



Joint Graduate Pathway Law and Information Technology

The College of Law and School of Information joint graduate pathway in law and information technology, J.D./M.S.I.T., permits the completion of both degrees concurrently. Current law students must meet with and submit all documents for admission to the College of Law Joint Graduate Pathway Coordinator before **July 1st** of their first year of law school. The College of Law Joint Graduate Pathway Coordinator will then submit their completed packet to the College of Law and the School of Information for approval. Any student who has completed M.S.I.T. coursework prior to matriculating to the College of Law, or who wishes to apply for the joint graduate pathway after beginning their second year of law school, must obtain prior written approval from the College of Law before applying for the joint graduate pathway.

Applicants to the M.S.I.T. program must have a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university, an upper division (junior and senior) grade point average of 3.0 or better, and prior information technology coursework or work experience. Applicants should contact the School of Information to obtain specific information on the necessary GRE requirement. The School of Information will waive the GRE requirement for current College of Law students.

How To Apply

1. Visit the Florida State University College of Law Office of Admissions to obtain a **JOINT GRADUATE PATHWAY APPLICATION** form.
2. Complete the documentation.
3. Do not send or have documents sent to the School of Information. All documents must be returned to the College of Law Office of Admissions before **July 1st** of the 1L year.

Applicants will need to:

1. Complete the graduate application at: <https://admissions.fsu.edu/gradapp/> for the Master of Science in Information Technology (M.S.I.T.). Please note that all supporting documents must be submitted to College of Law Office of Admissions.
2. Provide a completed **JOINT GRADUATE PATHWAY APPLICATION** form.
3. Provide an updated legal resume.
4. Provide a **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE** as specified on the School of Information's Web site at: <https://ischool.cci.fsu.edu/programs/grad-programs/master-of-science-in-information-technology/#admissions>.
5. Have competitive GRE scores on file with the Florida State University. The School of Information will waive the GRE requirement for current College of Law students.

Program Sequence

The normal program sequence for a student in the joint graduate pathway is:

1st Year	30 hours of Law
2nd Year	12 hours of Law 21 hours of Information Technology
3rd Year	22 hours of Law 9 hours of Information Technology
4th Year	15 hours of Law
Total Law Courses	79 hours
Total MSIT Courses	30 hours
Shared Credit Courses	2 hours of Law, 9 hours of Information Technology
Total J.D./MSIT Courses	109 hours

Specific J.D. degree requirements can be found online at www.law.fsu.edu.



● Information Technology Curriculum

● The joint graduate pathway requires successful completion of 30 hours of coursework from the School of Information. Students must take four core courses (12 credit hours), as noted below, and choose additional elective courses (18 hours) from the list of approved courses. ● Elective courses should be selected according to the foundational needs of the student (taking into account current technology skill level) and the knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs) needed to support the student's professional goals.

● Please visit <https://ischool.cci.fsu.edu/programs/grad-programs/master-of-science-in-information-technology/#degree-requirements> for more information.

● The core courses are:

- LIS 5203 Information Behavior (3 hours)
- LIS 5275 Usability Analysis (3 hours)
- LIS 5408 Management of Information Organizations (3 hours)
- LIS 5487 Information Systems Management (3 hours)*

● * Required course for the joint graduate pathway from the M.S.I.T. curriculum that will also be used as shared credit toward the J.D. degree. The following courses are also required and will be used as shared credit toward the J.D. degree:

- LIS 5411 Introduction to Information Policy (3 hours)
- LIS 5362 Design and Production of Networked Multimedia (3 hours)

● The following course from the J.D. curriculum is required and will be used as shared credit for the M.S.I.T. degree:

- LAW 7930-20 Technology for Lawyers (2 hours)

● **Note on Shared Credit:** Because a joint graduate pathway allows a student to complete each curriculum by taking fewer hours overall, each program will require that certain courses be taken from the other curriculum to cover the number of hours reduced from their respective curriculum. These courses are part of the respective program's curriculum and are not counted toward the credit requirement for the other curriculum. They may or may not be included in the normal core requirements of the respective program's curriculum.

● Questions

● The joint graduate pathway must be completed within seven years, although most students complete the program in four years.

● For further information related to applying for this joint graduate pathway, please contact:

- Ralph Keiffer
- Senior Admissions Officer & Recruitment Specialist
- Florida State University College of Law
- (850) 644-3787
- rkeiffer@law.fsu.edu

● For further information about curriculum requirements, please contact:

- Elizabeth Farrell Clifford
- Director & Professor
- Florida State University College of Law Research Center
- (850) 644-1394
- efarrell@law.fsu.edu

- Amy Mosher, Graduate Admissions Coordinator
- Florida State University School of Information
- (850) 645-3280
- ischooladvising@cci.fsu.edu

Conferring of Degrees

Students in joint graduate pathways receive both degrees concurrently. Students may not be certified as a graduate without having completed the graduation requirements in the College of Law and the School of Information. This includes the Law upper-level writing requirement, the skills training requirement, and the pro bono requirement.

Residence Requirement

Unless otherwise approved by both advisors and the College of Law Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, students enrolled in joint graduate pathways must earn a minimum of seven semesters of residence credit. Based on the College of Law formula for determining residency, one semester of residency credit is earned for every 12 credit hours of courses taken in the College of Law and the School of Information.

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