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

- The LL.M. Program in Chinese Law at Peking University (2027 Admissions)

Overview of the Program

The LL.M. Program in Chinese Law is an English-taught graduate law program offered by Peking University Law School. The program leads to a Juris Master degree with a specialization in Chinese Law and Comparative Law.

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 28th globally in QS 2026 for law, 1st in Chinese Mainland. Also, in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings by Subject 2026 for Law, Peking University ranked 12th in the world and 1st 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.

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.

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 2027 – July 2028).

In order to obtain the Juris Master 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 at least 3,000 **Chinese characters**.

Upon approval by the Peking University Degree Committee, students will receive a graduation certificate and a Juris Master degree certificate from Peking University.

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	2 credits
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

This timetable for the 2027–2028 academic year is tentative. Dates are subject to the University's official academic calendar and the Program's final arrangements.

Fall semester	
Registration for LL.M. Students	Aug. 30, 2027
Classes begin	Sept. 6, 2027
Mid-Autumn Festival and National Day holidays	To be announced
Dissertation Advisor Determination Deadline	Oct. 29, 2027
Dissertation Proposal Submission Deadline	Nov. 26, 2027
Exam Period	To be announced
Winter Vacation (classes end in early January 2028)	
Spring Semester	
Classes begin	Feb. 21, 2028
Deadline for Submitting Dissertation for Anonymous Review	Mar. 31, 2028
Labor Day vacation	To be announced
Exam Period	To be announced
Oral Defence for Degree Theses	First week of June 2028 (approx.)
Graduation Ceremony of PKU	Early July 2028

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. Applicants must also meet the Program's degree requirement by holding, or being on track to obtain by July 2027, a bachelor's degree or higher in law from an institution recognized by the Ministry of Education of China.
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. Applicants must have sufficient English proficiency to follow English-taught courses. Applicants whose native language is not English and who have not completed postsecondary education taught and assessed entirely in English must submit valid TOEFL iBT or IELTS scores.
The Program requires an overall TOEFL iBT score of at least 5 on the 1–6 scale, or an IELTS overall score and writing score of at least 6.5 each. The Program also accepts valid TOEFL iBT scores of 90 or above from tests taken between September 1, 2025, and January 21, 2026.
Applicants requesting an exemption on the basis of English-medium education must provide a statement or certificate from their graduating university's Registrar or equivalent authority confirming that English was the sole language of instruction and assessment. The Admission Committee will review other circumstances.
5. **Holding the Pre-admission given by the university**.

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 2027 must upload their degree authentication report during the application period. Applicants expected to graduate in 2027 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://isd.pku.edu.cn/en/downloads.php?cate=13).

(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://isd.pku.edu.cn/en/downloads.php?cate=13.

(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://isd.pku.edu.cn/en/downloads.php?cate=13.

(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) Passport front page. Applicants must upload the front page of any ordinary passport(s) he/she has used continuously since April 30, 2021, and the current passport must be valid for at least three months after enrollment.

(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).

(10) Employment Certificate, must be original document or notarized copy.

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.

Deadline for Peking University Application
All application deadlines are in Beijing time.

Round 1: **December 15, 2026**
Round 2: **March 1, 2027**
Round 3: **March 31, 2027**

Note: Applicants for the YES CHINA Scholarship must submit their Peking University application in Round 1 or Round 2. Round 3 is closed to applicants for this scholarship.

The Peking University application fee is RMB 800 and must be paid online before the university application deadline. The fee is nonrefundable. Applications with incomplete documents or an unpaid fee will not be processed.

2. Scholarship Online Application:

Applicants should log on to the Chinese Government Scholarship System for online application (http:// studyinchina.csc.edu.cn/#/login) and submit application materials before **23:59 on March 29, 2027 (Beijing time)**.
Note: **Applicants should have received a pre-admission letter from the school at least when they apply.** When applying online, choose "**Type A**" for "Scholarship Type". The agency code is **1563**, and applicants need to find "Youth of Excellence Scheme of China".

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 application materials will undergo a preliminary examination by the China Scholarship Council.
3. China Scholarship Council will arrange a second examination by a panel of experts. The final enrollment results will be announced after expert review.

Contact Us

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