Graduate Tax Program

BU Law’s Graduate Tax Program (GTP), established in 1959 as one of the nation’s first graduate tax programs, stands as one of the best. Employers value the BU Law LLM credential because it signals rigorous training and superior preparation.

Curricular Choice with Credit-Granting Skills Courses

The GTP offers multiple paths to complete the 24 credits required for the BU Law LLM in Taxation degree, with one of the most expansive tax law curricula available.

- Only five required courses
- More than 35 challenging elective courses
- Emphasis areas and concentrations: 
  - Estate Planning
  - International Tax
  - General Business Taxation
- Credit-granting skills development courses in the skills and systems you use as a tax lawyer, including Excel

Choose Your Tax LLM

FULL-TIME RESIDENTIAL

Our full-time residential option is designed to be completed in one academic year. For recent JD graduates looking to obtain both the theoretical knowledge and practical skills needed for a successful career in tax law, this is an ideal option.

PART-TIME RESIDENTIAL

If you are a lawyer working within commuting range of Boston and aspire to augment your tax law knowledge and qualifications, the LLM program is open to you on a part-time basis. All residential classes are scheduled during the late afternoon and evening. As a part-time student, you may enroll for up to eight consecutive semesters to complete your degree requirements.

ONLINE

The Graduate Tax Program offers the same challenging program of LLM studies in an entirely online format, an attractive alternative for domestic and international lawyers whose jobs preclude them from attending classes in Boston. You can begin the program during any of the three online sessions—fall, spring, or summer—and enroll in a variety of tax courses taught by the same highly experienced instructors who teach our residential courses. You can complete your degree in as few as two sessions.
Your Professional Development: Our Priority
You’ll receive career and job-search support from the program director and our full-time Tax LLM career advisor. They will help prepare you for on-campus interview opportunities, our Tax Attorney Recruiting Event (TARE), the International Student Interview Program (ISIP), and other networking opportunities.

Leading Professionals, Outstanding Instructors
The superior instruction you receive will define your experience. You’ll learn from leading tax and estate-planning professionals drawn from law firms, accounting firms, tax consulting firms, and federal and state government revenue departments, as well as scholar-teachers who are members of BU Law’s full-time faculty. We select instructors not only for their professional achievements but also for their outstanding teaching abilities, accessibility, and interest in student success—inside and outside the classroom.

The GTP Network and Student Life
Every student, both online and residential, receives individual guidance and support on all matters, large and small, from the GTP staff. Residential students are connected with other students outside of class through a range of special lectures and community events. Online students contact the tax program staff, teaching assistants, or course instructors with questions about exams, coursework, and other related matters.

All students, residential and online, are a part of the nationally known GTP Network, which connects current students, alumni, faculty, and staff.

Degree Requirements
- 24 credits (12 courses), with five required courses.
- May be completed on a full- or part-time basis.
- For internationally trained lawyers, a three-semester bar qualification option is available.

Admissions
SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
Applicants to the Graduate Tax Program’s residential option are automatically considered for merit-based scholarships through one of BU Law’s LLM Scholars programs. No additional forms or documents are required. Scholarships come in the form of partial tuition waivers. Recipients are notified of their awards at the time of admission. Applicants to the Graduate Tax Program’s online option are not eligible for scholarships.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS
Qualified applicants hold a JD degree from an American Bar Association–accredited law school or an equivalent first degree in law from a comparably recognized law school or law faculty outside the United States. International applicants must be highly proficient in English. Online students are held to the same admission standards as residential students.

Learn More
To learn more about the Graduate Tax Program, including the application process, tuition, and financial information, visit bu.edu/law.
You can also contact us directly at bulim@bu.edu.

Is it for you?
This program is designed for:
• lawyers seeking advanced training in tax law
Applicants to this program often want to:
• equip themselves for a career in tax law (recent graduates)
• further specialize in an area of tax following a shift in client needs (mid-career attorneys)
• experience a more practical and skills-based approach to learning the law
• pursue a tax LLM while working full time

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You can also contact us directly at bulim@bu.edu.
The impact of our Boston location is so important, we put it in our University’s name. The program draws its faculty from some of the area’s top practitioners and derives key insights from their daily work. It has a curriculum informed by the needs of the many Boston-area law and accounting firms seeking tax LLMs. And those firms (where many faculty members work) also hire many graduates, either through on-campus interviewing or our Tax Attorney Recruiting Event (TARE).