BLOGS

HNLU LL.M.: Admission, Fees, Cut-Off & Course Guide

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HNLU Raipur LL.M. through CLAT PG: Admission, Fees, Cut-off, Courses and Specialisations

Hidayatullah National Law University, Raipur is an important option to consider if you are planning to pursue an LL.M. after your LL.B. HNLU offers a **one-year LL.M.** through CLAT PG, with a research-based curriculum, optional papers and specialisations in Corporate Law, Technology and Law, and Intellectual Property Rights Law.

This guide explains how to get admission to HNLU Raipur, which paper you need to qualify, the eligibility rules, the latest fee structure, course duration, specialisations, seat intake and recent CLAT PG closing-rank trend. The focus is on the regular one-year LL.M. programme admitted through CLAT PG.

About HNLU Raipur

Hidayatullah National Law University was established in 2003 by the Government of Chhattisgarh under the **Hidayatullah National University of Law, Chhattisgarh Act, 2003**. It is named after **Justice M. Hidayatullah**, a former Chief Justice of India and one of the country's respected jurists. HNLU is located in Nava Raipur, Chhattisgarh.

The HNLU CLAT 2027 brochure states that the university is included in the UGC list under Sections 2(f) and 12(B) of the UGC Act and is recognised by the Bar Council of India under **Section 7** of the **Advocates Act, 1961**. Students can also refer to the official HNLU website for admission notices, academic calendars, programmes and campus updates.

HNLU describes itself as the sixth institution in the series of National Law Schools. Its campus offers residential facilities, a Learning Resource Centre, research centres, moot-court activities and academic programmes at the undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral levels.

Why choose HNLU Raipur for an LL.M.?

The main advantage of the HNLU LL.M. is that it is structured as a focused one-year postgraduate programme. The course combines compulsory papers with optional subjects, a dissertation and a viva voce. This format can suit law graduates who want to specialise without committing to a two-year programme.

The programme also has a clear research component. Research Methods and Legal Writing is a core paper, and the second semester includes a dissertation and viva. This can be useful for students considering teaching, doctoral research, policy work, judicial services preparation or advanced legal practice.

HNLU's 2027 brochure also highlights its legal research centres, academic infrastructure and opportunities for mooting and student activities. However, students should choose the university after comparing the curriculum, total cost, preferred specialisation, location and their own career plans rather than relying only on rankings.

How to get Admission to HNLU Raipur LL.M.?

Admission to the regular HNLU LL.M. is through CLAT PG. HNLU is listed among the participating universities on the official CLAT 2027 participating-universities page, where candidates can also access the university website and brochure.

The admission process generally follows these steps:

1. Register for the CLAT PG programme on the official CLAT website.
2. Check the eligibility rules and upload the required documents for CLAT PG.
3. Appear for the CLAT PG examination.
4. Enter HNLU in the preference list during the Consortium counselling process.
5. If allotted HNLU, complete the Consortium's counselling and confirmation requirements.
6. Pay the university fee, submit original documents and complete HNLU's admission formalities.

Candidates should read the CLAT PG 2027 instructions before applying. The instructions explain the online application process, document requirements, counselling framework and the need to check each NLU's own brochure and website. A CLAT allotment is provisional until the candidate completes the university's requirements.

Which paper is required for HNLU Raipur LL.M. admission?

The required examination is CLAT PG. HNLU does not list a separate entrance test for the regular one-year LL.M. in its CLAT 2027 brochure. Candidates should therefore prepare for the national-level PG paper and participate in the Consortium's allotment process.

The official CLAT PG 2027 syllabus states that the paper has 120 objective questions carrying 120 marks. The duration is two hours, and each wrong answer attracts a negative marking of 0.25 marks.

The paper is based on mandatory subjects taught in an LL.B. programme. These include Constitutional Law, Jurisprudence, Administrative Law, Contract, Torts, Family Law, Criminal Law, Property Law, Company Law, Public International Law, Tax Law, Environmental Law and Labour and Industrial Law. Questions are passage-based and may draw from judgments, statutes and regulations. Candidates are tested on comprehension, legal awareness, summarisation and application of legal principles.

For a subject-wise preparation plan, students can use CLATalogue's CLAT PG 2027 syllabus and exam-pattern guide.

HNLU Raipur LL.M. Eligibility

According to the official CLAT PG 2027 eligibility criteria, a candidate must have passed an LL.B. degree or an equivalent examination with at least 50% marks or an equivalent grade. The **minimum requirement is 45%** for candidates belonging to the **SC, ST or PwD categories.**

There is **no upper age limit for the CLAT PG 2027** examination. Candidates appearing for their qualifying examination in 2027 may also apply. However, they must produce the degree of the qualifying examination at the time of admission. If they fail to do so, their admission may get cancelled.

The HNLU brochure states that LL.M. eligibility is as per CLAT 2027. Candidates should therefore check both the official CLAT eligibility page and the latest HNLU notice before submitting their documents. If the university issues a rule that is more specific about documents or categories, that current notice should be followed.

HNLU Raipur LL.M. Duration and Course Structure

The HNLU LL.M. is a one-year course divided into two semesters. The programme is designed to develop research skills, legal analysis and independent academic work.

Semester I

The first semester contains three core papers:

•Research Methods and Legal Writing

•Comparative Public Law

•Law and Justice in a Globalizing World

Students also choose three optional papers, subject to the university's rules and the availability of courses.

Semester II

The second semester contains three more optional papers, followed by:

•Dissertation

•Viva voce

The brochure states that evaluation consists of 20 marks for the project and viva and 80 marks for the end-term examination, subject to revision. The dissertation is therefore not a formality. Students should be prepared for sustained reading, legal writing, citation work and research under faculty guidance.

HNLU LL.M. Specialisations and Courses

The HNLU CLAT 2027 brochure lists three specialisations within the one-year LL.M. programme:

1. Corporate Law
2. Technology and Law
3. Intellectual Property Rights Law

The university may offer additional specialisations when available. The brochure states that there is ordinarily a cap of 20 students per specialisation, based on the merit-cum-choice of selected candidates. Optional papers also depend on faculty availability and the number of students who

choose a particular area. Therefore, a specialisation shown in the brochure should not be treated as a guarantee that every possible elective will be offered in the same form every year.

The programme structure allows students to combine the compulsory research papers with specialised study. A candidate interested in corporate practice may prefer Corporate Law, while students interested in digital regulation, emerging technologies, patents, copyright or innovation may consider Technology and Law or Intellectual Property Rights Law.

HNLU Raipur LL.M. Seats and Reservation

For the 2027–28 academic session, the brochure states that the LL.M. intake shall ordinarily be 90 seats under the All India category. The indicative distribution is:

Category	**Seats**
Scheduled Caste	14
Scheduled Tribe	7
Other Backward Classes	24
Unreserved	45
Total	90

The brochure also mentions 5% horizontal reservation for Specially Abled Persons and 30% horizontal reservation for female candidates across categories. It lists two supernumerary seats for wards of Kashmiri migrants and two for students from Jammu and Kashmir.

Seat numbers and reservation rules can change because of government policy or university decisions. Candidates should treat the latest HNLU brochure and admission notice as controlling documents.

HNLU LL.M. fees for 2027–28

The official HNLU CLAT 2027 brochure lists the following annual fee structure for Indian nationals:

Fee head	**Amount**

Admission fee, one time	₹5,000
Tuition fee	₹90,000
Learning Resources Centre	₹10,000
Halls of Residence charges	₹15,000
IT infrastructure	₹10,000
Campus development charge	₹10,000
Students' academic activities	₹6,000
Transportation charges	₹4,000
Medical infrastructure	₹3,000
Electricity and water charges	₹7,000
Examination fee, including thesis evaluation	₹15,000
Caution money, one time and refundable	₹10,000
Total annual fee	₹1,85,000

The total is subject to changes by the university councils. Mess charges are separate and are calculated on the basis of actual contracted charges. The brochure also states that the counselling fee and confirmation fee paid to the CLAT Consortium will be adjusted while paying the university fee.

Students should budget separately for travel, books, personal expenses and mess charges. Before paying, they should download the latest fee notice from the official HNLU website because fee heads may be revised between admission cycles.

HNLU Raipur CLAT PG Cut-off: What Rank is Safe?

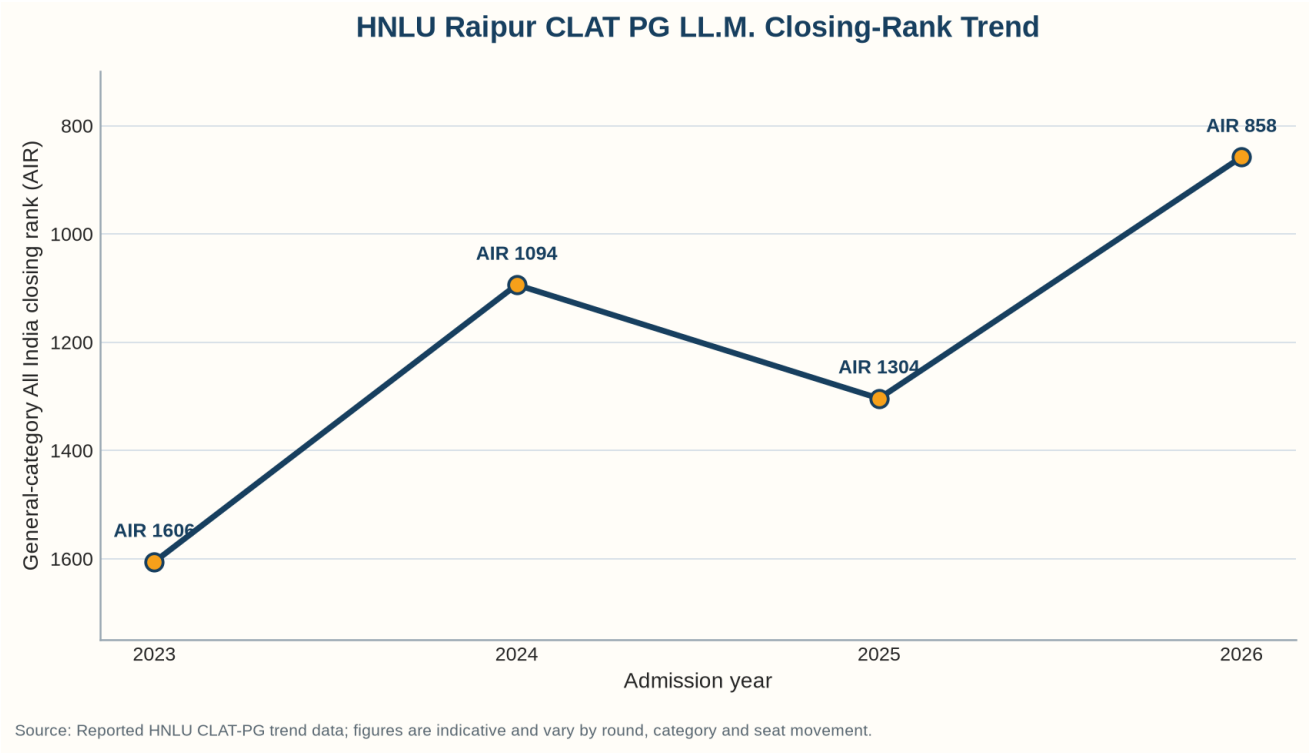
There is no single rank that guarantees admission to HNLU. The closing rank changes according to the number of applicants, paper difficulty, category, seat intake, preferences, counselling round and withdrawals.

For a **General-category** All India candidate, a **rank under 800** may be treated as a strong working target based on recent reported closing ranks. A rank in the **800–1,200** range can remain competitive, especially when seats move in later counselling rounds. Candidates with ranks beyond that should still fill HNLU according to their genuine preference because later-round movement is unpredictable. These are planning bands, not promises of admission.

Candidates belonging to reserved categories should not compare themselves only with the General-category figure. Their relevant category closing rank, seat availability and reservation rules matter more.

Four-year HNLU CLAT PG closing-rank trend

The following graph shows reported General-category All India closing ranks for the HNLU LL.M. through CLAT PG.



Source: Reported HNLU CLAT-PG trend data; figures are indicative and vary by round, category and seat movement.

Admission year	Reported General All India closing rank
2023	AIR 1,606
2024	AIR 1,094

2025	AIR 1,304
2026	AIR 858

HNLU Raipur Ranking

Rankings differ because different organisations use different methods. The HNLU CLAT 2027 brochure states that HNLU has been **ranked fifth** among law colleges in the **India Today MDRA rankings since 2021.** It also states that HNLU was **ranked seventh** in **The Week Hansa Research Survey for 2027**.

These claims should be read as publisher-specific rankings, not as CLAT PG cut-offs. The official NIRF 2025 Law list uses its own indicators, including teaching, research, graduation outcomes, perception and outreach. Students should therefore compare the ranking organisation, year and methodology before drawing conclusions.

For admission purposes, the more direct measure is the CLAT PG rank required for a seat. A strong rank, a suitable preference order and timely counselling participation are more relevant to an individual candidate than a general institutional ranking.

How to Prepare for HNLU through CLAT PG

HNLU LL.M. admission is determined through CLAT PG, so preparation should begin with the Consortium's passage-based format rather than with university-specific factual questions. Read important judgments in full enough to identify the facts, legal issue, ratio and statutory provisions. Alongside this, revise the major subjects listed in the official syllabus.

A practical preparation routine can include one subject revision block, one judgment or statute reading block and a timed passage practice block each day. Keep an error notebook for wrong answers. In a paper with 0.25 negative marking, random guessing can reduce the benefit of correct attempts.

CLATalogue's Top 50 Supreme Court judgments for CLAT PG can help with recent case-law revision. Students can then test their speed through the CLAT PG 2027 full-length mock and use previous-year papers to understand the level and style of passages.

Frequently asked questions

Is the HNLU LL.M. one year or two years?

The regular LL.M. admitted through CLAT PG is a one-year programme divided into two semesters. It includes optional papers, a dissertation and a viva voce. It does not have a separate two year LL.M. program.

Is CLAT PG compulsory for HNLU LL.M. admission?

For the regular one-year LL.M. discussed in the CLAT 2027 brochure, admission is through CLAT PG and the Consortium counselling process.

What is the HNLU LL.M. fee for 2027–28?

The brochure lists an annual total of ₹1,85,000 for Indian nationals. Mess charges are separate, and the fee may be revised by the university councils.

How many LL.M. seats are available at HNLU?

The brochure states that the ordinary intake is 90 All India seats, distributed across categories. Reservation and horizontal reservation rules apply as stated in the current brochure.

What specialisations are offered in the HNLU LL.M.?

The listed specialisations are Corporate Law, Technology and Law, and Intellectual Property Rights Law. Additional specialisations may be offered depending on faculty and student demand.

Is AIR 800 safe for HNLU LL.M.?

AIR 800 can be considered a strong planning target for a General-category All India candidate based on recent reported data, but it is not a guarantee. Category, round, preferences and seat movement can change the outcome.

Can a final-year LL.B. student apply?

Yes. Students appearing for the qualifying examination in 2027 may apply under the CLAT PG rules, but they must produce proof of passing at the time of admission.