

**Certificate Name:**           **Family Law Advocacy**

**Director's Name:**           **Professor Leigh Scales**

Florida Coastal School of Law offers students the opportunity to earn a J.D. degree with an accompanying certificate in Family Law Advocacy. The certificate program builds on the School's Program Learning Outcomes and provides students with intensive instruction in real life advocacy skills.

To receive a certificate in family law advocacy, students must meet each of the following requirements:

1. Submission of application to the Program Director,
2. Acceptance into the certificate program,
3. Completion of required curriculum,
4. Successful completion of three hours of relevant experiential learning credits (to be approved by the Program Director),
5. Successful completion of ten hours of *pro bono* service relating to family law advocacy (to be approved by the Program Director),
6. Successful completion of six CLE hours relating to family law advocacy (to be approved by the Program Director), and
7. Must have a cumulative LGPA of at least a 2.75 at graduation.

#### **Acceptance Criteria**

1. Students are admitted to the program through application only.
2. Applicants must demonstrate, as reflected in their admission application, a passion for family law advocacy.
3. The Program Director approves the student's application and offers the student admission to the Family Law Advocacy Certificate program.
4. Students may apply for admission to the Family Law Advocacy Certificate Program commencing with their third full semester of law school (or after having earned 24 credits) and no later than completion of their fourth full semester of law school (or before having earned 67 credits).

#### **Required Courses**

Students must take 9 credits from the following:

- ADR (3 credits)
- Conflict of Laws (3 credits)
- Dependency and Adoption Law (3 credits)
- Federal Income Tax (3 credits)
- Immigration Law (3 credits)
- Interviewing and Counseling (2 credits)
- Juvenile Law (3 credits)
- Taking and Defending Depositions (1-2 credits)
- Other seminars or intersession offerings related to family law advocacy and approved by the Program Director (1-3 credits)

#### **Experiential Requirement**

Students seeking a Family Law Advocacy Certificate must complete three credits of an externship for an approved organization that provides family law advocacy services. The externship must be approved both by the Program

Direction and the Externship Director. During this externship, the student must participate to the satisfaction of the Externship Director.

**Service Requirement**

Students seeking a Family Law Advocacy Certificate must complete ten hours of *pro bono* service (to be approved by the Program Director) relating to family law advocacy.

**CLE Requirement**

Students seeking a Family Law Advocacy Certificate must complete six credits of Continuing Legal Education ("CLE") relating to family law advocacy. Each CLE must be approved by the Program Director.