



MASTER OF STUDIES IN LAW

ETHICS AND COMPLIANCE

One-year Degree | No LSAT required

colorado.edu/law/msl



COLORADO LAW

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

MASTER OF STUDIES IN LAW

Colorado Law's Master of Studies in Law (MSL) degree is a one-year, 28-credit, no LSAT required program that enables students who hold at least an undergraduate degree to obtain legal training short of a full Juris Doctor (JD). MSL students will be admitted into one of two specialty tracks: Patent Law or Ethics and Compliance.

The MSL in Ethics and Compliance trains students to drive change and promote a culture of ethics within firms and institutions. MSL graduates are prepared to become compliance and ethics officers at either large corporations or nonprofit entities such as colleges, universities, and hospitals; as well as for careers as regulators in federal and state regulatory agencies.

Private and nonprofit sector organizations are subject to an increasing number of legal requirements and need trained professionals to lead effective in-house programs to ensure compliance with statutes and regulations. Students have the opportunity to focus on specific fields of law, such as privacy/cybersecurity, health care, and financial services.

Ethics and compliance professionals develop, improve, and manage compliance programs and help organizations obey the law, reduce the risk of fraud and other law-breaking and misconduct, and mitigate their firms' legal liability and reputation risk. They also foster a culture of ethics and responsibility within a firm.

WHY STUDY ETHICS AND COMPLIANCE

"Career opportunities in ethics and compliance are growing at a fast pace, and companies like CH2M will definitely view MSL graduates as highly qualified candidates to fill open positions. I applaud Colorado Law for creating a program that will prepare students to make an immediate impact on ethics and compliance programs for a number of companies."

BILL BRIERLY

Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer, CH2M



"It's an exciting time to help shape the emerging profession of ethics and compliance law, which in turn helps institutions prevent misconduct and develop ethical cultures. Colorado Law's MSL program is setting students up for success in this in-demand field."

MELANIE KAY

Director, Daniels Fund Ethics Initiative at Colorado Law



SAMPLE CURRICULUM

SUBJECT TO CHANGE

August

Introduction to U.S. Law

Fall Semester

Legal Writing and Analysis for Non-JD Students

Compliance

Legislation and Regulation

Electives

Spring Semester

Compliance Lab Capstone/Externship

Ethics and Professional Responsibility:

Organizations, Ethics, and Compliance

Electives

Fall, Spring, or Wintersession

Accounting for Lawyers **OR**

Accounting Boot Camp

Samples of Industry/Field Specific Electives

CYBERSECURITY/PRIVACY:

Information Privacy; Technology of Privacy;
Cybersecurity

HEALTH CARE:

Health Law-Finance, Administration, and Organization
of Health Care; Federal Health Care Fraud & Abuse

FINANCIAL SERVICES:

Securities Regulation; Financial Institutions (Banking);
Derivatives; Insurance Law

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING:

Government Contracts

FAQ

What is an ethics and compliance professional?

Ethics and compliance professionals, also called compliance and ethics officers, work within large for-profit and not-for profit organizations—particularly firms in heavily regulated industries to help ensure that those entities are complying with complex regulations and to document that compliance.

Where do ethics and compliance professionals work, and how much money do they make?

Ethics and compliance has been labeled as one of the fastest-growing employment fields in the U.S. economy, with the number of positions growing 27 percent over the last 10 years. We see the greatest employment prospects in the areas of cybersecurity/technology privacy; healthcare, and financial services. For example, in 2014 the Health Care Compliance Association reported 8% growth in the number of health care compliance positions staffed. Aside from health care, the biggest industries for ethics and compliance staff are insurance, financial services, higher education, and pharmaceuticals/medical devices. State, local, and federal governments and energy companies are also major ethics and compliance employers.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) predicts steady 4.6% job growth in the ethics and compliance sector from 2012 through 2022. BLS data from May 2014 indicated that the average salary of compliance officers nationwide was \$68,000, with a 25% to 75% quartile range of \$48,230 to \$83,180.

What do compliance professionals do?

Ethics and compliance professionals encompass a wide array of tasks within an organization, including:

- comparing organizational practices to regulatory requirements
- creating codes of conduct
- detecting potential misconduct
- running whistleblower programs
- conducting internal investigations
- working with examiners and other regulatory officials
- conducting training
- authoring employee manuals



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BE THE CHANGE

Master of Studies in Law – Ethics and Compliance

One-year Master's Degree

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