



LAWS

LAW IN ACTION WITHIN SCHOOLS



"Spending time with lawyers and law students has changed the way I think about the law. As a future Crown Attorney, I am glad that I got a chance to meet my future colleagues"

LAWS high school student

Law student volunteers provide academic support and mentoring to high school students.

LAWS (Law in Action Within Schools) is a partnership between the University of Toronto Faculty of Law and the Toronto District School Board to deliver an academic and extra-curricular program that teaches high school students about law and helps them succeed in school. The program is aimed at inner-city high school students--many of whom face multiple barriers to achieving their academic, career and life goals.

LAWS offers interactive learning experiences that provide a unique and positive exposure to legal issues, the legal system, and the legal profession. The program uses legal education as a tool to assist students to complete high school, gain entry to post-secondary studies, and become informed and engaged citizens.

Started in September 2005, LAWS is currently implemented at two inner-city high schools with diverse populations: Central Technical School and Harbord Collegiate Institute.



Students spend a day in court job shadowing legal professionals.



Students hone their legal skills in mock trial competitions.

LAWS is a multi-faceted program that offers:

An academic curriculum infused with legal themes.

LAWS assists participating teachers to identify and explore legal issues with their students in the classroom. U of T Faculty of Law students, professors, alumni and other legal professionals guest-facilitate interactive workshops on cutting-edge legal issues.

A weekly after-school tutoring/mentoring program.

U of T Faculty of Law students volunteer to provide high school students with academic support and mentorship.

Opportunities to interact with legal professionals.

Students observe the law in action and spend time with positive role models through job shadowing programs and paid summer placements with legal professionals.

Exposure to post-secondary education.

Students attend events at the U of T Faculty of Law, visit other local college and university campuses, and learn about post-secondary programs and admission policies.

Special learning opportunities.

Students attend conferences, participate in mock trials and debating tournaments, and visit court houses.

For more information please contact:

Alexis Archbold, Director
(416) 978-5841

University of Toronto
Faculty of Law
78 Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M5S 2C5

laws.law@utoronto.ca
www.lawinaction.ca

"LAWS has taught me that if I put my mind to something and really focus my attention I can achieve all of my goals"

LAWS high school student

"Because of LAWS, many of our students developed exceptional academic and social skills. And their improved attendance is in direct response to their heightened interest in their studies. LAWS helps make learning more fun and engaging"

LAWS teacher

"It's been wonderful participating in LAWS this year....it has enriched my law school experience in such a meaningful way"

First year law student, University of Toronto Faculty of Law

LAWS is generously supported by a grant from The Law Foundation of Ontario



Students gain valuable skills and experiences in paid summer jobs with legal employers.