



HOWARD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
2026-2027 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

\*Date Policy: Deadlines are listed according to the calendar date on which they fall, even if that date falls on a weekend or is a legal holiday. Such deadlines must be met by close of business of the business day immediately following a weekend or legal holiday.

Please visit the Howard University financial aid website for updates and deadlines concerning financial aid. Certain dates intend to correspond to the Howard University Academic Calendar and may change pursuant to changes therein. Consult HU main campus calendar by searching on the HU website. Please contact the relevant HUSL office or team if you have further questions.

FALL SEMESTER 2026

Table with 2 columns: \*Date(s) and Event/Deadline. Rows include Orientation for 1L, LL.M., transfer, and exchange students; Pinning Ceremony; Recommended Deadline for Fall 2026 ADA Accommodation Requests; DEADLINE - Students Externship Application Deadline; First day of classes - 1L students only; Orientation for clinics; All Clinic and Externship Orientation - MANDATORY; First day of classes - 2L and 3L students; Late registration and Add/Drop period; DEADLINE - Withdrawal (100% Refund).



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*Date(s)	Event/Deadline
August 17 through October 16	<b>3L Degree Audits with the Office of Academic Affairs.</b> <a href="#">Click here</a> to schedule an appointment to ensure compliance with all graduation requirements (see Student Handbook).
September 11, Tuesday	<b>DEADLINE – Instructors</b> Deadline for instructors to verify course participation in BisonHub for Fall 2026.
September 4, Friday	<b>DEADLINE – Accommodations for Fall 2026 Midterms</b> Provide a copy of approval letter from HU OSS to the HUSL Office of Student Affairs (OSA) for approved, non-emergency ADA accommodations. <a href="#">Click here</a> for additional information.
September 7, Monday	<b>University Closed – Labor Day Observed</b>
September 14, Monday	<b>Graduation Application Opens</b> Graduation Application available via BisonHub for December 2026 prospective graduates.
September 14, Monday	<b>Office of Career Services Orientation – 1Ls ONLY</b>
September 18	<b>Opening Convocation</b> , Cramton Auditorium, 11:00 AM (Classes suspended from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM)
September 18	<b>DEADLINE – Withdrawal (50% Refund)</b> Deadline to withdraw from the University to receive 50% refund of tuition/fees. To fully withdraw from the University, students must drop all courses via BisonHub and request an <a href="#">Institutional Withdrawal</a> .
September 28 – October 2 1L midterm week	<b>Fall 1L Assessments and Exams</b> All assessments occur during class time.



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*Date(s)	Event/Deadline
October 2, Friday	<b>DEADLINE – Alternate Exam Date Requests</b> Deadline to send Fall 2026 final exam conflicts alternate exam day requests. See <a href="#">Alternate Exam Request form</a> .
October 2, Friday	Preliminary Enrollment Census Data
October 5 – 9	<b>Upper-Class Assessments and Exams</b> All assessments occur during class time. Alternate exam day requests are not applicable for midterm assessments.
October 12, Monday	<b>University Closed – Mental Health Day</b>
October 17, Friday	Final Enrollment Census Data
October 24, Friday	<b>Deadline - Students Independent Study Proposals, Petitions to Study Away</b> (includes study abroad, visiting another institution or participating in an exchange program) for Spring 2027 and Summer 2027. See Student Handbook for additional information.
October 24, Friday	<b>Deadline – Withdrawal (25% Refund)</b> Deadline to withdraw from the University to receive 25% refund of tuition/fees. To fully withdraw from the University, students must drop all courses via BisonHub and request an <a href="#">Institutional Withdrawal</a> .
November 10, Tuesday	<b>Accommodations Deadline for Fall 2026 Final Exams</b> Provide a copy of approval letter from HU OSS to the HUSL Office of Student Affairs (OSA) for approved, non-emergency ADA accommodations. <a href="#">Click here</a> for additional information.
November 11, Wednesday	<b>University Closed - Veteran’s Day Observed</b>



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*Date(s)	Event/Deadline
November 13, Friday	<b>Deadline – Last Day to Withdraw (No Refund)</b> Last day to withdraw from a Fall 2026 course. Last day to complete a withdrawal from the University (no refunds). Students will receive 0% refund of tuition/fees. Students must complete withdrawal process before this date or will receive an “F” grade for the course.  To fully withdraw from the University, students must drop all courses via BisonHub and request an <a href="#">Institutional Withdrawal</a> .
November 13, Friday	<b>Graduation Application Deadline</b> for December 2026 prospective graduates. Application must be submitted via BisonHub.
November 17, Tuesday	<b>Spring 2027 Course Registration – 3Ls ONLY</b> Spring 2027 registration begins at 9:00am (3L students only).  Note that registration is available every day (24/7) on BisonHub until the end of the Add/Drop period.
November 19, Thursday	<b>Spring 2027 Course Registration – 2Ls and LLMS</b> Spring 2027 registration begins at 9:00am (2L and LLM students only).  Note that registration is available every day (24/7) on BisonHub until the end of the Add/Drop period.
November 20, Friday	<b>FORMAL CLASSES END FOR 1L STUDENTS ONLY.</b>
November 25, Wednesday	<b>FORMAL CLASSES END FOR ALL 2L and 3L STUDENTS.</b> Afternoon and evening classes meet on this day unless the professor otherwise assures class meeting times are complete.



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<b>*Date(s)</b>	<b>Event/Deadline</b>
November 26, Thursday to November 29, Sunday	<b>University Closed – Thanksgiving Recess</b>
November 27, Friday to November 30, Monday	<b>Reading Period</b>
December 2, Wednesday	<b>Deadline – Instructors</b> Deadline for instructors to input grade changes in BisonHub for removal of spring 2026 and summer 2026 incomplete grades.
December 1, Tuesday to December 11, Friday	<b>Final examinations period</b>
December 16, Wednesday	<b>FALL 2026 SEMESTER ENDS</b>
December 16, Wednesday	<b>Official GRADUATION DATE</b> for Fall 2026 degree recipients.
December 16, Wednesday to January 1, Friday	<b>University Closed – Winter Recess</b>



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SPRING SEMESTER 2027

Table with 2 columns: Date(s) and Event/Deadline. Rows include: January 4, Monday (FORMAL CLASSES BEGIN FOR ALL STUDENTS); January 4, Monday to January 15, Friday (Late registration and Add/Drop period); January 5, Tuesday (Recommended Deadline for Spring 2027 ADA Accommodation Requests); January 6, Wednesday (Spring Clinic and Externship Orientation); January 18, Monday (University Closed - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day); January 22, Friday (Deadline for receipt of Fall 2026 graduation recommendations); January 22, Friday (Spring 1L Orientation - MANDATORY); January 15, Friday (DEADLINE - Withdrawal (100% Refund)).



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Date(s)	Event/Deadline
January 26, Tuesday	<b>Accommodations Deadline for Spring 2027 midterm assessments:</b> Provide a copy of approval letter from HU OSS to the HUSL Office of Student Affairs (OSA) for approved, non-emergency ADA accommodations. <a href="#">Click here</a> for additional information.
February 8, Monday	<b>Graduation Application available</b> via BisonHub for Spring 2027 prospective graduates.
February 12, Friday	<b>DEADLINE – Withdrawal (50% Refund)</b> Deadline to withdraw from the University to receive 50% refund of tuition/fees. To fully withdraw from the University, students must drop all courses via BisonHub and request an <a href="#">Institutional Withdrawal</a> .  Preliminary Enrollment Census Date
February 15, Monday	<b>University Closed – President’s Day Observed</b>
February 16, Tuesday to February 25, Thursday	<b>Spring midterm assessments and exams (ALL STUDENTS).</b> All assessments occur during class time.  Alternate exam day requests are not applicable for midterm assessments.
March 1, Monday	<b>Summer 2027 Course Registration</b> Summer 2027 Registration begins for continuing students and continues through the summer deadline. Note that financial aid awards are tentatively set to disburse in June 2027, after all spring 2027 grades are posted. If a student is near the academic probation minimum of 75 or 2.00 GPA, they should be aware that they are ineligible for summer financial if they are below a 75 or 2.00 GPA. Moreover, students in danger of academic dismissal should not register for summer classes.
March 5, Friday	<b>Charter Day Convocation</b> – Cramton Auditorium (Time: TBD)



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Table with 2 columns: Date(s) and Event/Deadline. Rows include: March 5, Friday (Deadline - Withdrawal (25% Refund)), March 5, Friday (Deadline - Alternate Exam Date Requests), March 6, Saturday to March 14, Sunday (Howard University School of Law Closed - Spring Break), March 12, Friday (Final Enrollment Census Date), March 19, Friday (Deadline for Petitions for Readmission - Fall 2027), March 22, Monday (Deadline for Independent Study Proposals and Petitions to Study Away), March 30, Tuesday (Fall 2027 Course Registration - Current 2Ls ONLY), April 1, Thursday (Fall 2027 Course Registration - Current 1Ls and LLMS), April 2, Friday (University Closed - Mental Health Day).



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Table with 2 columns: Date(s) and Event/Deadline. Rows include: April 6, Tuesday (Accommodations Deadline for Spring 2027 final exams); April 9, Friday (Deadline - Last Day to Withdraw (No Refund)); April 9, Friday (Deadline to Apply for Graduation (Spring 2027 Graduates)); April 21, Wednesday (Formal Classes End); April 22, Thursday to April 26, Monday (Reading Period); April 26, Monday (Deadline - Students); April 27, Tuesday to May 6, Thursday (Final examinations period); April 28, Wednesday (Deadline - Instructors); May 5 to May 6 (Graduation clearance for spring graduates).



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<b>Date(s)</b>	<b>Event/Deadline</b>
May 7, Friday	<b>Spring Semester Ends</b>
May 7, Friday	<b>Baccalaureate – Howard University School of Law</b> , Dunbarton Chapel, Time TBD Note: Due to capacity limitations, guest tickets will be required. The HUSL Office of Student Affairs will provide detailed information and distribution procedures during the spring semester.
May 7, Friday or 8, Saturday, exact date and time TBD by the University	<b>Hooding Ceremony - Howard University School of Law</b> Note: Due to capacity limitations, guest tickets will be required. The HUSL Office of Student Affairs will provide detailed information and distribution procedures during the spring semester.
May 8, Saturday	<b>Commencement - Howard University</b> Place TBD, 10:00 AM Note: Due to capacity limitations, guest tickets will be required. The HUSL Office of Student Affairs will provide detailed information and distribution procedures during the spring semester.
May 28, Friday	Deadline for receipt of Spring 2027 Graduation Recommendations in the Office of the Registrar.



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### **SUMMER SEMESTER 2027 (SCHOOL OF LAW ONLY)**

Note that students will not receive financial aid for summer school until all spring 2027 grades are posted; this typically occurs around mid-June. Therefore, students should plan their budgets accordingly. Please communicate with [finaidlaw@howard.edu](mailto:finaidlaw@howard.edu) for other eligibility guidelines for summer aid.

<b>*Date(s)</b>	<b>Event/Deadline</b>
March 1, Monday to May 17, Monday	<b>Registration for all students; payment in full due upon registration. The deadline to register is May 17. The last day to add/drop with no penalty and without a grade of “W” is May 17.</b>
May 17, Monday	<b>DEADLINE – Withdrawal (100% Refund)</b> Deadline to withdraw from the University to receive 100% refund of tuition/fees. To fully withdraw from the University, students must drop all courses via BisonHub and request an <a href="#">Institutional Withdrawal</a> .
May 21, Friday	<b>DEADLINE – Withdrawal (50% Refund)</b> Deadline to withdraw from the University to receive 50% refund of tuition/fees. To fully withdraw from the University, students must drop all courses via BisonHub and request an <a href="#">Institutional Withdrawal</a> .
May 28, Friday	<b>DEADLINE – Withdrawal (25% Refund)</b> Deadline to withdraw from the University to receive 25% refund of tuition/fees. To fully withdraw from the University, students must drop all courses via BisonHub and request an <a href="#">Institutional Withdrawal</a> .
May 31, Monday	<b>University Closed – Memorial Day</b>
June 1, Tuesday	<b>Graduation Application available</b> via BisonHub for Summer 2027 prospective graduates.



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June 5, Friday	<b>Deadline – Last Day to Withdraw (No Refund)</b> Last day to complete a withdrawal from the University (no refunds).  To fully withdraw from the University, students must drop all courses via BisonHub and request an <a href="#">Institutional Withdrawal</a> .
June 18, Friday	<b>University Closed – Juneteenth</b>
July 5, Monday	<b>University Closed – Independence Day Observed</b>
July 6, Tuesday	<b>Last week of doctrinal classes</b>
July 12, Monday	<b>Last week of externship classes</b>
July 9, Friday to July 12, Monday	<b>Reading Period</b>
Week of July 12	<b>Final examinations period</b>
July 16, Friday	<b>Summer 2027 Semester Ends (School of Law)</b>
July 24, Saturday	<b>Official GRADUATION DATE</b> for Summer 2027 degree recipients.
August 6, Friday	Deadline for receipt of Summer 2027 Graduation Recommendations in the Office of the Registrar.