The most recent report from the American Bar Association found that the nation's practicing bar is not representative of the diversity in the United States. The Saturday Academy of Law (SAL) was created as an opportunity to expose students from diverse backgrounds to the practice of law, and help them understand that a career as an attorney is a viable option.

With a commitment to encouraging diversity in the legal profession, UCI Law has led SAL since 2009. From the beginning, our vision has been to reach as many ninth graders as possible. We are excited at the expansion of the SAL program to include three California school districts:

- **Anaheim Union High School District**
  26th largest school district serving more than 31,000 students.

- **Garden Grove Unified School District**
  14th largest school district serving more than 46,000 students.

- **Santa Ana Unified School District**
  7th largest school district serving more than 56,000 students.

These three school districts, located in Orange County, represent the areas with the greatest need, highest percentages of English language learners and first generation high school students in our community. We are excited to see the positive impact this expansion will have on the new communities that it serves and the legal profession as a whole.

Commitment to a More Diverse Legal Profession

Our Supporters

SAL has received tremendous support from a variety of generous groups, including Atkinson, Anderson, Loya, Ruud & Romo, Automobile Club of Southern California, Brown Rudnick LLP, DLA Piper, Experian Information Solutions, Inc., Orange County Bar Association Charitable Fund, Orange County Coalition for Diversity in the Law, Southern California Edison, Southern California Gas Company, TROY Group, Inc., and UC Irvine School of Law. For more information on how to join this list of esteemed supporters, please contact Veronica Alexander at valexander@law.uci.edu. Or pledge online at www.law.uci.edu.
The program creates a pipeline of law school candidates who represent the diverse legal profession and higher education opportunities.

Eligibility Requirements

1. Ninth grade student enrolled at Anaheim Union High School District, Garden Grove Unified School District or Santa Ana Unified School District by program start date
2. High/Middle School GPA of 2.5 or higher
3. Currently enrolled in upper level math by program start date
4. Attendance is mandatory at all six Saturday sessions

Students who successfully complete SAL will receive extra credit when applying to any of the University of California campuses. In addition, several SAL graduates have been chosen to participate in the highly selective Project SELF program, which provides internships for high school graduates at local law firms.

Application Process

Apply Online

1. Download the application at law.uci.edu/SAL
2. Read the Student Expectations document (located online also)
3. Complete the application with a digital signature from a parent or guardian. Parents or guardians must have a valid email address to apply their digital signature. NOTE: Application must be saved to your computer to enable digital signature function.
4. Send application and required essay as an email attachment to SAL@law.uci.edu by the application deadline.

Apply at Your School

1. Request an application from the College/Career Counseling Office at your high school.
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For questions, application deadlines and more about SAL please email SAL@law.uci.edu.

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1. Submit an essay about your future plans and career goals. The essay should be one page or less and should be typed or handwritten.
2. Provide a current transcript of grades from your high school.
3. Submit two letters of recommendation from teachers, guidance counselors, or other adults who know you well.

On six consecutive Saturdays each fall and spring semesters, ninth graders travel to UCI Law to learn about the First Amendment in a law school setting. SAL classes are taught by a credentialed district teacher, supported by undergraduate teaching assistants and UCI Law students. In addition to the academic content, SAL assists students with a closing awards ceremony. More than 500 students have completed the program since it launched in 2009.

The Saturday Academy of Law (SAL) at the University of California, Irvine School of Law, is a program that provides ninth grade students with a unique opportunity to improve their reading, writing and critical thinking skills while learning more about the legal profession and higher education opportunities.

Eligibility Requirements

1. Ninth grade student enrolled at Anaheim Union High School District, Garden Grove Unified School District or Santa Ana Unified School District by program start date
2. High/Middle School GPA of 2.5 or higher
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Review by SAL Alumni

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Remariable college destinations for SAL alumni include:

California, UC Berkeley
California, UC Irvine
California, UCLA
California, USC
Massachusetts, Amherst College
Ohio, Denison University
Oregon, University of Oregon
Washington, Central Washington University