

# INTERESTED IN JOINING LAW REVIEW?

THEN YOU MUST HAVE SOME QUESTIONS!

## 1. What is the Law Review?

The *Roger Williams University Law Review* is a student-run scholarly journal. The Law Review publishes articles written by lawyers, judges, and other professionals in the legal field, as well as student pieces! We publish a minimum of three editions per year: the National Edition, the Justice for All Edition (often also a Symposium Edition), and the Rhode Island Edition.

## 2. What is the Justice for All (JFA) Edition?

The JFA is a journal of academic scholarship that rotates topics each year highlighting different ways to achieve “justice for all.” For example, the 2022 JFA Edition topic was “Demanding Accessibility for Underrepresented Communities in the Law.” The journal’s mission is to call attention to inequities that exist in the legal field and propose solutions.

## 3. What are the responsibilities of being on Law Review?

As a 2L member you have three major responsibilities: (1) writing your comment, (2) writing your survey, and (3) completing cite-checking assignments. 2L members complete their comment during one semester and participate in cite-checking assignments during the other semester.

### What does that mean?!

**Comment:** Members must complete their comment during their 2L year. The comment must be a minimum of 5,500 words (footnotes included) on a legal topic of their choosing. Students will be assigned to write in either the fall semester or spring semester of their 2L year. All fall writers will write on a Rhode Island or Justice for All topic. All spring writers will write on a national topic. Members may express their preference for a particular semester but assignments will be at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief.

**Survey:** The survey is essentially a glorified case brief. Members will be assigned a Rhode Island Supreme Court case from the Court’s prior term and will write their survey over winter break.

**Cite-Checking:** Members also cite-check the articles and comments that will be published in the journal. Cite-checking involves verifying that the author’s footnotes are Bluebook compliant, locating the sources that the citations are coming from, and compiling an electronic PDF “binder” with copies of all sources for the article or comment.

## 4. Do you get academic credit for being on Law Review?

Yes!! Members are eligible for **2 credits per academic year**. These credits are graded on a pass/fail basis. Members are also able to **complete their graduation writing requirement** while on Law Review!

## 5. What are the other benefits of joining Law Review?

**Research & Writing:** Members will further develop their research and writing skills by writing both their student comment and their survey.

**Cite-Checking & Proofreading:** Members will refine their Bluebooking skills and learn how to properly cite legal sources by completing their cite-checking assignments.

**Publication:** All student surveys are published in the Rhode Island Edition of Law Review. Members may also have the opportunity to have their student comment published if the Editor-in-Chief believes their piece is of publishable quality and then selects their piece for publication.

**Job Opportunities:** Employers are particularly interested in interviewing members of Law Review due to the unique skill sets members gain!

**Board Positions:** Once on Law Review, 2L members have an opportunity to apply to become a member of the Editorial Board. The Editorial Board selection process typically takes place during the month of February during your 2L year.

## **6. What is the time commitment?**

On average, members spend anywhere from **5-12 hours per week** on Law Review tasks. Generally, students can expect to spend approximately 6 hours per week during their cite-checking semester, and 10 hours per week during their writing semester.

## **7. How do you get on Law Review?**

Eligible students will be able to **participate in the write-on competition**. The write-on competition takes place immediately following final exams. The write-on opens on May 12th at 8:00 am and closes on June 2nd. Once you begin, you will have 16 days to complete the competition.

**The write-on competition consists of (1) a writing component, (2) a cite-checking assignment, and (3) students' 1L grades.** To be eligible to participate in the write-on, students must comply with Section 3.03 of the Law Review By-Laws.

**Part 1:** Writing component: students will analyze, argue, and answer an assigned legal prompt. The writing component is a closed universe, meaning we will provide you with a packet of sources to help you form your argument. You must use *only* these sources to address the legal prompt. The writing component is worth 30% of your write-on score.

**Part 2:** Cite-checking component: students will be given a packet of sources and will generate Bluebook-compliant citations for those sources or correct a given citation. Students will be required to cite the proper Bluebook rule(s) that they used to correct a given citation. The cite-checking assignment is worth 20% of your write-on score.

**Part 3:** 1L grades are also considered in the write-on competition score. All students in good academic standing (per the RWU School of Law Student Handbook) are eligible and encouraged to participate in the write-on. Your GPA is worth 50% of your write-on score.

The write-on is **graded anonymously** and students will submit their write-on materials through Bridges. Students will be notified of their acceptance onto Law Review via telephone within two weeks after Law Review receives student ranks from Student Finance and Records.

There are no automatic invitations onto Law Review.

## **8. When is Law Review orientation?**

Orientation for new members will take place on **Saturday, August 12th, 2023**. All rising 2L students who accept a position with Law Review **must** attend.

## **9. Questions?**

Email [sfischer516@rwu.edu](mailto:sfischer516@rwu.edu) with any questions. Don't forget to follow us on Instagram for more updates [@rwulawreview](https://www.instagram.com/rwulawreview)!