BLOGS

LLM Admissions Series (2027) : NLSIU Bangalore

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For postgraduate law aspirants aiming for India's premier legal institution, the National Law School of India University (NLSIU), Bengaluru, remains the gold standard - making it the ideal starting point for our 2027 LLM Admission Series.

Established in 1986 to pioneer legal education reform, NLSIU has secured the No. 1 spot in the Ministry of Education's NIRF rankings for seven consecutive years. Admissions to its flagship one-year **LL.M. (Master of Laws)** programme for the Academic Year 2027–28 are conducted through the Common Law Admission Test (CLAT) administered by the Consortium of National Law Universities.

Whether you are planning your specialisation or budgeting for the year ahead, here is everything you need to know directly from the official NLSIU CLAT Information Brochure (AY 2027-28).

1. Admission Process & Eligibility Criteria

Admission to the on-campus LL.M. programme is strictly merit-based through CLAT-PG, with separate supernumerary provisions for international applicants.

- **Qualifying Degree.** Candidates must hold an LL.B. degree or an equivalent examination with at least **50% marks** (or equivalent grade) for General, OBC, PWD, and EWS categories, and **45% marks** (or equivalent grade) for SC and ST categories.
- **Final-Year Students.** Aspirants appearing for their final LL.B. qualifying exams in March/April 2027 are eligible to apply. Their admission remains provisional until they submit their final marksheet and degree certificate by **September 30, 2027**.
- **Age Limit.** There is no upper age limit to apply for the postgraduate programme.
- **International Candidates.** Foreign nationals are eligible for supernumerary seats through a separate entrance exam called **NLSAT-International**, with details available on the NLSIU Official Website.

2. Programme Structure, Courses & Concentrations

NLSIU's one-year LL.M. is structured across **three trimesters** and emphasizes Socratic classroom discussions, conceptual clarity, and rigorous legal research over rote learning. Students can choose between pursuing a specialized **Concentration** or the flexible **General Stream**.

Specialized Concentrations

NLSIU offers four specialized concentrations, each with a minimum intake of **15 students** and a maximum cap of **30 students**:

1. **Public Law**
2. **Criminal Law**
3. **Commercial Laws**
4. **Law and Technology**

To graduate with a concentration, candidates must complete **3 LL.M. Core Compulsory courses** , **1 Concentration Core course**, **3 Concentration Electives**, **4 General Electives**, and a mandatory third-trimester **Dissertation** in their chosen area of concentration.

General Stream

Aspirants seeking broader interdisciplinary exposure across multiple legal domains can opt for the General Stream. This track requires **3 LL.M. Core Compulsory courses**, **8 General Electives**, and a mandatory third-trimester **Dissertation** in a topic of the student's preference.

Across both tracks, students benefit from over **100 core faculty members** and more than **100 visiting practitioners, senior advocates, and judges** teaching over 100 elective and clinical courses every year.

3. Seat Intake & Reservation Matrix (AY 2027-28)

The total intake for the LL.M. programme is **120 seats**, distributed across vertical and horizontal reservation categories:

Category	Reservation Percentage	Number of Seats
General Category	N/A	**48**
Other Backward Classes (OBC-NCL)	27%	**33**
Scheduled Caste (SC)	15%	**18**
Economically Weaker Section (EWS)	10%	**12**
Scheduled Tribe (ST)	7.5%	**9**
Total Intake	**100%**	**120**

Horizontal Reservations

- **Women. 36 seats** (30% of total intake) are reserved horizontally.
- **Karnataka Students. 30 seats** (25% of total intake) are reserved horizontally (compartmentalised) for candidates who have studied in a recognised educational institution in Karnataka for at least 7 years, or whose parents meet specific Karnataka domicile/service criteria.
- **Persons with Disabilities (PWD). 6 seats** (5% of total intake) are reserved horizontally.

4. Fee Structure & Financial Assistance

The total annual fee for the LL.M. programme (inclusive of refundable deposits) for AY 2027-28 is as follows:

- **General Category: Rs. 5,99,000/-**
- **SC/ST Category: Rs. 5,93,000/-**

(Note: Fees are subject to revision by NLSIU's Governing Bodies, and on-campus hostel accommodation is subject to availability during admissions.)

Scholarships & Education Loans

NLSIU maintains a strict policy that no admitted student should discontinue their studies due to financial hardship.

Close to **10% of the student body** receives financial support via **University Aid**, **External Aid**, or **Third-Party Aid**. Additionally, NLSIU is recognised under the Government of India's **PM-Vidyalaxmi Scheme**, enabling meritorious students to access collateral-free and guarantor-free education loans with no income cap, alongside interest subvention for lower-income families.

5. Campus Life, Library & Career Prospects

Located on a lush **23-acre campus in Nagarbhavi, Bengaluru** (currently expanding by an additional 7 acres), NLSIU offers world-class academic and residential infrastructure.

- **National Law Library.** Spread across 30,000 sq. ft. with seating for nearly 600 users, the Shri Narayan Rao Melgiri Memorial National Law Library houses over 70,000 physical volumes, 30,000+ digitised books, and access to over 13,000 international journals under the ONOS initiative.
- **Holistic Student Experience.** Students are randomly allotted to one of four cross-sectional University Colleges-**Andromeda, Aquila, Orion, and Phoenix**-to foster camaraderie across batches, backed by dedicated mental health and counselling services.
- **Career Services Office (CSO).** The CSO bridges the gap between postgraduate scholars and top recruiters across corporate law firms, litigation chambers, judicial clerkships, policy think tanks, academia, and international organisations.

For further queries or admission updates, aspirants can monitor the Consortium of NLUs Portal or reach out directly via the NLSIU Website.