



MASTER OF LAWS (LL.M.)

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS, SCHOOL OF LAW





WELCOME TO UC DAVIS SCHOOL OF LAW

Celebrating over 50 Years of Leading Scholarship

The University of California, Davis, School of Law is one of the world's leading law schools. We are proud of our history of outstanding scholarship, teaching and real-world impact. Founded more than 50 years ago, the School of Law continues to welcome students from around the world into its diverse, intellectually rigorous and distinctly supportive community. Faculty, fellow students and our alumni form a lifelong professional and personal global network. Join us!

WHY THE UC DAVIS LL.M. PROGRAM?

Join our outstanding Academic Year LL.M. program for the professional and personal experience of a lifetime. Here are some of the qualities that make our LL.M. program one of the best in the country.

- Classes taught by top scholars in their fields
- LL.M. students fully integrated into J.D. classes
- Six optional concentrations
- Academic program tailored to each LL.M. student's needs
- Individual academic and personal advising throughout the program
- One- and two-year options
- August and January starts
- Workshops on academic success, bar exam preparation and career guidance
- Join more than 800 international alumni
- Student organizations and networking opportunities
- 24-hour access to our state-of-the-art building
- One of the top U.S. research universities
- Close to San Francisco, Wine Country, Sacramento (California's state capital), Lake Tahoe and Yosemite
- Located in the safe, family-friendly Davis community
- Supportive, welcoming King Hall community



UC DAVIS QUICK FACTS

RANKED

TOP **20**

2023 QS World University Rankings by Subject place UC Davis Law in the top 20 U.S. law schools

#1

in California for top schools for racial justice (*PreLaw Magazine* Ranking)

#1

university in the the nation for Diversity, Inclusiveness and Internationalization (QS USA University Rankings)

#4

Princeton Review's "Best Law Schools 2024" placed UC Davis Law No. 4 for "Greatest Resources for Women"

#18

in scholarly impact according to 2024 Brian Leiter's Law School Reports

4

SPECIALTIES IN THE TOP 20
(*US News and World Report*)

#15

in Environmental Law

#18

in Criminal Law

#19

in Constitutional Law

#20

in International Law

LL.M. PROGRAM

One or Two Year Options

The UC Davis School of Law LL.M. offers a superior educational experience for foreign lawyers, judges, prosecutors, legal professionals, or students with a first law degree. Classes are taught by outstanding faculty scholars, and students are fully integrated into J.D. classes. The program is designed around individual student needs. Thus, LL.M. students can pursue a general course of study or a concentration from an area within the UC Davis School of Law curriculum. **UC Davis offers August and January LL.M. start options in the following programs:**

CUSTOMIZABLE GENERAL LL.M.

Working with the program director, you may tailor the curriculum to either gain basic knowledge of the U.S. legal system or to focus on any area of legal scholarship supported by UC Davis School of Law's world-class curricula. The general LL.M. is designed to meet each student's needs. This degree may be used to prepare for a bar exam. Our full-time LL.M. is a two-semester degree program.

LL.M. WITH A CONCENTRATION

UC Davis School of Law offers six optional concentrations in a substantive area of law:

- Business Law
- Intellectual Property
- Environmental Law
- Criminal Law and Policy
- Immigration Law
- Tax Law

LL.M. WITH OTHER AREAS OF FOCUS

In addition to the optional concentrations, students may take classes throughout the JD curriculum and focus on areas such as Private and Public International Law, International Business and Dispute Resolution, Human Rights and Social Justice Law, and many others from the broad curriculum.

TWO-YEAR LL.M. PROGRAM OPTION

For some students, a longer period of study is vital to meeting educational and career goals. The two-year LL.M. provides an additional year to deepen knowledge of critical legal concepts.

TRANSFER TO JD PROGRAM OPTION

UC Davis School of Law academic year LL.M. students may apply for transfer to the J.D. Program. LSAT scores are not required. Successful completion of the LL.M. program with an excellent academic record is required.





BAR PREPARATION

Practice Law in the U.S.

In order to practice law in one or more of the United States, you must pass a bar examination. Many states in the U.S. allow foreign-trained attorneys with a U.S. LL.M. degree to sit for the bar exam if specific requirements are satisfied.* These states currently include California, New York, District of Columbia (D.C.), and others such as Texas. The bar exam covers multiple subjects (usually between ten and sixteen) is given over a 2-3 day period and is generally only offered twice a year.

INFORMATION ON ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND COURSE ADVISING

During the year, we work with students to inform them on eligibility requirements for US bar exams, and help them select the bar exam that is the best fit for their goals. We will work with the student to select the classes that will make them eligible to take the exam and help them prepare for the exam. We also monitor changes in the bar exam eligibility and content rules and keep students regularly updated about these changes.

BAR COURSES

UC Davis School of Law LLM curriculum offers a whole range of classes on subjects tested on the different bar exams.

BAR PREP “PLUS”

During the academic year, in addition to the classes on bar subjects, we offer a special class to train students on the written portion of the bar exam. This class gives the students the opportunity to learn and practice essay writing and performance tests. Each student in the class has the opportunity to practice and receive individual feedback on their essays and performance tests to ensure they are well-trained before they start their commercial preparation in May-June.

BAR PREP “PLUS PLUS”

During the bar review and preparation period (from the end of May to beginning of July), we give students additional opportunities to practice essay and performance tests, to complement and reinforce their commercial preparation. We also offer this option during the year for students or recently graduated students who take or retake the bar in February.

*Bar eligibility requirements are different from state to state. States allowing LL.M students to sit for the bar exam have specific requirements the students must satisfy (type of classes, number of units, etc.). LL.M. applicants should review the requirements set by each state in which they wish to sit for a bar exam.

SUMMER LAW AND PRE-LL.M. PROGRAMS

Connections that last a lifetime

Our summer programs will help you transition to life in the United States, improve your English, and will give you an overview of the U.S. legal system.

ENGLISH FOR LEGAL PROFESSIONALS

June 30 – July 11, 2025

Since 1992, this intensive and interactive program has provided an ideal introduction to and review of English and legal analysis as used by legal professionals in the United States. English for Legal Professionals provides excellent preparation for legal professionals or law students who want to improve their legal English and analysis or who are preparing to enroll in an LL.M. program.

ORIENTATION IN U.S.A. LAW

July 14 – August 1, 2025

For more than 35 years, the Orientation in U.S.A. Law program has served lawyers, judges, prosecutors and criminal defenders, notaries, law professors, pre-LL.M. students and business professionals who wish to gain a better understanding of the theories and practices of the U.S. legal system. The program combines classes, interactive activities (such as moot court), field trips and social events.

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS

August 4 – August 8, 2025

This one-week course is designed for international legal professionals, including attorneys, in-house counsels, compliance and legal experts, and students aiming to gain a comprehensive overview of the law of International Business Transactions from a practitioner's perspective.



FACULTY

UC Davis School of Law is proud of its distinguished and diverse faculty, drawn from among the finest scholars in the United States. UC Davis School of Law has among the highest proportion of American Law Institute (ALI) members on its faculty of any law school in the United States, and their membership in this prestigious law reform organization is only one indicator of the UC Davis Law faculty’s involvement in cutting-edge legal research and the most pressing legal and social issues of our times. UC Davis Law faculty have published thousands of leading books and articles by the most influential presses and law reviews in the world. The work of our faculty members is cited regularly in leading legal and interdisciplinary scholarship. Not surprisingly, members of the faculty frequently testify before Congress and other legislative bodies and are quoted frequently by the national media.

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Dean and Professor of Law
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MPH, Case Western Reserve University, School of Medicine
Bioethics and Law, Informed Consent and Advance Directives, End-of-Life Decision Making, Reproductive Law and Ethics, Research Law and Ethics, E-Medicine, Public Health Law and Ethics, Confidentiality

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Legal Research, Legal Writing, U.S. Legal System, International Legal Education

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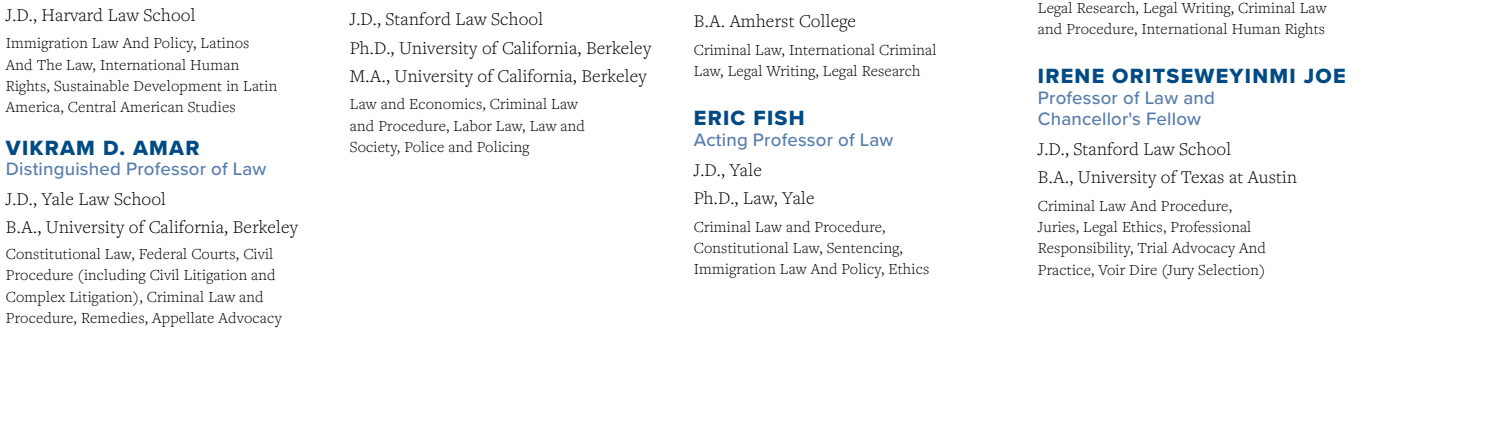
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MAP OF UC DAVIS LL.M. ALUMNI

LL.M. COMMITMENT TO A DIVERSE STUDENT BODY

The LL.M. program has over 800 alumni from more than 75 countries. Cultural diversity is the key to the program's success because it creates a worldwide community of legal professionals (J.D. and LL.M. students) who subsequently infuse their legal systems with the knowledge obtained at UC Davis about common law and international legal systems. The LL.M. attracts legal professional participants from many different countries and legal systems. Students eventually represent clients who are culturally diverse and engaged in international legal endeavors.





STUDENT LIFE

Experience King Hall

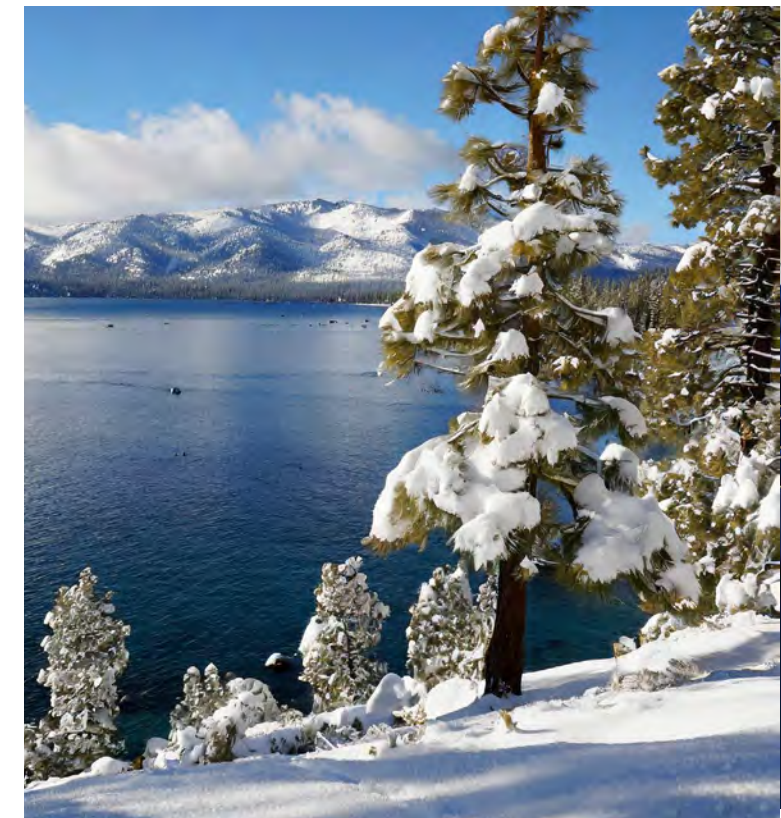
The UC Davis School of Law is housed in King Hall, located within University of California, Davis, the largest campus in the UC system. The more than 40,000 students who attend UC Davis pursue a full range of undergraduate, graduate and professional studies. The UC Davis University Library, ranked among the top research libraries in North America, contains more than four million volumes. Students often remark that the campus' famous open space contributes to a relaxed environment that supports study. Our campus is located just 15 minutes from Sacramento, California's capital and a center for legal culture.

King Hall itself is a cutting-edge facility recently expanded to provide 24-hour student access to a beautiful, functionally advanced learning space that gives students the full benefit of the latest technologies. King Hall contains an appellate courtroom, a moot courtroom, a large computer lab, study carrels and a study lounge, and a student social lounge, among many other amenities.

The Mabie Law Library is the heart of study and legal research for the King Hall community, and students access print and online resources including books, journals, databases and others. Mabie Library's helpful staff include several attorneys, and students have unlimited access.

UC Davis School of Law boasts a number of centers. Students are encouraged to share and connect academically and personally through participation in more than 50 student organizations.

School of Law degree students may access a wide variety of campus services. In addition to those listed above, these include academic advising and registration services, healthcare, behavioral health and counseling services, disability services, diversity resources, and many more. For complete information about services available to degree students, please visit law.ucdavis.edu/on-campus-services.



UC DAVIS - LIFE IN A COLLEGE TOWN

Davis, California is renowned for being one of America’s true college towns. Davis is also known for its 160 kilometers of bicycle paths. The community is prized for its safety and family-friendliness, the quality of public schools, and housing can be found close to campus for singles and for families. The centralized, walkable Davis downtown offers world cuisine, delightful shops and inspiring entertainment and social activities. Our Mediterranean climate makes outdoor activities a year-round delight, and our location—about an hour from San Francisco, and two hours from Lake Tahoe—provides many options for recreation.

UC Davis is committed to extending its recognition as a leading international university. To achieve this vision, the campus opened a new international facility in Fall 2016 to establish a centralized, welcoming environment for international students and scholars, as well as students interested in studying abroad. The center provides a beautiful, prominent hub for international students to create the best possible educational and cultural experience.



“Many years have passed since I completed my LL.M. program at UC Davis. Many years later and not a single day goes by that I don't have some thought related to Davis. It could be a class at King Hall, a soccer game I played, a path I took on my bike, a short trip I took through California. There were so many good moments. ”

Pedro, Brazil,
LL.M. Program graduate



EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Expand Beyond the Classroom

At UC Davis School of Law, students enjoy not only outstanding academic training, but also the opportunity to hone practical skills. Students can participate in student-run journals or join a student-run organization to connect with fellow law students and develop their expertise further.

EXAMPLES OF EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

UC DAVIS LAW REVIEW

BUSINESS LAW JOURNAL

JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW & POLICY

SOCIAL JUSTICE LAW REVIEW

ENVIRONS - ENVIRONMENTAL LAW JOURNAL

SOCIAL JUSTICE LAW REVIEW

IMMIGRATION & NATIONALITY REVIEW

AOKI CRIMINAL JUSTICE PRACTICUM

MOOT COURT

TRIAL ADVOCACY

EXAMPLES OF STUDENT-RUN ORGANIZATIONS

LL.M. ADVANCED LEGAL SCHOLARS
ASSOCIATION (ALSA)

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN LAW STUDENTS
ASSOCIATION

BLACK LAW STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

BUSINESS LAW SOCIETY

CRIMINAL LAW ASSOCIATION

ENTERTAINMENT AND SPORTS LAW SOCIETY

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SOCIETY

HEALTH LAW ASSOCIATION

HUMANITARIAN AID LEGAL ORGANIZATION

IF/WHEN/HOW: LAWYERING FOR
REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE

IMMIGRATION LAW ASSOCIATION

KING HALL CHINESE LAW STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

KING HALL DISABILITY RIGHTS LAW ASSOCIATION

KING HALL FAMILIES

KING HALL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW ASSO-
CIATION

KING HALL INTERNATIONAL LAW ASSOCIATION

KING HALL LEGAL FOUNDATION

KING HALL NEGOTIATIONS TEAM

MEDICAL LEGAL ADVOCATES

MIDDLE EASTERN AND SOUTH ASIAN LAW
STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

TAX LAW SOCIETY

WOMEN'S LAW ASSOCIATION





CAREER SERVICES

Resources and Assistance Within Reach

Career Services offers a full range of resources and services to assist in developing the necessary strategies and skills which will distinguish you as a memorable legal professional. Resources are available in-person and online. Additional services include career advising, workshops, presentations, and panels, resume and cover letter critique, on-campus interview opportunities, mock interviews, and in-house generated employment listings.

OPTIONAL PRACTICAL TRAINING (OPT)

Our LL.M. students may qualify to obtain temporary employment authorization after graduation. For an F-1 student, this is known as Optional Practical Training (OPT). For a J-1 student, it is referred to as Academic Training (AT). Both provide eligible international students with employment experience to complement their academic programs in the United States. F-1 holders are eligible for 12 months of OPT while J-1 holders can engage in AT as long as the total amount of training does not exceed the time spent in the LL.M. program. Students interested in OPT may apply no sooner than 90 days prior to the end of their program.

THE UC DAVIS LL.M. PROGRAM APPLICATION CHECKLIST

This checklist will help you prepare your application to our Academic Year LL.M. program. A complete application must include:

- ☐ An application form
- ☐ One official set of Academic Records (Transcripts) issued in the original language and accompanied by a certified English translation. Academic records should show graded coursework, dates of enrollment and award of degree(s)
- ☐ Two Letters of Recommendation
- ☐ Personal Statement – Your personal statement should include your personal, academic and professional background and your reasons for seeking an advanced degree
- ☐ Résumé or Curriculum Vitae – Please list your educational and professional background, in addition to any scholarships, awards or honors you have received
- ☐ Official score for either TOEFL or IELTS. A minimum of 88 on the Internet-based TOEFL or 570 on the paper-based test is required. TOEFL score reports should be sent to Institution Code 4778. A minimum of 6.5 IELTS is also acceptable

QUALIFICATION FOR ADMISSION

International applicants must present satisfactory evidence of completion of legal academic training at an accredited educational institution. Domestic applicants must have completed at least seven years of residential study at accredited colleges and law schools and must hold a professional degree from a law school approved by the American Bar Association.

APPLICATION DEADLINES FOR ADMISSION

We recommended applying for fall semester (August) start by March 1; however we accept and review applications continuously until the academic semester begins.

We recommend applying for spring semester (January) start by November 1; however, we accept and review applications continuously until the academic semester begins.

Applications will be reviewed after they are complete. If you have any questions regarding the application or application process, please contact the LL.M. Admissions Director at llm@ucdavis.edu.

THREE WAYS TO APPLY

- Through our Law School website—law.ucdavis.edu/llm, click on Apply Now. Fill out the online application.
- Through the online LSAC Assembly Service.
- By mail, by completing the form on pages 13 and 14 and mailing it to:

LL.M. Admissions
International Programs
School of Law
University of California, Davis
400 Mrak Hall Drive
Davis, CA 95616-5201 U.S.A.





FEES AND EXPENSES

TUITION

For the 2024 – 2025 academic year, tuition for the Master of Laws (LL.M.) program was U.S. \$62,892.*

SCHOLARSHIPS

All applications are considered for scholarships -- no separate scholarship application is required.

OTHER FEES

For the 2024 – 2025 academic year, the university estimates that a student should budget a minimum of \$23,329* per a year for living expenses (food, rent, other expenses). Law school students should anticipate annual expenses of approximately \$2,036* for books and supplies. These figures do not include transportation costs. Davis has a good local bus system and is a very bicycle-friendly town. If you plan to buy or bring a car, budget for expenses such as car insurance, gas, parking and maintenance.

Students who plan to bring family members to Davis should budget an additional \$500* per month in living expenses for a spouse and \$250* per month for each dependent child. Health insurance for all family members is essential. Please note also that child care may cost \$800 – \$1,500* per month or more.

International students admitted to the university will be required to pay the international student administrative fee of \$396 and document financial support sufficient to meet academic fees and expenses. Sponsored students (that is, those students not funded by private individuals) are required to provide a letter from their sponsoring agency or government, detailing the terms of the scholarship award as verification that sufficient funding is available.

For additional financial information and opportunities, please contact us at llm@ucdavis.edu.

*Fees are subject to the control of the UC Regents and California Legislature and may change without notice. Note: Tuition and fees are posted on the Office of Budget & Institutional Analysis website at budget.ucdavis.edu/studentfees/

Estimated expenses are subject to change and may vary.

INITIAL EXPENSES

Every student is expected to have sufficient funds to cover initial expenses. You will need the amount of your tuition and fees (in cash or in the form of a valid letter of sponsorship guaranteeing payment of fees) plus an initial down payment for housing, food and personal expenses. Tuition and fee payments may not be deferred. It is suggested you bring a minimum of \$25,000* for immediate expenses.

MEDICAL CARE COVERAGE

All students are required to purchase graduate student health insurance at the time tuition fees are paid. UC Davis automatically enrolls all registered students in appropriate health insurance plans. The premium for 2024 – 2025 was \$7,446* for the academic year. A waiver of this requirement may be granted to those students who meet the University requirements and can provide proof of comparable coverage. Please note that student health insurance coverage does not begin until the first day of class. In addition, some medical services are not covered by this insurance and must be paid for by the student, including the cost of eye glasses or contact lenses and dental care. The LL.M. Admissions Officer can answer your questions about insurance coverage and the waiver.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUND POLICIES

For students who paid fees and cancel or withdraw with official approval from the dean before the end of any semester, fees are refunded according to UC Davis campus-wide refund policies. Refunds are based upon the date you discontinue enrollment; you may receive a full or partial refund of your fees. Contact the LL.M. Admissions Office at llm@ucdavis.edu for more information about refund and cancellation policies.

HOUSING

OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING

Most students enrolled at UC Davis live outside of university housing. For general information about costs and accommodations in the community, contact the LL.M. Admissions Officer.

ON-CAMPUS HOUSING

Housing within the on-campus apartments and married student housing is available. If you wish to live on campus, you may request further information about

costs and accommodations from the Admissions Officer. Please contact housing@ucdavis.edu for more information.

VISA INFORMATION

The F-1 student visa classification is for full-time academic study in the United States. Thus, admitted LL.M. students should apply for the F-1 visa. Students who are government sponsored or part of an exchange program may be eligible for J-1 student status. If you are unsure as to which visa type is appropriate for you, please contact our office at llm@ucdavis.edu.

The I-20 is the certificate of eligibility for the F-1 visa and is used to apply for the F-1 visa at a U.S. embassy or consulate. After being admitted to our LL.M. program, you will receive detailed information about the visa application process.

If you have any questions regarding the visa process, please contact the LL.M. Admissions office at llm@ucdavis.edu.

NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

The University of California, in accordance with applicable Federal and State law and University policy, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, pregnancy (including pregnancy, childbirth and medical conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth), physical or mental disability, age, medical condition (cancer-related or genetic characteristics), ancestry, marital status, citizenship, sexual orientation or service in the uniformed services (includes membership, application for membership, performance of service, application for service or obligation for service in the uniformed services) status as a Vietnam-era veteran or special disabled veteran. The University also prohibits sexual harassment, including sexual assault. This nondiscrimination policy covers admission, access and treatment in University programs and activities.

CONTACT US

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