florida State University College of Law					•		
University of Miami School of Law							
Nova Southeastern University – Shepard Broad Law Center							
St. Thomas University School of Law							
Stetson University College of Law		•					

## Georgia

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
Atlanta's John Marshall Law School							
Savannah Law School							
Emory University School of Law		•		•			
University of Georgia School of Law							
Georgia State University College of Law							
Mercer University – Walter F. George School of Law				•			



## Hawai'i

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, William S. Richardson School of Law	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

## Idaho

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
University of Idaho College of Law	•	•		•	•	•	

## Illinois

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
University of Chicago Law School					•		
Chicago-Kent College of Law							
DePaul University College of Law							
University of Illinois College of Law							
The John Marshall Law School					•		
Loyola University Chicago College of Law							
Northern Illinois University College of Law							
Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law		•			•		
Southern Illinois University School of Law							

## Indiana

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
Indiana University Maurer School of Law-Bloomington							
Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law							
Valparaiso University Law School							
Notre Dame Law School		•		•	•		

# Iowa

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
Drake University Law School		•					
University of Iowa College of Law		•		•	•		

## Kansas

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
University of Kansas School of Law	•	•	•		•	•	
Washburn University School of Law	•	•	•		•	•	

## Kentucky

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
Northern Kentucky University, Salmon P. Chase College of Law							
University of Kentucky College of Law							
University of Louisville's Brandeis School of Law							

## Louisiana

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center							
Loyola University New Orleans College of Law		•		•			
Southern University Law Center*							
Tulane University Law School							

**NOTES:**

\*In 2019, the Southern University Board approved the creation of the Native American Law and Policy Institute at Southern University Law Center in Baton Rouge. Three tenure track professors at SULC are enrolled in Indian tribes.



## Maine

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
University of Maine School of Law		•	•				

## Maryland

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
University of Baltimore School of Law							
University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law							

## Massachusetts

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
Boston College Law School							
Boston University School of Law							
Harvard Law School							
New England Law/Boston		•					
Northeastern University School of Law							
Suffolk University Law School		•		•			

## Michigan

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
Michigan State University College of Law	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Thomas M. Cooley Law School	•	•			•		
University of Detroit Mercy School of Law							
University of Michigan Law School		•			•		
Wayne State University Law School							

## Minnesota

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
University of Minnesota Law School	•			•	•		
University of St. Thomas School of Law							
Mitchell-Hamline School of Law	•		•		•		
University of Minnesota Law School	•			•	•		
University of St. Thomas School of Law							

## Mississippi

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
Mississippi College School of Law							
University of Mississippi School of Law							

## Missouri

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
Saint Louis University School of Law							
University of Missouri- Kansas City School of Law		•		•			
University of Missouri School of Law							
Washington University School of Law		•		•	•		

## Montana

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
University of Montana School of Law	•		•		•	•	•

NOTES:

- **Journal** – Public Lands and Resources Law Review includes an Indian Law area of emphasis



## Nebraska

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
Creighton University School of Law		•		•			
University of Nebraska College of Law							

## Nevada

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
UNLV William S. Boyd School of Law		•		•			

## New Hampshire

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
University of New Hampshire School of Law							

## New Jersey

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
Rutgers University School of Law— Newark							
Rutgers—The State University of New Jersey—School of Law—Camden							
Seton Hall University School of Law							

## New Mexico

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
The University of New Mexico School of Law	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

## New York

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
Albany Law School of Union University		•		•			
Brooklyn Law School							
Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law Yeshiva University							
City University of New York School of Law				•			
Columbia University School of Law		•		•	•		
Cornell Law School				•	•		
Fordham University School of Law					•		
Hofstra University Maurice A. Deane School of Law Hempstead							
New York Law School							
New York University School of Law		•		•			
Pace University School of Law							
St. John's University School of Law							
SUNY Buffalo Law School							
Syracuse University College of Law					•		
Touro College—Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center							

## North Carolina

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
Campbell University Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law							
Duke University School of Law							
Elon University School of Law							
University of North Carolina School of Law					•		
North Carolina Central University School of Law							
Wake Forest University School of Law							

## North Dakota

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
University of North Dakota School of Law	•	•	•	•	•	•	

**NOTES:**

**Native Americans into Law Program:** Through the congressionally funded Native Americans into Law (NAIL) Program, the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Law recruits promising American Indian and Alaska Native students and trains them to be effective attorneys. The NAIL program allows the UND School of Law to provide academic support and scholarships and stipends to American Indian and Alaska Native students.

**Scholarships**

**Judith Dickinson Quasi-Endowment:** The UND Foundation has established this Quasi-Endowment to benefit Law students who are studying Native American Law. Preference to students of the Iroquois American Indian Nation and with particular emphasis given to students whose ancestors fought in the Seven-Year War and Battle of Oriskany. Applies to NAIL.

**Hans Walker, Jr. Memorial Scholarship:** The foundation shall distribute allocations from the fund each year for scholarship(s) to incoming first year American Indian law student(s) at UND school of Law. First preference shall be given to student(s) who are enrolled members of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation. Second preference shall be given to student(s) who are enrolled members of the Spirit Lake Nation, the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians or the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Nation. If there are no students who meet these preferences the scholarship(s) shall be given to student(s) who are enrolled members of any federal or state recognized tribe.



## Ohio

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
The University of Akron School of Law							
Capital University Law School							
Case Western Reserve University School of Law							
University of Cincinnati College of Law							
Cleveland State University—Cleveland-Marshall College of Law							
University of Dayton School of Law							
Ohio Northern University—Pettit College of Law							
The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law							
The University of Toledo College of Law							

## Oklahoma

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
University of Oklahoma College of Law	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Oklahoma City University School of Law	•	•	•	•	•	•	
The University of Tulsa College of Law	•	•	•	•	•		

## Oregon

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
<b>University of Oregon School of Law</b>	•	•	•	•	•		
<b>Willamette University College of Law</b>							
<b>Lewis &amp; Clark Law School</b>	•	•	•	•	•	**	

NOTES:

\*\* Specialization, but no certificate.

## Pennsylvania

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
Temple University's Beasley School of Law							
Widener (Commonwealth) Law School							
University of Pennsylvania Law School	●*	●	●	●	●		
Villanova Law School		●		●			
University of Pittsburgh Law School							
Pennsylvania State University School of Law			●	●			
Duquesne University School of Law					●**		
Drexel University Kline School of Law							

**NOTES:**

\* Includes specific faculty-directed research experiences.

\*\* "Indigenous Law Society" – appears to be inactive.

## Rhode Island

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
Roger Williams University School of Law		•					

## South Carolina

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
<b>Charleston School of Law</b>							
<b>University of South Carolina School of Law</b>							

## South Dakota

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
University of South Dakota School of Law	•	•	•	•			

## Tennessee

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
Belmont University College of Law							
Lincoln Memorial University—John J. Duncan, Jr. School of Law							
The University of Memphis—Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law							
University of Tennessee College of Law							
Vanderbilt Law School		•					



## Texas

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
Baylor University School of Law					•		
University of Houston Law Center							
University of North Texas Dallas College of Law <i>(Provisionally Accredited)</i>							
St. Mary's University School of Law							
SMU Dedman School of Law							
South Texas College of Law Houston							
The University of Texas School of Law							
Texas A&M University School of Law							
Texas Southern University—Thurgood Marshall School of Law							
Texas Tech University School of Law							

## Utah

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law				•			
Brigham Young University		•	•	•	•		

## Vermont

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
Vermont Law School	•	•			•		

## Virginia

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
Appalachian School of Law							
George Mason University Antonin Scalia Law School							
Liberty University School of Law							
Regent University School of Law							
University of Richmond School of Law							
University of Virginia School of Law							
Washington and Lee University School of Law							
William & Mary Law School							

## Washington

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
Gonzaga University School of Law	•	•	•	•	•		
Seattle University School of Law	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
University of Washington School of Law William H. Gates Hall	•	•	•	•	•	•	

## West Virginia

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
West Virginia University College of Law							

## Wisconsin

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
Marquette University School of Law		•		•			
University of Wisconsin Law School		•		•	•		

## Wyoming

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
University of Wyoming College of Law		•		•			



## District of Columbia

ABA-Accredited Law School	More than One Indian Law Course	One Indian Law Course	More than One Indian Law Faculty	One Indian Law Faculty	NALSA Chapter	Certificate	Journal
American University Washington College of Law				•			
Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law		•					
University of District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law							
George Washington University Law School		•		•			
Georgetown University Law Center		•			•		
Howard University School of Law							