



P.A.D. Pre-Law Conference Planning Guide

**35th Annual
Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Law Conference,
Law Expo, and Mock Trial Competition**
Alexandria, Virginia | November 5-8, 2025

www.PAD.org/PreLawConference

For questions, contact the P.A.D. Executive Office at prelaw@pad.org or 410-347-3118.

DATES & DEADLINES

When planning your attendance, please note these important dates and deadlines:

- **June 1, 2025:** Registration Fee Rate Increases
- **June 2, 2025:** Awards Applications for the 2024-2025 school year are due
 - [Nominate an Officer](#)
 - [Apply for a Programming Award](#)
- **September 15, 2025:** Deadline to [Apply for an Attendance Grant](#)
- **October 1, 2025:**
 - Registration Fee Rate Increases
 - Deadline to [Apply for a Pre-Law Mock Trial Grant](#)
 - Deadline to [Register a Mock Trial Team](#)
 - Deadline to Receive a Refund for Conference Fees
- **October 6, 2025:** Deadline to [Book a Hotel Room in Conference Room Block](#)
- **October 8, 2025:**
 - Attendance Grant Recipients Notified
 - Deadline to select a member to receive registration fee waiver
- **November 5, 2025:** Final Deadline to Register for Conference

ABOUT

The annual P.A.D. Pre-Law Conference offers an immersive experience featuring guest speakers, interactive workshops, and leadership training designed to foster both professional development and meaningful fraternal connections. The agenda includes dedicated time for exploring Washington, D.C., visiting nearby law schools, and engaging with the legal community.

Conference programming is thoughtfully curated to prepare members to make an informed decision about law school, build leadership skills, and explore timely legal topics and issues shaping the profession today.

This year's theme is: ***The Legal Blueprint: Leading, Learning, Building***

Get ready to design the future you've been dreaming about. The Legal Blueprint is your call to action for aspiring legal professionals to take control of their journey. This event is your launchpad into the legal world. Attendees will engage with a dynamic mix of experiences designed to help them navigate the path to law school and beyond. And with [Blueprint Prep](#)—our official sponsor and your go-to guide for LSAT success—you'll have the tools to boost your scores and map out your journey with clarity and confidence. Whether you're just starting out or already deep in your pre-law path, this conference is where your legal blueprint becomes your reality. Don't miss your opportunity to turn ambition into achievement.

Why should I attend?

- **Network Across the Nation:** Meet hundreds of fellow P.A.D. Pre-Law members and officers from chapters across the U.S., Puerto Rico, Mexico, and Canada. Build fraternal friendships and professional connections that can support you throughout your Pre-Law journey and beyond.
- **Score Exclusive Discounts & Giveaways:** Take advantage of special offers and prize giveaways from national P.A.D. partners, including LSAT prep companies and admissions counseling services to help you prep smarter.
- **Get a Competitive Edge:** Our Conference programming is designed to provide you the tools, resources, and connections to strengthen your law school applications and interviews.
- **Level Up Your Leadership:** Take part in leadership training and chapter operations workshops that will empower you to lead your chapter with confidence.
- **Explore Your Legal Future:** Meet face-to-face with law school admissions decision makers and make your impression. Collect law school application waivers to save money on your law school journey.
- **Showcase Your Skills in Mock Trial:** Compete against top Pre-Law students from across the country in our nationally recognized Mock Trial Competition judged by P.A.D. alumni and local DC legal professionals. Get honest, real-world insights from practicing attorneys and legal professionals.
- **Make It Memorable in D.C.:** With built-in sightseeing time and proximity to Washington, D.C.'s museums, monuments, and historic landmarks, this is more than just a conference, it's an unforgettable experience.

REGISTRATION

Everyone that plans to attend the P.A.D. Pre-Law Conference MUST submit a registration form to attend. This includes P.A.D. members, non-members, faculty, mock trial coaches, guests, and vendors.

The registration fee includes access to all agenda items, including the Law School Expo, Awards Banquet, keynote speaker presentations, workshops, and conference materials. Meals provided include light fare on Thursday evening, as well as breakfast and lunch on both Friday and Saturday.

To register, please submit the form available at:

<https://www.pad.org/page/prelawconference#register>

Before registering, please be sure to review the [P.A.D. Event Code of Conduct](#) and [P.A.D. Assumption of Risk Policy](#).

The registration fees are:

- **STUDENT AND AUXILIARY MEMBER:**

- **\$299 Early Bird Rate (through May 31, 2025)**
- **\$349 Regular Rate (June 1, 2025-September 30, 2025)**
- **\$399 Late Registration Rate (October 1-November 5, 2025)**

The member rate is based on the date you submit your registration form. No payment is due at the time of registration.

- **NON-MEMBER: \$450;** Includes membership in Phi Alpha Delta.

- **FACULTY: FREE;** but still must submit a registration form.

- **ONE-DAY PASS: \$74**

Includes access to all Conference sessions and meals on Friday **OR** Saturday. Includes all Conference materials and breakfast/lunch on Friday **OR** Saturday.

- **MOCK TRIAL: \$175 per team**

This fee is to register a team to compete in the Mock Trial Competition only. Everyone still must register and pay for Conference attendance. Only P.A.D. members can compete in Mock Trial. Each chapter can send up to two teams to compete.

FUNDRAISING & BUDGETING

Every pre-law chapter is expected to send at least one representative to the conference. To help meet this expectation, the fraternity, with support from The P.A.D. Foundation; has many funding options. Most chapters can afford the conference with a combination of funds from out of pocket, fundraisers, and university support.

A [sample funding letter](#) is available to edit and utilize as needed in your fundraising efforts.

FUNDRAISING

Your chapter should be fundraising year-round so that your chapter may be represented at the conference in the fall. Please review our [Fundraising Guide](#) for specific fundraising ideas and tips. If your chapter needs a W-9 to support these efforts, please email info@pad.org.

FEE WAIVER

To encourage representation from every chapter, the Fraternity offers one conference registration fee waiver per active pre-law chapter. Each chapter may select one member to attend without paying the registration fee. This waiver does not cover hotel or travel expenses.

Chapter officers must decide which member of the chapter will use the registration fee waiver and email the name of that person to prelaw@pad.org by **October 8, 2025**.

Additional fee waivers may be available if your chapter plans to bring more than 10 members. Contact prelaw@pad.org for more details.

CONFERENCE GRANTS

The Phi Alpha Delta International Foundation offers a limited number of \$500 need-based grants to help cover registration or travel cost reimbursement for the 2025 Pre-Law Conference. Applicants must be current P.A.D. pre-law student members in good standing.

[Grant applications](#) must be submitted by **September 15, 2025**. Grant recipients will be notified by October 8, 2025.

MOCK TRIAL GRANTS

The Phi Alpha Delta International Foundation offers a limited number of \$175 need-based grants to cover mock trial team registration 2025 Competition. Applicants must be a current pre-law member(s) and the chapter active and in good standing to receive funds. [Grant applications](#) must be submitted by **September 15, 2025**. Grant recipients will be notified by October 8, 2025.

PAYMENT PLANS

A [monthly payment plan](#) is available for the conference registration fee only. Mock Trial registration fees, travel fees, and hotel costs are not eligible for a payment plan.

UNIVERSITY SUPPORT

Many universities and student government associations offer financial support to help students attend conferences that enhance their leadership skills or benefit the campus community. It is important to meet any university deadlines. Start by contacting your student government, student affairs office, or academic department to ask about available funding or travel grants. Be sure to recruit your faculty advisor as an advocate for your efforts. Use the [sample funding letter](#) to explain how the conference aligns with your academic or leadership goals and how it can positively impact your organization or campus. Securing this type of support not only eases the financial burden but also demonstrates institutional backing for your professional development.

Sample Budget: Use this sample budget to plan your trip. Note that the following meals are included in the Conference registration fee: Meals provided include light fare on Thursday evening, as well as breakfast and lunch on both Friday and Saturday.

Item	Cost	Quantity	Total
Registration Fee	\$299-\$399 per member		
	\$450 per non-member		
	\$0 Faculty		
	\$175 per Mock Trial team		
Hotel Room	\$183 per night (Phi Alpha Delta rate)		
	How many rooms?		
	How many nights?		
	Total: Rooms x nights		
Travel	\$33 per night parking at hotel		
	\$___ Airfare / Train / Bus		
	\$___ Car Rental/Ride Share/Uber/Lyft		
	\$___ Other		
Meals			
Misc			
Total Cost			

HOTEL INFORMATION

The 2025 Pre-Law Conference will be held at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center, located at 5000 Seminary Rd, Alexandria, VA 22311. (703) 845-1010

Room Booking: Conference attendees must book their own rooms at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center by **October 6, 2025** using this [special reservation link](#). We have secured a reduced rate of \$183/night per room (applicable to single king bed or double queen bedrooms). Up to four attendees may share a room.

Transportation: Self-parking is available onsite for daily attendees and overnight guests at a rate of \$33/day.

The easiest transportation methods around Alexandria and Washington D.C. are ride share services (Uber, Lyft, etc.). Consider using the D.C. metro and bus system as well. [Click here for maps of the local transit systems](#).

The closest airport to the Hilton Alexandria is Reagan National Airport (DCA), located 4 miles from the hotel. Washington Dulles International Airport is also available to attendees and is located 30 miles from the hotel.

Check In Procedures and Policies: Attendees will be asked for a valid government-issued ID and credit card when they check in at the hotel. A credit card hold will be placed for room incidentals, such as on-site services, like room service, or any damages (contact the Hilton Alexandria for confirmation of this hold rate). If no services are used, the charge will be reversed upon check out. Attendees will not be charged for the full amount of their stay until they check out of the property.

The credit card used at check-in must be in the name of the individual on the room reservation. You cannot use a credit card for someone who is not physically present unless you contact the hotel in advance. **IF YOUR SCHOOL/CHAPTER IS PAYING FOR YOUR ROOM AND YOU WILL NOT HAVE THE PHYSICAL CARD WITH YOU AT THE CONFERENCE, you must contact Reservations Manager Indira Tamang itamang@hiltonalexandriamc.com BEFORE ARRIVING.**

- Check-in: 4:00 pm Check-out: 11:00 am
- Minimum Age to Check In: 18

On Site Services: The Hilton Alexandria features a fitness center, onsite dining, a coffee/snacks shop, room service, laundry/dry cleaning services, free Wi-Fi in the sleeping rooms, and a pool. More information can be found on the [hotel website](#).

WHAT TO EXPECT

If you'd like to see agendas from past Conferences, contact prelaw@pad.org.

An album of photos from the 2024 P.A.D. Pre-Law Conference [can be viewed here](#).

Conference Dress Code: Most conference events follow a business casual dress code to promote a professional environment that welcomes all attendees. We support personal expression and accessibility, and we encourage attendees to dress in a way that aligns with their needs and identities.

There is no dress code required for the Mock Trial Captains' Meeting or the Purple & Gold Party. For the Saturday afternoon Awards Luncheon, some attendees opt for semi-formal or dressy casual attire, especially if they plan to take photos. Think polished and professional, but not overly formal. You're welcome to dress in a way that reflects your personal style and comfort.

CONFERENCE CHECK IN: We look forward to meeting all attendees at check-in on **Thursday, November 6th between 3:00-6:00 pm** at the Lower Foyer of Hilton Alexandria Mark Center. Attendees can check in with Executive Office staff to receive registration materials and ask any questions.

Mock Trial Participants should plan to arrive Wednesday November 5th for the Captains meeting at 1:30 p.m. Eastern followed by the first round of competition.

Purple & Gold Party: The Purple & Gold party is the opening reception for the Pre-Law Conference on Thursday evening. Purple and gold attire is encouraged to represent your P.A.D. pride. We understand attendees may have a long day of traveling so you're welcome to come as you are, wear your conference T-shirt, or any purple and gold attire. This is your first chance to meet with your fellow attendees and other local P.A.D. members. Light appetizers will be served.

Law Expo: At the Law Expo on Friday, law schools, law school prep, and LSAT/test prep, and admissions counseling companies table and network with attendees. The expo is designed to help students make an educated decision about pursuing a legal degree and law career through one-on-one meetings, booth visitation, giveaways, presentations, and more. Many law schools offer application fee waivers to conference attendees only. Some law schools' representatives will also be joining us for lunch. Plan to present your best self.

Awards Luncheon: The Awards Presentation will take place on Saturday afternoon. Lunch will be served. Winners of the 2024-2025 awards and the 2025 Mock Trial competition will be announced.

VISIT WASHINGTON, D.C. AREA

Attending Pre-Law Conference means you have a chance to visit our nation's capital and all it has to offer. Sightseeing time is built into the Conference agenda to allow attendees to take advantage of their visit.

The Hilton Alexandria is just a distance away from downtown Washington, D.C. For more information on Washington, D.C. attractions, visit <https://washington.org/>.

There are also many attractions in northern Virginia. For more information on Alexandria, VA attractions, visit <https://visitalexandria.com/>; for more information on Arlington, VA attractions, visit <https://www.stayarlington.com/>.

*Be sure to keep safety in mind while traveling in the area.
[Click here for safety tips and transportation advice.](#)*

LOCAL LAW SCHOOLS

There are many law schools in the Northern Virginia and Washington, D.C. area. Take advantage of your time by scheduling tours of the local schools as you decide if law school is right for you, and if so, where you want to apply! Local law schools include:

- American University Washington College of Law; [Click here for tour information](#)
- Columbus School of Law, Catholic University of America; [Click here for tour information](#)
- Georgetown University Law Center; [Click here for tour information](#)
- George Mason University Antonin Scalia School of Law; [Click here for tour information](#)
- George Washington University Law School; [Click here for tour information](#)
- Howard University School of Law; [Click here for tour information](#)
- University of District of Columbia, David A. Clarke School of Law; [Click here for tour information](#)



COMMENTS FROM PAST ATTENDEES

"A must-attend for any student serious about seeking a law career. The people you meet and information you obtain is priceless. Not to be missed!"

"If you are considering going to the conference, GO! I met incredible people from chapters all over the country, fantastic P.A.D. staff, and amazing workshop speakers! In just a few short hours I met people I know will be in my life for a long time! Thank you Phi Alpha Delta, for being such a big part of my life!"

"I've already taken the LSAT and they really helped ease my nerves about taking it more than once, how to use my score to pay for law school (I didn't know that was possible!) and have amazing tools to help you get to law school for the cheapest way possible! It will definitely be worth the investment! Thank you for the opportunity."

"I learned a lot, I grew closer with members in my chapter, and I have never felt more excited to take on the challenge that is applying to law school. I cannot thank you enough. I'm counting down the days until conference again next year!"

"The professionalism of this event made a huge impact on me and made me extremely happy that I chose to join P.A.D. The amount of information to absorb was a little overwhelming but it was information I needed to know to make a decision about law school. Information I'm not sure I could have gotten another way. It was realistic, not sugarcoated or glossed over. This made it trustworthy."

"I enjoyed my workshops because they were normal people explaining their journey. It's always reassuring to know that there were others who went through what I'm going through in the law school process. I learned some valuable information that I haven't forgotten."

"I liked being around other pre-law students and contrasting their chapters to my own - they helped me come up with some ideas for philanthropy and recruitment."

"I loved the workshops and being able to talk to the law schools themselves. The Expo gave an opportunity to grab easy information that can help me decide where I want to go when I apply. The Expo and the interactive workshops were the most beneficial to me."

"I was able to meet other P.A.D. members from different states and build connections with them. I was able to experience that everyone else is in the same position as me. Meeting other P.A.D. fellows and even the mock trial competitors motivated me even more to push myself and do my best!"

"We found the event to be very enriching for ourselves and our members who stayed home, as we were able to bring back tons of information for them! The event was run so smoothly and professionally, we truly enjoyed our time."