Transfer Credit Acceptance Policy

Transfer Credits for Students Who Transfer to New York Law School

NYLS limits the number of transfer credit hours a student may receive. A student who transfers to NYLS after completing at least the first year of law school elsewhere may generally earn up to 30 credits for first-year courses. Under special circumstances, a student may earn up to 43 transfer credits. Students must be admitted as a transfer student by NYLS before this calculation is made.

Transfer credits only (not the grades) are displayed on the NYLS transcript.

Each student’s transcript is individually reviewed to determine the number of transfer credits to be awarded, courses that the student is required to take at NYLS, and courses that the student may not take at NYLS because the student has taken equivalent course(s) at another law school.

Transfer credit is given only for courses in which a grade of at least a “C” was earned; if the course was not graded on a letter basis, the student must provide confirmation from the school that the student would have earned at least a “C” had letter grades been awarded.

Transfer credit may be awarded only for coursework completed at an ABA-accredited law school.

No duplication of credit will be awarded; in other words, students may not receive credit for a course they have already taken. The Office of Academic Affairs will determine when a course is duplicative.

Visiting Away From NYLS: Transfer Credits for NYLS Students Who Wish to Take Courses at Another Law School

A student whose extraordinary personal circumstances necessitate leaving the New York area may be permitted to study at another ABA-accredited law school for one or two semesters and to apply the credits earned at that school toward his or her J.D. degree at New York Law School. The student must have completed at least one year of study, be in good academic standing, and petition the Office of Academic Affairs for permission to visit.

Courses taken at another law school must be approved in advance and may not substitute for required courses or satisfy the Writing Requirement. Credit is given only for courses in which a student earns a grade of “C” or better. If the course was not graded on a letter basis, the student must provide confirmation from the school that the student would have earned at least a “C” had letter grades been awarded.

The grades are not reported on the NYLS transcript and are not averaged with NYLS grades to calculate a student’s GPA. It remains the student’s responsibility to meet the course and residency requirements for the J.D. degree.

If a student wishes to study at a non-U.S. law school for one or two semesters, special permission must be obtained from the Office of Academic Affairs.
All requests to earn transfer credit must be submitted in writing to and approved in advance by the Office of Academic Affairs. This permission will include a list of courses that have been approved for transfer credit and must be granted before the semester begins.

**Summer School Abroad (non-NYLS Programs) and Summer Study at ABA-Accredited U.S. Law Schools**

Students must obtain prior written permission from the Office of Academic Affairs to receive credit for attending summer school abroad through an ABA-accredited program or at an ABA-accredited U.S. law school. All courses must be approved prior to the start of the summer program. Students will be approved for study at another U.S. law school only upon showing of extraordinary circumstances.

Eligible students may register for up to 6 credits for attending approved summer programs and, provided they receive a “C” or above, will receive credit only (not the grade) for the course or courses. If the course was not graded on a letter basis, the student must provide confirmation from the school that the student would have earned at least a “C” had letter grades been awarded.

Courses taken at another law school may not substitute for required courses or satisfy the Writing Requirement.

Students may receive residence credit only for approved summer programs that are at least seven weeks long.