

Youth of Excellence Scheme of China Program Chinese Government Scholarship (YES CHINA)

- The Master of Laws (LL.M.) Program in Chinese Law at Peking University

Overview of the Program

The Master of Laws (LL.M.) Program in Chinese Law is a graduate law program offered by Peking University Law School, focusing on Chinese civil and commercial law. The language of instruction is English.

Peking University is a pre-eminent university in China, well-known for her long history, rich culture, distinguished alumni, enlightened education policies and exciting campus life. Established in 1904, the Law School has become a leading institution for legal education and a potent force for legal development in China. The Law School frequently cooperates with the government, law firms and the business community in the development of cutting-edge legal, social and commercial policies. The Law School also has many international connections and partnership programs with leading universities and legal institutions. PKU Law School is ranked 31st globally in QS 2024 for law, 4th in Asia.

With China's rapid economic growth and growing presence on the world stage, the knowledge of Chinese law has become an essential resource for international students and legal professionals engaged with China. Peking University Law School established the LL.M. Program in Chinese Law to address the needs of the international community in seeking a comprehensive and systematic understanding of Chinese law from a first-class legal institution.

This program provides intensive instruction in Chinese law. Leading faculty members will offer Chinese law courses specifically designed for international students. The teaching will be comprised of both lectures and small-group seminars. In addition, Peking University regularly attracts top scholars and practitioners in Chinese law and students will have first-hand access to such distinguished presenters. There are also optional subjects in non-law areas such as politics, economy and society to facilitate students' understanding of China's culture. Moreover, courses on Mandarin Chinese are available for the improvement of language skills and adaption to local life.

The LL.M. Program offers students opportunities to visit top law firms and other legal institutions, such as the Supreme People's Court of China, the Intellectual Property Court, and the law enforcement authorities in China, with a hope to avail them with a better comprehension of the Chinese legal system and its cultural underpinnings. The program

office also offers assistance to students in seeking internship opportunities at top law firms. Through the program, students can establish a solid foundation for their career development relating to China.

This degree is an equivalent of Master of Laws degree currently offered to Chinese students. The mode of attendance is full-time in one year. Academic faculty advisors will be assigned to each student for his/her study and degree thesis. Chinese student counsellor in Peking University Law School will also offer help.

Credit and Thesis Requirements

Students are required to enroll in a minimum of **37** credits including all compulsory courses and pass all course examinations within one year (September 2025-July 2026).

In order to obtain the LL.M. degree, students must also complete the master's thesis relating to Chinese law and pass the thesis defence. A master's thesis shall be **12,000 words or more**, and be written in Chinese or English. A thesis that is written in English shall include a summary in Chinese of about **3,000 Chinese characters**.

After approved by the Peking University Degree Committee, the students can receive the LL.M. Program's graduation certificate and the degree certificate for the Master of Laws.

Course List

Fall Semester

Course Name	Course Catalogue	Credits
Chinese Civil Law	Required	3 credits
Chinese Company Law	Required	3 credits
Chinese Constitutional and Administrative Law	Required	3 credits
Chinese Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure	Required	3 credits
Chinese Judicial System	Required	2 credits
Legal Writing	Required	1 credit
Elementary Chinese	Required	2credits
Lecture Series on Contemporary China	Required	2 credits
Fieldwork	Required	1 credit

Spring Semester

Course Name	Course Catalogue	Credits
Chinese Foreign Investment Law	Required	3 credits
Chinese Intellectual Property Law	Required	3 credits
Chinese Civil Procedure and Arbitration Law	Required	3 credits
Chinese Contract Law	Required	2 credits
Chinese Economic Law	Required	3 credits
International Law as Applied in China: Theory and Practice	Required	2 credits
Fieldwork	Required	1 credit

Timetable

Fall semester	
Registration for LLM Students	Early September
Classes begin	Early September
National Day Holidays	1 October
Dissertation Advisor Determination Deadline	Late October
Dissertation Proposal Submission Deadline	Late November
Exam Period	Late December
Winter Vacation	
Spring Semester	
Classes begin	February
Deadline for Submitting Dissertation for Anonymous Review	15 March
Labor Day vacation	1 May
Exam Period	Late May
Oral Defence for Degree Theses	Early June
Graduation Ceremony of PKU	Early July

Qualifications

Qualifications for an eligible applicant include:

1. An applicant must be a citizen of a country other than the People's Republic of China, and be under the age of 45 in good health both mentally and physically.
2. An applicant must have a bachelor's degree or higher degree and at least three years of work experience. Those with professional training or work experience related to the proposed program will be given preference.
3. An applicant must fall into one of the following four categories:
 - ① A government official at the division chief level (or equivalent level) or above;
 - ② A senior manager of an institution or enterprise;
 - ③ An administrator of a university or scientific research institution;
 - ④ Those who have relevant employment or internship experience in international organizations.
4. With good English language proficiency, being able to follow English-taught courses well (80 in TOEFL IBT, 6.0 in IELTS or above);
5. Holding the Pre-admission letter issued from the international student admission department of the school.

Application Method and Application Materials

1. School Online Application:

Visit the International Student Service System (<http://www.studyatpku.com>), fill in the application and upload the following documents:

(1) Graduation and degree certificates and degree authentication in Chinese or English. For degree certificates in other languages, applicants are required to upload both the original copy and a notarized copy in Chinese or English. Degree diplomas awarded by overseas universities must be authenticated by the [Chinese Service Center for Scholarly Exchange, Ministry of Education, P. R. China \(CSCSE\)](#). Degree diplomas awarded by universities on the Chinese mainland must be authenticated by the [Center for Student Services and Development, Ministry of Education, P. R. China \(CSSD\)](#).

Note: Applicants who graduated before 2025 must upload their degree authentication report during the application period. Applicants expected to graduate in 2025 must provide an official letter from their current university stating their expected graduation date and submit their certificate of graduation upon being pre-admitted.

(2) Official transcripts of the applicant's academic achievement, including courses taken and standards achieved. These must be original documents or notarized copies, either in Chinese or English.

(3) A personal statement (including the research plan, about 1500 words; please click the link to download the template: <https://www.isd.pku.edu.cn/down/shen/ru.html>).

(4) Résumé (with coloured photo) and a copy of the "Commitment for Application". Please click the link to download the template for the Commitment: <https://www.isd.pku.edu.cn/down/shen/ru.html>.

(5) Two recommendation letters from professor(s) or associate professor(s) related to your major (or equivalent professionals with relevant academic title), either in Chinese or English. Once applicants submit a request, the application system will send a link to the recommenders, and the recommenders should click the link and complete the recommendation either by filling out the form online or by uploading the scanned copy of the signed letter. Click the link to download the template: <https://www.isd.pku.edu.cn/down/shen/ru.html>.

(6) Original or photocopy of the TOEFL or IELTS test scores, if your mother tongue is not English or did not have a postsecondary education entirely conducted in English. The latter case should provide a statement or certificate issued by the Registrar (or equivalent) confirming that the sole language of instruction and assessment of the degree was English.

(7) Information page of the valid passport (passport type must be ordinary). The passport's date of expiry should be after December 2025.

(8) Table of contents and abstracts of the applicant's academic publications and any other original achievements in his/her field (if applicable).

(9) A certificate or evidence of Chinese language proficiency (if applicable).

Note: All documents should be in Chinese or English. Applicants should scan the original or notarized application documents in color using a scanner. Images captured by mobile phone or camera are NOT acceptable. After submitting the online application, please scan all the application documents (1-9) as one PDF document and send it to llmpku@pku.edu.cn with your Application Number and Name in the email subject.

Deadline for Application

Round 1: **March 1, 2025**

Round 2: **March 31, 2025**

Note: As the application deadline for YES CHINA Scholarship is March 31, 2025, in order to receive the Pre-admission letter in a timely manner, applicants interested in applying for YES CHINA Scholarship should apply this program in the first round.

2. Scholarship Online Application:

Applicants should finish the online application before **23:59 on March 31, 2025** (**GMT+8**) through [http:// studyinchina.csc.edu.cn/#/login](http://studyinchina.csc.edu.cn/#/login) and submit corresponding application materials to The China Scholarship Council (CSC).

Note: **The Pre-admission letter issued from the school will be needed at this stage.**

Scholarship Type: Type A. Agency Code: 1563.

Scholarship Coverage

Youth of Excellence Scheme of China Program Chinese Government Scholarship (YES CHINA) fully funded

Assessment and Admission Process

1. Application documents will be reviewed by Law School Admission Committee, only outstanding applicants will be selected and invited to the second examination round (interviews), the Pre-admission letters will be issued afterwards;
2. The China Scholarship Council (CSC) will conduct the preliminary review of application materials;
3. The China Scholarship Council (CSC) will organize the expert assessment, and the final scholarship admission result will be determined after that.

Contact Us

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