

2024 GW Law Journal

Supplemental Material Instructions & Evaluation Criteria

Journals may require *or* accept supplemental materials as a part of their application process.

Aside from this document, the Journal Competition Administration cannot provide specific information about how individual journals evaluate supplemental materials. Further, the Administration cannot answer how a competitor's error will be handled by any particular journal. Failure to submit the required supplemental materials to a particular journal may be grounds for disqualification from that journal's membership review.

If you have any questions about the supplemental materials or evaluation criteria, please contact the specific journal to learn more!

TRANSFER NOTE: FCLJ and ILDC are not participating and therefore information about these journals have been omitted.

NOTE: If you are looking for more substantive information about the journals (i.e., subject matter, structure), please refer to the 2024 Journal Information Guide.

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I. Submission Requirements

- **Deadline:** The supplemental material upload folders will be available after the competition begins (on Friday, March 8 at 5pm ET). **Supplemental materials are due before Thursday, August 22 at 5:00pm ET.**
- **File Type:** Your documents for each journal must be submitted as **one singular PDF file**.
 - The competition website will automatically rename your file, so there is no standard file naming convention you must follow.
 - NOTE: You can merge PDFs on AdobePro, which is available as a free download to all GW Law students.
- **File Length + Formatting:** Within the single PDF document submitted, please adhere to the following individual formatting requirements:
 - **Interest Statements** - must not exceed two pages, double-spaced, 12-pt Times New Roman font, one-inch margins
 - **Identity Statements** - must not exceed one page, double-spaced, 12-pt Times New Roman font, one-inch margins
 - **Resumes** - must not exceed one page and may follow standard resume formatting
 - **Grade Addendum** - must not exceed one page, double-spaced, 12-pt Times New Roman font, one-inch margins
- **Submission Instructions:** Submit your supplemental materials *as a single document* to *each* individual journal under “Supplemental Materials.”
 - In the competition website, select the “Supplemental Materials” menu
 - Upload your supplemental document (one single PDF) to the corresponding journal by clicking “(upload).”
 - You may resubmit your materials before the deadline, August 22 at 5pm ET, as many times as you need. To do this, you must first delete your previous submission. Then you will be able to upload your new submission in its place.
 - NOTE: There is no “finalize” button like the competition packet or journal preferencing has.
- **De-Identification:** Remove your name and metadata from all documents, including anything that includes your name (e.g., email addresses on your resume). Failure to do so will result in a penalty and may also result in that journal not reviewing your materials.
 - You may leave substantive information which could be used to identify you (e.g., the title of your senior thesis, or a position at the school which no one else holds).
 - Include your packet # in the upper-right-hand corner of every page on all supplemental materials.

II. Supplemental Material Requirements

| Journal | Interest Statement | Resume | Identity Statement | Grade Addendum |
|---------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| AIPLA | required | required | <i>optional</i> | |
| BFLR | optional | required | <i>optional</i> | |
| FCBJ | required | | <i>optional</i> | <i>optional</i> |
| GWILR | <i>optional</i> | | <i>optional</i> | <i>optional</i> |
| GWLR | <i>optional</i> | | <i>optional</i> | <i>optional</i> |
| JEEL | <i>optional</i> | required | <i>optional</i> | <i>optional</i> |
| JOLT | <i>required</i> | <i>optional</i> | <i>optional</i> | <i>optional</i> |
| PCLJ | required | <i>optional</i> | <i>optional</i> | <i>optional</i> |

***NOTE: If blank, then the journal *does not accept* the document. Please do not include the document in your submission.

- Interest Statement - Describe your interest in a particular journal’s subject area or focus and how you would contribute to that journal.
 - See below for specific journal prompts *as applicable*. If the journal does not have a specific prompt, use the general prompt included here.
- Resume - Summarize your relevant job experience and education.
- Identity Statement - (*optional* for all journals) - Discuss characteristics and accomplishments that you believe will contribute positively to the journal's community and scholarship.
- Grade Addendum - Describe any exceptional circumstances that negatively impacted your performance in law school.

III. Journal Preferecing Instructions

Your journal preferences are also due by Thursday, August 22 at 5pm ET. You will rank your journal preferences from top (most preferred) to bottom (least preferred). **You will only be considered for journals you rank.** Journals do consider ranking in selection, see below for more details. To submit journal preferences on the website:

- In the competition homepage, select the “Journal Preferences” menu
- Drag and drop the journals from the right side to the left and put them in your preference order
- Click the “Finalize” button to submit your preferences
- You may unlock these preferences at any time before Thursday, August 22nd at 5pm ET to edit your preferences and resubmit by clicking “Finalize”

1. AIPLA - American Intellectual Property Law Association Quarterly Journal

- Supplemental Materials:
 - Interest Statement (required)
 - Resume (required)
- AIPLA selects students based on the following criteria:
 - Combination of the competition scores and interest statement
 - Supplemental materials can serve as an independent basis for selection (because AIPLA is a subject matter specific Journal, demonstrated interest in IP law is strongly considered)
 - AIPLA strongly considers rankings in the top 2

2. BFLR - The George Washington Business & Finance Law Review

- Supplemental Materials:
 - Interest Statement (*optional*)
 - Resume (required)
- BFLR selects students based on the following criteria:
 - Holistic review of supplemental materials and competition scores
 - Supplemental materials can serve as an independent basis for selection
 - BFLR strongly considers rankings

3. FCBJ - Federal Circuit Bar Journal

- Supplemental Materials:
 - Interest Statement (required)

You may choose one of the following prompts for your interest statement.

 - **Option 1: Journal Interest Prompt:** As the official journal for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit and the Federal Circuit Bar Association, the *Federal Circuit Bar Journal* engages with judges and Association members who come from all areas of the country and represent all areas of the court's jurisdiction. Please use this prompt to explain your interest in joining the *Federal Circuit Bar Journal*. Please be sure to understand the basics of the court's jurisdiction [here](#). Consider the following questions: What experiences, both prior to and during law school, have shaped your personal development and prepared you for a Journal membership? How will serving on the Journal fit your short and long-term goals? What excites you about the law, Journal membership, or the FCBJ?

- **Option 2: Note Prompt:** Members of the FCBJ are required to write a Note during their first year of membership. A student Note is an essay about a specific problem or area of law and usually proposes a solution or novel framework. Though your issue or solution will relate to the Federal Circuit’s jurisdiction, the FCBJ encourages new members to reflect on their individual backgrounds, experiences, and identities, and submit scholarly work that both communicates their unique perspectives and considers how their chosen legal issue implicates civil society. What issue would you be interested in writing about, and why? Consider the issues heard in the Federal Circuit, which may be found [here](#). Your answer does not bind you should you join FCBJ.
- Grade Addendum (*optional*)
- FCBJ selects students based on the following criteria:
 - Holistic review of all application information, including supplemental statements and competition scores.
 - Supplemental materials can serve as an independent basis for selection.
 - FCBJ strongly considers rankings, generally only admitting students who rank FCBJ 1–3.

4. ILR - The George Washington International Law Review

- Supplemental Materials:
 - Interest Statement (*optional*)
 - Identity Statement (*optional*)
 - Grade Addendum (*optional*)
- GWILR selects students based on the following criteria:
 - Written competition score and GPA
 - Holistic review of all application information, including supplemental materials and competition scores
 - Supplemental materials *may* serve as an independent basis for selection
 - **Note:** while optional, submitting supplemental materials are *highly* encouraged and can make a significant difference in a student’s chances of being selected by GWILR.
 - Generally, students must rank GWILR *first or second* to be considered.

5. GWLR - The George Washington Law Review

- Supplemental Materials:
 - Interest Statement (*optional*)
 - Please **choose one** of the following personal statement prompts to supplement your application and identify which prompt you are answering in your response. This personal statement may be submitted

in addition to the optional journal-wide identity statement. This is an opportunity to share additional information about yourself separate from the quantitative metrics in your application. You should treat this statement as a writing sample.

- **Prompt 1.** What sparked your interest in attending law school? What is a goal you hope to achieve in law school or with your legal education? How do you think your participation in *Law Review* will help you achieve these goals and contribute to the legal community?
- **Prompt 2.** *Law Review* is the only journal of general jurisdiction at GW Law. This means members can write a Note about any legal issue of their choice that has a national scope. A Note is a piece of legal scholarship written during your first year on the *Law Review*. Student Notes are around 8,000 words and fulfill GW Law’s upper-level writing requirement. The *Law Review* publishes scholarly Articles and Essays submitted by legal practitioners, and also provides an opportunity for the publication of outstanding student Notes. These publications pose novel solutions to an unresolved legal issue and reflect the variety of perspectives, values, and circumstances implicated in legal practice that intersect and transcend multiple areas of law. Examples of recently published Notes feature topics such as maritime law, food law, family law, antitrust law, environmental law, and constitutional law. You can review examples of excellent student notes by visiting our website, gwlr.org.
 - **What topic or area(s) of law would you write about in your Note? Why is this issue important? Consider incorporating how your background, perspectives on the law, experiences, or scholarly interests have influenced your choice. (No additional research, including research in the journal website, is necessary, and your answer is not binding should you join GWLR.)**
- Grade Addendum (*optional*)
- GWLR selects students based on the following criteria:
 - *The George Washington Law Review* (GWLR or *Law Review*) is the largest student-run journal at GW Law, with 75-80 members selected each year. GWLR also has the highest publishing rate of all journals on campus, releasing six issues a year in print along with its online companions *Arguendo* and *On the Docket*. GWLR members are instrumental in selecting and editing Articles and Notes that shape legal scholarship. As a collegial, collaborative organization dedicated to advancing the legal community through novel, forward-thinking, and solution-driven scholarship, the *Law Review* seeks to recruit intellectually curious students who are committed to furthering its goals.

- *The George Washington Law Review* is home to a unique group of students whose different backgrounds, experiences, and interests result in a range of legal perspectives that enrich the journal. The *Law Review* employs a holistic review process and will extend a significant portion of membership offers to students who have submitted outstanding personal statements and have reached a certain threshold score on their competition. Students may submit a personal statement and/or identity statement to receive the aforementioned holistic consideration. The Personal Statement gives GWLR insight into your individual characteristics and allows us to engage in a comprehensive review of your potential as a *Law Review* member.
- GWLR evaluates based on:
 - Written competition score and GPA
 - Holistic review of all application information, including the personal statement and competition scores
 - Students who are interested in GWLR should rank GWLR first. GWLR is a general jurisdiction journal so a majority of students tend to rank GWLR first, making it unlikely a student who ranks GWLR lower will have an opportunity to be considered.

6. JEEL - The George Washington Journal of Energy and Environmental Law

- Supplemental Materials:
 - Interest Statement (*optional*)
 - Resume (required)
 - Grade Addendum (*optional*)
- JEEL selects students based on the following criteria:
 - Competition scores.
 - Holistic review of all application information, including supplemental statements and competition scores.
 - Supplemental materials are weighed heavily. JEEL places special emphasis on interest statements and JEEL ranking.
 - JEEL wants Members who want to be on JEEL. If you rank JEEL highly (first, second, third, even fourth), you stand a significantly better chance of acceptance than ranking JEEL fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, or ninth. A high JEEL ranking is extremely important, but it does not guarantee selection.

7. JOLT - The George Washington Journal of Law & Technology

- Supplemental Materials:
 - Interest Statement (*required*)
 - Resume (*optional*)
 - Grade Addendum (*optional*)

- JOLT selects students based on the following criteria:
 - Holistic review of all application information, including supplemental materials
 - Supplemental materials may serve as an independent basis for selection.
 - NOTE: while some materials are optional, submitting supplemental materials is highly encouraged and can make a significant difference in a student's chances of being selected by JOLT.

8. PCLJ - Public Contract Law Journal

- Supplemental Materials:
 - Interest Statement (required)
 - Resume (*optional*)
 - Grade Addendum (*optional*)
- PCLJ selects students based on the following criteria:
 - Holistic review of all application information, including supplemental materials and competition scores.
 - Submitting an interest statement is required and can make a significant difference in a student's chances of being selected by PCLJ. PCLJ pays close attention to the interest statement and applicants' interest in PCLJ specifically.
 - A resume is helpful if students have relevant experience either with government contracts (professionally or student involvement) or with journal-related tasks (e.g., as a research assistant who did citation editing).
 - While a grade addendum may offset a particularly low GPA, it is usually not determinative.
 - PCLJ typically selects students who rank PCLJ in the top 3.