Our Mission

Harvard Law School Executive Education is dedicated to developing lawyers as leaders to strengthen the legal profession and make a difference in the world. We create innovative approaches to lawyer and law student development and education, and help professionals globally to make a difference by helping them truly understand the legal frameworks and contexts in which they act.
Inside this Guide

Experience the Difference .................................................. 2
Our Faculty ........................................................................ 4
The Learning Model ............................................................ 5
Our Participants ................................................................. 6
Our Programs ..................................................................... 7
  Open-Enrollment Programs ................................................ 8
  Custom Programs ............................................................ 10
Our Alumni ......................................................................... 12
Experience the Difference

About Us and Our Approach

The legal profession is constantly evolving to meet the increasingly complex challenges facing firms, in-house legal departments, and legal professionals. To succeed, provide the best service, and lead your team, you are continually called upon to learn and exercise new skills. Harvard Law School Executive Education programs are unmatched in helping lawyers and legal professionals develop those skills and meet those challenges. With world-renowned faculty, meaningful and practical content, and an immersive learning model, you will leave prepared and empowered to thrive as a leader in the legal profession.

Harvard Law School Executive Education offers both open-enrollment and custom programs in a residential, online, or blended learning environment. Our open-enrollment programs bring together lawyers and legal professionals from around the world to explore leadership concepts or to do a deep dive into a trend in legal practice. To develop a custom program with us, we work with your firm or organization to identify the best structure and content to meet your goals. Learn about our faculty, teaching methods, programs, and more on the following pages.

“The quality was so high it kept a room full of managing partners, practice groups leaders, and others in senior leadership positions fully engaged, committed, and challenged for the entire 6 days. That’s no small feat when you think about the level of experience they have and responsibility they hold at their respective firms.”

George Pantelides
Chief Administrative Officer, Dechert LLP
Leadership in Law Firms
HLS Executive Education provides busy professionals with a chance to do something that they almost never have the opportunity to do: think about their own challenges, and how they can become better leaders, managers, and stewards of their institution. Given the tremendous changes transforming the global market for legal services, this time for reflection and renewal has never been more important.

David B. Wilkins
Lester Kissel Professor of Law, Harvard Law School; Faculty Director, Center on the Legal Profession; Faculty Chair, Leadership in Corporate Counsel
Our Faculty

Our Executive Education programs are developed and taught by expert faculty from across Harvard University and other leading institutions. With a combination of academic expertise and experience in practice, our faculty have an intimate knowledge of law firms, corporate legal departments, and professional services firms.

At Harvard Law School Executive Education, you will participate in engaging conversations with world-renowned educators, researchers, authors, and practitioners. Our faculty’s diverse backgrounds ensure that participants leave our programs with a range of practical, implementable skills and strategies.

“Teaching in our executive education programs is a great privilege and tremendous fun. Our sessions are lively, interesting, and challenging, because we introduce participants to new ideas and tools, and then rigorously explore how to apply them in the real world.”

Scott A. Westfahl
Professor of Practice, Harvard Law School; Faculty Director, HLS Executive Education
The Learning Model

From business school-style case discussions and lectures to interactive workshops and simulations, our programs ensure that participants have opportunities to learn not only from our faculty, but from each other. The program content gives participants the opportunity to work through possible approaches and solutions to real-world professional problems. Our dedicated classroom and lounge are home to the latest Microsoft technology, allowing for hands-on exploration and new ways to collaborate with each other and the content.

The Case Method

Our programs are largely structured around case discussions. Many of the cases are written by Harvard Law School’s Case Development Initiative, which allows us to tailor the content to current challenges facing lawyers and legal organizations. The case method pedagogy is an especially impactful one for several reasons: the cases themselves are compelling stories that allow the reader to draw parallels with their own experience, case discussions encourage multiple analyses of the case’s contents, and the resulting interactive conversations result in multiple workable solutions to the problem. These factors combined are proven to make the learning easier to recall and apply later.

Cutting-Edge Research

In addition to case studies, our content is informed by the latest research about trends in the legal profession. The Harvard Law School Center on the Legal Profession is one of the world’s leading centers for the study of the global legal profession. Our partnership with the Center ensures that our participants gain special access to cutting-edge research and insights.
Our Participants

Your program cohort adds as much value to your program experience as each session’s content. Harvard Law School Executive Education has a global draw that attracts professionals and leaders from around the world. The unique experience of connecting with lawyers from other countries is one of the reasons firms and organizations have consistently sent participants to our programs since our founding. Harvard Law School Executive Education participants represent a cross-section of global, innovative, and successful leaders who shape and impact the legal profession from within their own firms and organizations. They bring diverse perspectives to the program, resulting in thoughtful discussions and valuable friendships. After participating in a residential program, you will become part of our Alumni Network. Learn more about the Alumni Network on page 12.

“While the faculty is uniformly terrific, the one thing that sets the program apart is the active participation of law firm leaders from every corner of the globe. This diverse, highly talented student body has transformed the program into an incubator for new ideas and fresh approaches.

J. Tracy Walker IV
Managing Partner, McGuireWoods LLP
Leadership in Law Firms

45 90 220+
Average class size Countries represented Managing Partners attended
Our Programs

We offer two core types of programs: residential, open-enrollment programs; and custom programs. Our open-enrollment programs cover a range of topics and bring participants from around the world together in our Executive Education classroom at Harvard Law School. These programs range from two-day master classes to more comprehensive six-day programs. They are open to individuals, but to maximize impact in your firm or organization, we recommend you attend as part of a small team or cohort.

In addition to our open-enrollment programs, we can work with your firm, organization, or legal department to design a tailored program specific to your group’s goals. We offer customized content for groups of 25 or more across a range of roles and experience levels. Holding the program in our exclusive classroom will make the experience unique and the learning impactful.

A look at what you will learn:

**Leading Change**
Explore the role of a leader charged with transformational change and understand frameworks for prioritizing and implementing such change.

**Corporate Strategy**
Examine the keys to effective corporate strategy and the tough decisions necessary to making your organization thrive.

**Self-Advocacy**
Further develop your ability to effectively communicate, convey, negotiate, and assert your interests and learn how to have impactful conversations that highlight the value of your work.

**Innovation in the Legal Profession**
Understand the core principles of innovation and build awareness of the pace and scope of disruption in the global markets for legal services and talent.

**Leading Through Influence**
Explore principles of motivation and influence psychology and how they can be applied to gain buy-in across all levels of your organization.

**Organizational Alignment**
Learn why and how to develop a clear business unit strategy that aligns with corporate or firm strategy.
Open-Enrollment Programs

Accelerated Leadership Program [Residential]
This four-day program is tailored for partners with an average of 12-19 years of experience. As an early to mid-level partner, you are striving to advance to the next levels of client, practice, team, and personal leadership. This program will prepare you to harness your natural leadership instincts and pair them with new tools, helping you accelerate your leadership potential. Learn to motivate and manage teams, how to analyze and develop business unit strategy, and deepen client relationships.

Leadership in Corporate Counsel [Residential]
General counsel of leading organizations have the unique challenge to balance providing high-quality service to corporate leaders and maintaining an independent perspective. Additionally, corporate legal departments are the fastest growing segment of the legal profession, meaning it’s especially imperative that general counsel build sophisticated leadership skills to manage that growth. You will leave this four-day program better able to position yourself as a trusted advisor within your organization and better able to balance the complex responsibilities of your role in the changing legal profession.

Leadership in Law Firms [Residential]
Leadership in Law Firms focuses on the core challenges you face as a senior law firm leader. Connect with managing partners, chief officers, and senior leaders from around the world to sharpen skills including: organizational alignment, balancing professional responsibilities, leading change, and fostering innovation. After six days you will leave with the tools you need to more effectively leverage your leadership role and to steer your firm. This program is for partners with 20+ years of experience.
Mergers & Acquisitions: Structuring and Leading Deals [Residential]
For professionals newly responsible for managing, overseeing, and implementing M&A deals, this five-day program provides a comprehensive look at the process. From strategy to negotiation to integration, this program will prepare you to identify key opportunities and pitfalls at each stage of a deal.

Sector Leadership Master Class [Residential]
Grounded in ongoing research on law firms and in-house legal departments, this two-day program explores the strategic advantages to cross-sector collaboration for law firms. You will participate in hands-on exercises resulting in actionable strategies for improved client service. Attending this program with a cohort will prepare your firm to implement program concepts immediately upon returning to the firm.

Women’s Leadership Initiative [Residential]
The Women’s Leadership Initiative is a four-day program for women partners and in-house leaders. Led and taught exclusively by women faculty, this program provides you with the opportunity to connect and network with women in the profession. You will develop methods for navigating your career more strategically through personal influence, self-advocacy, and more effective team leadership, and leave with tools to amplify your leadership ability.

Computer Science for Lawyers [Online]
Our first online program, Computer Science for Lawyers is composed of 10 modules that include videos, supplemental readings, and short assessments. This self-paced course gives you an introduction to critical issues in technology facing your clients, ranging from cybersecurity to data management. The course also offers opportunities to engage with faculty during live, virtual sessions.
Custom Programs

A Solution that Fits

The landscape of the legal profession is changing. With Harvard Law School Executive Education, your firm or organization can participate in a custom program that addresses the wide array of business, law, and leadership challenges unique to your group. We will collaborate with you to design a highly-tailored program that aligns with your firm or organization’s goals. Along with creating programs for law firms, corporate legal departments, and legal organizations, we also offer customized content for legal professionals across a range of roles and experience levels. Leveraging our expertise in core content areas including strategy and alignment, collaboration, innovation, and leadership, we have designed programs that:

- Help associates master corporate language, gain business skills, and develop client relationships
- Support new partners in their transition into new leadership responsibilities
- Strengthen senior partners’ ability to develop and drive firm strategy and alignment
- Foster collaboration between clients and partners
- Enhance in-house lawyers’ ability to understand and become trusted advisors to their internal clients

Our Partners

Developing a custom program requires a true partnership between our program development team and representatives of the organization. We have worked with a number of firms and organizations to provide high-quality professional education solutions. Some of our partners include:

- Milbank LLP
- Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
- Liberty Mutual
- McDermott Will & Emery
- TerraLex
The program is essential to the development of our lawyers, our culture and building strong and long lasting relationships with our clients. It has clearly defined who we are as an organization and who we want to work with and have work with us. It is our cultural heart.

David J. Wolfson
Partner and Executive Director, Milbank LLP
Our Alumni

Harvard Law School Executive Education alumni are leaders who shape and impact the legal profession from within their own firms and organizations. They are committed to their development as leaders to better serve their teams and clients. Our alumni are part of a global network with a shared experience. The camaraderie born out of the intensive experience of participating in our programs lays the foundation for professional opportunities and friendships that can last a lifetime. These relationships often become the most valuable legacy of the HLS Executive Education experience.

As part of the Alumni Network, learning with us doesn’t end with the program. You have first access to the latest research and content produced by our faculty, and you are invited to attend exclusive on- and off-campus events to connect with Harvard Law School alumni and to engage with new cohorts of Harvard Law School Executive Education participants.

LinkedIn: Harvard Law School Executive Education
Twitter: @HLSExecEd
Facebook: @ExecutiveEducationHLS

2000+
Alumni in the HLSEE Alumni Network

65%
International
Among executive education programs, HLS stands out for capturing the hardest parts of what we do and giving you a place to practice how to handle it. No other program focuses as much on your leadership and effectiveness.

You will emerge better. Better able to manage your job, develop your career, and to serve your team and clients.

Fred Headon
Assistant General Counsel, Air Canada,
Leadership in Corporate Counsel