



UNIVERSITY of HAWAII®  
MĀNOA

THE WILLIAM S. RICHARDSON SCHOOL OF LAW  
STUDENT SERVICES

## William S. Richardson School of Law Spring 2016 Grading Policy

**Grading Policy.** Prior to the Fall of 2004, the William S. Richardson School of Law utilized a C+/B- curve. In the Fall of 2004, the William S. Richardson School of Law modified its grading norms to a B curve to conform to most law schools' grading curve. The current allowable grade ranges are: A+ to A- (10-30%); A+ to B- (75-90%); C+ and below for courses with over 16 law students (10-25%); C+ and below for courses with 16 or fewer law students (0-25%). Grading norms are in effect for all courses.

**Official Transcripts.** The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Records & Registration Office issues the official transcript for the School of Law. The official transcript is cumulative and lists every course taken and the final grade. Since the Fall of 2004, "+" and "-" grades are included in the tabulation of student grade point averages.

**Ranking.** At the conclusion of each Fall and Spring semester, the Law School calculates the class median and quintile rankings for each class: first quintile (20%), second quintile (40%), third quintile (60%), fourth quintile (80%), and fifth quintile. Quintiles are based on each student's cumulative GPA (excluding first-year Fall semester advisory grades). For the Spring semester only, the Law School provides the numerical ranking for students in the first quintile (top 20%) of each class.

Note: First-year Fall semester grades are advisory only and therefore, no class ranking is released for first-year students in the Fall. Evening Part Time students are initially ranked with Full Time first-year students after the completion of 30 credits. For Fall and Summer graduates, final class ranking is calculated with the following Spring graduating class. Please refer to the Student Handbook for further details regarding class ranking.

**Graduating Student Honors.** Students graduating in the top 25% graduate *cum laude*; students graduating in the top 10% graduate *magna cum laude*; students graduating in the top 5% graduate *summa cum laude*.

For Spring 2016 semester, the cumulative rankings are explained below:

	1Ls CLASS OF 2018	2Ls CLASS OF 2017	3Ls CLASS OF 2016
FIRST QUINTILE (20%)	3.53 to 4.00	3.53 to 4.00	3.59 to 4.00
SECOND QUINTILE (40%)	3.25 to 3.52	3.26 to 3.52	3.31 to 3.58
THIRD QUINTILE (60%)	2.99 to 3.24	3.06 to 3.25	3.07 to 3.30
FOURTH QUINTILE (80%)	2.69 to 2.98	2.88 to 3.05	2.89 to 3.06
FIFTH QUINTILE	2.68 and below	2.87 and below	2.88 and below
CLASS MEDIAN	3.14	3.22	3.18