ACADEMIC INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE TRANSFER STUDENTS

Transfer Credit Evaluation
Generally, only courses in which a grade of a “C” or better was earned can transfer to MSU Law. For research and writing courses any transfer student with at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA will receive transfer credit for a previously taken research and writing course, provided that a “C” or better was earned. Transfer students who do not have a 3.0 cumulative GPA will automatically receive transfer credit for taking research and writing if the grade earned in the course is at least a “B.” If the grade is less than a “B,” the Admissions Office will obtain a writing sample from the transfer student and forward it to the director of the MSU Law Research and Writing department, who will make the determination whether to grant transfer credit for the course.

MSU Law will complete a transfer credit evaluation (TCE) for the transfer student after the Admissions Office receives the Enrollment Intention form and the $350 enrollment deposit. The credit evaluation will indicate how courses that transfer will align with the required curriculum of MSU Law. This will be emailed to the email address listed on the transfer application and will be mailed to the address listed on the application.

A transfer applicant who is admitted to MSU Law before receiving final-semester grades from the previous law school will be provided an interim credit evaluation. Upon submission of a final transcript of such courses, MSU Law will complete a final credit evaluation. Transcripts should be submitted to the MSU Law Admissions Office. Students not submitting a FINAL transcript for evaluation after matriculating at MSU Law will have a hold placed on their account and will not be permitted to enroll in future semesters.

All approved transfer credits earned at the former institution will appear on the student’s MSU Law transcript. Courses taken at the former institution will not appear on the transcript. MSU Law requires the completion of 88 credits hours and completion of an upper level writing requirement (ULWR) to satisfy graduation requirements. A writing requirement completed at the previous institution will not be accepted by MSU Law to meet the ULWR requirement, but will be considered elective credits.

Required Courses at MSU Law
Transfer students must complete all required courses as set forth in the student handbook except for those courses that are substantially similar to courses for which transfer credit is accepted. If a transfer student is required to take any MSU Law first-year required course, and/or Research, Writing & Analysis, and/or Advocacy at MSU Law, he/she must enroll the first time it is offered. Also, a student enrolled in Research, Writing & Analysis, or Advocacy is not permitted to drop the course unless the student is withdrawing from the Law College.
Class Ranking
Grade point averages and class rank for transfer students are computed only upon those classes taken at MSU Law. Any credits or grades awarded by other institutions are not included for these calculations. Transfer students are ineligible to receive interim (semester) class ranks.

The calculation of final class rank upon graduation will only include students who have received at least 70 graded credits from classes taken at MSU Law, excluding those taken on a Pass/Fail basis. In order to be eligible for class honors upon graduation, a student must have received at least 53 graded credits from classes taken at MSU Law (excluding those taken on a Pass/Fail basis). Students who are excluded from the calculation of interim or final class ranks shall have their MSU Law grade point averages compared to those of their classmates (based on year of graduation) for the same time period. The Registrar shall generate reports of the grades of students included in class rank calculations for the requisite time periods, indicating decile cutoffs. In lieu of a class rank, students excluded from class rank calculations shall be told into which decile their grade point average falls.

Satisfactory Academic Progress
Transfer students are considered “upper level” students. All upper level students are required to maintain a MSU Law cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or better at the end of every regular semester (fall/spring). Any student who has a cumulative grade point average lower than a 2.0 at the end of every regular semester (fall/spring) will automatically be academically dismissed from MSU Law. No student may graduate from MSU Law with less than a cumulative grade-point average of 2.0.

Course Scheduling and Registration Assistance Once Admitted
All incoming transfer students are required to discuss their initial course schedules with the Office of Student Engagement, after registration instructions from that office been received. This information is e-mailed after the enrollment deposit has been submitted and the transfer credit evaluation has been provided to the incoming law student. After consulting with the Office of Student Engagement and obtaining schedule approval, transfer students will be automatically enrolled in their first semester of coursework at MSU Law. After the first semester at MSU Law, it is the student’s responsibility to enroll electronically via the website.

Transfer Student Eligibility Requirements for:
- Moot Court Program
- Geoffrey Fieger Trial Practice Institute*

The prerequisites for participation in all of the above organizations is Research, Writing & Analysis, and Advocacy, a minimum grade point average and at least four semesters remaining (not including summer term). Other criteria that must be satisfied include:

- **Journal of Business & Securities Law**: Completion of at least 29 credit hours by the write-on competition deadline. For further information please contact the editor of the journal.

- **Journal of International Law & Practice**: Students must have completed at least 29 credit hours. For further information please contact the editor of the journal.

- **Journal of Medicine and Law**: Completion of or currently taking Advocacy. For further information please contact the editor of the journal.
Law Review: Eligibility is only considered immediately after completion of the spring semester (May). Transfer students must enter the writing competition to be eligible. For further information please contact the editor of the journal.

Moot Court Program: Moot Court Class Competition course must be taken. For further information please contact the Executive Director of the program.

Geoffrey Fieger Trial Practice Institute: Interviews will be conducted for interested applicants in January/February for the following academic year. Students must supply a resume as well as a cover letter expressing their intent and desire to become part of this program. For further information please contact the director of the program.

*Note that appeals for eligibility may be granted. Please contact the director or editor of the respective program or journal for more information.

This document has been prepared for prospective transfer applicants. All information is current as of January 2012.