

Florida State University College of Law  
*Environmental, Energy, and Land Use Law Program*  
**ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CERTIFICATE PROGRAM**

This memorandum outlines the requirements for the Certificate Program in Environmental and Land Use Law. To enroll in the Environmental Law Certificate Program, you must submit an application form to the Environmental Law Office (A227) **prior to the completion of the second course** that you plan to use to satisfy the certificate requirements. Application forms can be emailed to James Parker-Flynn at [jparkerflynn@law.fsu.edu](mailto:jparkerflynn@law.fsu.edu). Application approval is required to pursue the Environmental Law Certificate track.

**Note:** Students pursuing a joint degree must consult with the Associate Dean for Environmental Programs because the rules for joint degree programs affect students' options for meeting Certificate requirements.

**Certificate Requirements:**

- (1) Students must graduate with at least 91 credits and a minimum grade point average of 3.0 in their environmental courses.
- (2) At least 21 credits total of approved Program courses (see Program web site). There are three components of this 21-credit requirement, all of which must be satisfied:
  - i) (1) Environmental Law, (2) Administrative Law, and either (3) Environmental Policy and Natural Resources Law, Natural Resources Law, or Land Use Regulation, all for a grade (9 credits).
  - ii) At least 9 additional credits of approved Program electives (see Program web site), at least one of which must be a seminar on an environmental, land use, natural resources, or energy law topic for which the student produces a ULWR-quality research paper, and all taken for a grade if a grade is an option. Up to 3 credits for service on the Journal of Land Use and Environmental Law may count toward this elective requirement; these 3 credits may not replace the seminar.
  - iii) A practical experience requirement designed to expose students to aspects of practice in the area before they graduate. To fulfill this requirement, students have four options. No more than a total of 3 credits of practical experience may count towards the 21-credit program requirement.
    - (a) EXTERNSHIP/INTERNSHIP: Students may fulfill this requirement through an approved, official externship or internship in environmental, land use, natural resources, or energy law. The College of Law offers a number of these externships and internships, and summer Public Interest Fellowships are another possibility. A list of environmental law externship opportunities is available here: <https://law.fsu.edu/academics/academic-programs/juris-doctor-program/environmental-energy-land-use-law/environmental-externships>
    - (b) PRO BONO: Students may fulfill this requirement by completing 40 hours of pro bono work in environmental, land use, natural resources, or energy law, for a government agency, a law firm, or a public interest organization/NGO. **NOTE:** Paid work does not qualify. A list of environmental law pro bono sites is available here: <https://law.fsu.edu/students/student-advancement/pro-bono-requirement>
    - (c) MOOT COURT: Students competing in the Environmental Moot Court Competition (Pace) or the International Environmental Moot Court competition (Stetson) automatically fulfill this requirement. Subject to the approval of Program faculty, other moot court competitions may qualify if the problem focuses on environmental, natural resources, land use, or energy law.
    - (d) PRACTICAL SKILLS COURSE: Take an environmental/land use/natural resources/energy law course that fulfills the College of Law's practical skills requirement.
- (3) Participation in at least **eight** Certificate Program enrichment events (including *Distinguished Lectures* and *Environmental Forums*), over the student's entire period of attendance at FSU Law. *You must sign in at these events in order for your attendance to count towards this requirement.*