

# UIC JOHN MARSHALL LAW SCHOOL



## FAQs Regarding UIC John Marshall Law School's Laptop Requirement Policy

*Note: This policy will be revised or superseded as part of the Law School's integration into the University of Illinois at Chicago. These changes will go into effect beginning Fall 2020.*

### **1. Must I complete a FAFSA application to get a budget increase for a laptop computer, software, printer?**

Yes, you must have a FAFSA application ([www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)) on file and be eligible for aid. A Graduate Plus loan may be needed if you have exhausted your unsubsidized loan to cover tuition and fees.

### **2. How do I apply for a Graduate Plus loan?**

You can click on the following link, which will provide you with instructions: <https://www.jmls.edu/students/financial-aid/pdf/loan-instructions-new-jd.pdf>. Also please view the Laptop Budget Increase Form. You may also contact the Financial Aid Office for additional information.

### **3. What if I lost the receipt?**

Proof of purchase is required. If an eligible purchase is paid for with a credit card, you can provide a copy of your credit card statement highlighting the purchase.

### **4. How long will it take to receive the refund?**

August 31, 2018 is the first refund disbursement for the Fall 2018 semester. Budget Increase Forms submitted after that date will take up to two weeks to process. You will be able to view your refund status by logging into your eCommons account.

### **5. What is the deadline for submitting my Budget Increase Form and receipt?**

For additional funds to be disbursed during the Fall 2018 semester, a student must submit a Budget Increase Form and proof of purchase of an eligible laptop computer, printer, or software by November 30, 2018. For Spring 2019, the deadline is May 6, 2019.

If are not able to meet the deadline, please contact the Financial Aid Office.

**6. May I purchase software and other accessories as well?**

Yes, you are able to purchase a printer and software that is necessary for educational purposes. However, your combined total purchase for an eligible laptop computer, printer, and any necessary software cannot exceed the maximum budget increase of \$2,500.

**7. How do I know if my purchase is eligible?**

Please refer to the UIC John Marshall Law School's Information Technology Services Computer Buying Guide for recommended specifications and additional considerations, which is posted at <https://www.jmls.edu/its/computer-buying-guide.php>.

**8. With whom may I speak if I have questions?**

You can email the Executive Director of Financial Aid, Anita Nelson, at [anelson@jmls.edu](mailto:anelson@jmls.edu) or stop by the Office of Financial Aid.

For questions related to information technology, you can contact the ITS Information & Help Desk at [helpdesk@jmls.edu](mailto:helpdesk@jmls.edu) or at ext. 550.

**9. Because the Law School is requiring a laptop, does that mean professors must allow me to use it in class?**

No. Although the Law School has adopted the Laptop Requirement Policy, professors may still prohibit the use of laptop computers during class.

**10. If I already have a laptop, do I need to purchase a new one? What if the laptop doesn't meet your eligibility requirements?**

If you have a laptop, you need not purchase a new one, even if it doesn't meet our minimum eligibility requirements.

**11. What if my laptop breaks during my 2L or 3L year (assuming I entered in or after Fall 2018)?**

If you've already purchased a laptop under the Laptop Requirement Policy, you will not be eligible for the one-time budget increase; we do encourage you to see the Executive Director in the Financial Aid Office to discuss options. If you've not already used the one-time budget increase, you can use it to purchase a new laptop in accordance with the Policy.

**12. What if I purchase a laptop for \$900 in my 1L year and want to purchase a second \$1,000 laptop in a later year?**

You can apply for the increase only one time while in law school, even if you do not exhaust the entire \$2,500.

**13. What if I purchase one laptop as a J.D. student then decide to enter the LL.M. program?**

A student can receive a budget increase only one time while at the Law School, regardless of whether the student pursues multiple degrees.

**14. Are you going to require each student to swear that he or she has a laptop?**

No. You are operating on your honor.

**15. I entered before Fall 2018 and need a new laptop. Am I eligible for a budget increase?**

Not under the Laptop Requirement Policy, but please see the Executive Director in the Financial Aid Office to discuss options.

*Prepared April 30, 2018.*