



**GRADUATE
CERTIFICATE
IN APPLIED LAW**

Become an expert - one subject at a time



BRING OUT THE BEST OF YOU

Looking to boost your legal career but not ready to dive into a Master of Laws (LLM)?

The Graduate Certificate in Applied Law might be the answer.

Offering a flexible and affordable way to upskill, the Graduate Certificate is a popular option for busy legal professionals looking to sharpen their skills or master a particular field.

And the best part? It will count towards an LLM, so if you decide to pursue that path in the future, you'll already be well on your way.

Start with a graduate certificate. Where's next is up to you.

Here are 7 reasons this pathway could be your best move.

1. A practical step into postgrad study - without taking on too much at once
2. Ease back into study gradually
3. Earn a postgraduate qualification in as little as 6 months
4. Step your way to a Master's degree
5. Customise your course to your interests and goals
6. Learn more, earn more – and get a return on your education, fast
7. Become an expert in your passion

We explore these in more depth on page 4.



Increase your earning potential: Lawyers with a Master of Laws degree earn an average of \$30K more annually.

Source: College of Law – Australian Legal Salary Survey 2024

BUT FIRST, WHAT IS THE GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN APPLIED LAW?

The Graduate Certificate in Applied Law is a postgraduate course for practising lawyers or legal professionals looking to deepen their legal knowledge or gain expertise in a niche field of law.

It's flexible, self-paced and designed so you can apply what you learn directly to your work.

The program consists of two subjects and can take as little as six months (full-time) or up to two years (part-time) to complete. You can tailor it to suit your schedule.

Curious if this is the right path for you? Let's explore some of the advantages in more detail.



1. LOW COMMITMENT, HIGH FLEXIBILITY

Balancing work, personal life and study is challenging for many legal professionals.

The Graduate Certificate offers a flexible solution, allowing you to upskill at your own pace without overwhelming your schedule – and in a fraction of the time it would take you to complete a full Master's. Plus, the program is 100% online, so you'll save on travel time and costs while studying from wherever suits you best.

It's also a lower financial commitment than the LLM. So you can level up your skills without outlaying too much too quickly.

2. EASE BACK INTO STUDY

If your study skills are a bit rusty, diving into a full LLM can feel daunting.

The Graduate Certificate is a fantastic way to get a feel for the workload and expectations of postgraduate learning in a less demanding environment.

You'll get to flex your reading, writing and research skills and get back into the rhythm of studying without the pressure of a full course load.

And you'll have plenty of support along the way! At the College of Law, we offer tailored academic support and guidance from the industry professionals who teach our courses.

3. EARN A QUALIFICATION IN RECORD TIME

One of the top perks of a Graduate Certificate?

You can earn a formal qualification after just two subjects.

Upon completion, you'll have a recognised credential on your resume that highlights your specialised knowledge and commitment to continuous learning and development.

And that's guaranteed to help you stand out in the competitive legal job market.





4. STEP YOUR WAY TO A MASTER'S DEGREE

The Graduate Certificate is a respected standalone qualification. But it can also act as the perfect stepping stone to a full LLM.

Once you've completed the course, you can seamlessly upgrade to a Master's at any time without the need to start from scratch. Those two subjects you've taken? They're progress you've already banked, making the transition smoother and quicker.

For some practice areas (such as Commercial Litigation, Family Law and In-house Practice), the next step might be a [Graduate Diploma of Applied Law](#), which is comprised of four subjects.

Otherwise, you could dive straight into an LLM – knowing you'll already be ahead of the game.

It's the graduate certificate today – and a master's whenever you're ready.

5. CUSTOMISE YOUR COURSE - AND CARVE A CAREER FROM YOUR PASSION

Chances are, if you're reading this, you're committed to becoming the best lawyer you can be.

The Graduate Certificate offers a practical way to immediately apply new skills to your current role while expanding your expertise in specialised areas of law. You can handpick subjects that align with your career interests and career goals.

Need to boost your conflict resolution skills to better support your clients? We've got a subject on dispute resolution. Looking to forge a career where you can support people through their toughest moments? Opt for family law or wills and estates.

Whether you want to dive deeper into commercial litigation or pivot to a completely new field, the Graduate Certificate is your chance to explore what excites you most.

6. CASH IN ON YOUR LEARNING (FAST!)

Higher education means a higher salary.

A Graduate Certificate doesn't just look good on paper – it pays off quickly.

With just two subjects, you'll gain practical skills you can use right away, whether that's improving your performance in your current role or opening doors to new opportunities.

Because the commitment is shorter, you'll see faster returns on both your time and money. It's [the smart way to justify your investment](#).

7. A MORE CONFIDENT YOU

Sharper skills and more focused expertise are guaranteed to improve your practice. But they'll work wonders for your confidence, too.

Investing in your professional development is an important step toward achieving your career goals and becoming the lawyer you aspire to be.

With each new skill you acquire, you'll find yourself better equipped to navigate challenges and seize opportunities.

So, what are you waiting for?



“All my studies at the College were online. That was really beneficial because it was delivered through lots of small online tasks – which was very achievable.”

– Emma Youdale
College of Law LLM graduate

DISCOVER A PATHWAY THAT IS UNIQUELY YOURS

Graduate Certificate in Applied Law

Customise your Graduate Certificate and complete any two subjects across practice areas.

[Select a practice area and explore relevant subjects](#) or dive into the following graduate certificate programs.

Family law	Wills and estates and estate planning	Commercial litigation	Property law
ASEAN+6 legal practice	Business law and transactions	Dispute resolution	Government and public sector
In-house practice	Legal business management		

Graduate Certificate in International Arbitration Practice

2 ILP subjects: ILP7 - Workplace of the future & ILP14 - Leadership

Graduate Certificate in Legal Business Management

Two elective subjects in Legal Business Management

Graduate Certificate in Legal Operations

ILP11 - Legal Operations plus one elective subject in Legal Business Management



“The postgraduate program is great because it helps you in your day-to-day career. You hear from other students who are also practising solicitors, giving you the benefit of their experience.”

– Mark Evans
College of Law LLM graduate

YOUR LEARNING EXPERIENCE

LEARNING RESOURCES

Everything you need in one location

Access all your study resources from our state-of-the-art learning portal.

Extensive digital library

Access our comprehensive library of online resources - including legal databases such as LexisNexis, Westlaw and CCH.

Lecturer feedback and guidance

Receive practical feedback from our lecturers.

Active learning environment

Engage in online activities and interact with your lecturers and peers.

Practical teaching

Learn from materials, exercises and assessments that are practical, rather than theoretical.

SUBJECT COMPONENTS

Preparation Complete readings and review questions for upcoming discussions.	Written activities These may include checklists, memoranda, letters of advice, file notes or other drafting activities.	Self-assessment Reflect on your learning, review your work and monitor your understanding of the material.
Weekly interactions We use weekly web conferences in different ways depending on the subject and module. They may involve group discussions about readings or roleplays on client-facing scenarios.	Discussion forums Discussion forums cover the same topics and questions taught in the conferences.	Skill sharing activity Prepare a presentation on a relevant topic to demonstrate your understanding of the material.

LEARNING STRUCTURE

Study mode Study part time or full time: Enrol 1 subject per intake as a part time student.	Delivery format: 100% Online
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ASSESSMENTS

Your requirements will vary from course to course.

However, these are the most common assessments that you will need to complete:

- Oral assessments
- Written assessments
- Short writing activities
- Reflection activities

WHY CHOOSE THE COLLEGE OF LAW?

As Australasia's largest provider of practice-focused legal education, we know what it takes to thrive in this industry.

Our postgraduate programs are designed to do more than build knowledge – they're here to help you shape a career you love. Whether you want to build razor-sharp expertise or pursue an entirely new practice area, you'll gain the skills, insights and confidence to take that dream forward.

Every one of our courses is taught by experienced legal professionals who are leaders in their field. And they come with flexible study options, so you can learn at your own pace.

But what truly sets us apart? Our practical approach to learning. Step beyond the textbooks with hands-on tasks and real-world scenarios that you can apply to your practice right away.

Ready to invest in your future self? Take the next step with the College of Law.

Find your true calling

Pursue the practice area, skill set or career pivot that excites you.

Take on the real world

Gain practical insights from real-life scenarios guided by renowned industry practitioners.

Balance your studies

Fit your learning around your other commitments with our flexible online program.

Learn more, earn more

Advance your career and gain the skills, knowledge and confidence to level up.

HOW TO ENROL

Intake dates

	Intake 1	Intake 2	Intake 3	Intake 4
Start date	9 Feb 2026	11 May 2026	10 Aug 2026	9 Nov 2026
Census date	25 Feb 2026	27 May 2026	26 Aug 2026	2 Dec 2026
End date	1 May 2026	31 Jul 2026	30 Oct 2026	5 Feb 2027

Subject fees

The fee per subject in 2026 is \$4,150 (no GST applies)

Fees are reviewed annually and may be subject to change during your studies.

If you're an Australian citizen, have a NZ Special Category Visa or hold a permanent humanitarian visa, you may be able to defer payment through the Commonwealth Government [FEE-HELP](#) loan.

Your application checklist

Start by choosing your first subject. We recommend enrolling in one subject per intake. Completing two subjects in the same intake may require up to 25 hours of study and reading each week.

Then, you'll need to provide:

- A certified copy of your official academic transcript or graduation certificate (LLB, JD, Dip Law) OR your admission certificate OR your current practising certificate
- Your payment or tax file number (if applying for FEE-HELP)
- Any postgraduate certificates, qualifications, awards or relevant documentation if you're applying for Recognition of Prior Learning
- Your Unique Student Identifier (USI) number. It is a requirement of the Australian Government that all students (except international students studying offshore) must provide a USI. You can obtain or locate your USI at <https://www.usi.gov.au/>
- Proof of name change (if applicable)
- If you have more questions, read our [FAQs](#)

[ENROL ONLINE NOW](#) →



WHERE'S NEXT?

The College of Law is Australasia's leading provider of practice-focused legal education, with over 100,000 graduates. We offer flexible, practical programs to enhance legal careers, prioritising the practical application of law. Enrolment is simple, and we tailor education to fit your lifestyle. We work within the profession, for the profession—alongside you and for you.

True callings are found at the College of Law. We're here to support your every step of the way.

To find out more about our courses:



Postgraduate, Short Courses and **CPD** call +61 2 9965 7111



Email postgrad@collaw.edu.au



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