



# *Affording Law School*

*How to pay for it &  
an overview of Treasurer  
Hala Al-Mustafa's presentation*

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**“Law School is an investment in yourself and your future so if you know it is something you want to do you should start saving for it now”**

On Wednesday, February 17th at 7:30 pm, the Pre-Law Society at VCU hosted one of their first events of the semester on Tips on How To Pay For Law School. During this eye-opening and educational event, Executive Board members of the organization talked about thinking about what type of law you wanted to go into to look at how much you will be making in the future. This was a crucial first point because some types of lawyers make more than others meaning after graduating and receiving your degree it may take one type of lawyer longer to pay off loans than another type of lawyer making more money in their field. This is a good consideration to make because it may suggest taking into account what law schools to apply to based on the cost of attendance.

The event then went on to talk about the difference between the different scholarships that law schools offer. By giving a breakdown of need-based scholarships and merit-based scholarships students were shown how to know the difference between the two and how to find out if they can qualify by going on their prospective law schools financial aid website.

The most shocking part of the event was learning how many law schools lure in prospective students. After getting an acceptance from a law school it is important to take a close look at your financial aid package to ensure that you have taken into consideration different fees and how much you will have to pay out of pocket for your time spent in law school. For loans, as an example, you will have to pay back and many of them collect interest. Paying attention to things like this will help you in the long run when deciding on how you will pay for school. It is also important to look for grants that might be in your financial aid package. For many of the grants that law schools offer you must maintain a specific grade point average that is not explicitly stated somewhere so for many law school students after completing their first and hardest year of law school, many lose their grants.

**“This is how many law schools pull you in and trick you into accepting money.”**

After the first year with a grant taken away, many have a hard time trying to figure how they will pay for the remaining years of school. This is why it is so crucial that you ask these questions about your financial aid package ahead of time.

Overall, the event gave members of the Pre-Law Society at VCU beneficial insight on affording law school and what students can do now so that they have the best opportunity of getting the most money possible to be able to pay for law school.

### References

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F7uq\\_X6AMHU&t=2s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F7uq_X6AMHU&t=2s)

### Picture Citations

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### PRE-LAW SOCIETY



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*Edited by Rose Chang*