



The Louis D. Brandeis Center Student Chapter Fact Sheet

The Louis D. Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law

The Louis D. Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law (LDB) is an independent, nonprofit organization established in 2011 to protect the civil and human rights of the Jewish people and promote justice for all. LDB is committed to combating anti-Semitism on college and university campuses across the nation. In a major new initiative, LDB has formed a network of chapters for students at select law schools throughout the United States. These chapters are fostering a new generation of leaders who share LDB's mission. Members enjoy a range of programs and activities that enhance their law school experience and prepare them for successful careers.

In turn, the chapters support LDB's work combating anti-Semitism and anti-Israelism on college and university campuses. Since LDB is an equal opportunity organization, we welcome students of any race, color, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, age, gender or disability.

Why is LDB launching Law Student Chapters?

The LDB chapters will fill an important gap in American legal education, offering the opportunities that members seek, and providing a resource to other members of the university community. In meetings with students and professors nationwide, it became clear that:

- Many law students are eager to combine their legal training with their interest in Jewish civil rights issues, including fighting the contemporary resurgence of global and campus anti-Semitism and the anti-Israel Boycotts, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) Movement. Some students are interested in educational programming, while others want to develop their research and advocacy skills.
- Some undergraduate students feel embattled by political controversies at their institutions, such as movements to boycott the State of Israel, and would like support from law students who are trained in applicable legal areas.
- Few law schools offer meaningful activities for students who share our mission. To be sure, some schools have active Jewish law students' associations that provide important social, cultural and perhaps religious activities, but they seldom provide much substantive legal programming.

What will the programming include?

With our help and student leadership, LDB student chapters host speaker events, lead discussions, and host advocacy-oriented training sessions. Speakers may address topics such as:

- Jewish civil rights advocacy
- Campus anti-Semitism
- International human rights law
- Israel legal advocacy
- Counter-terrorism legal policy.

Working with the national office and associated lawyers, chapters provide or facilitate training on relevant legal topics. Then, as issues arise, we support those chapters that are interested in engaging directly in legal and policy issues that arise, especially in their respective regions.

What is the Campus Anti-Semitism Legal Advocacy Initiative?

LDB has recently launched a new **Legal Advocacy Initiative** that focuses on combating the resurgence of **campus anti-Semitism**. Specifically, we work with **faculty and students** to investigate incidents, work with administration on **procedures and protocols** and file legal complaints when necessary and appropriate.



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Is there any national programming?

Leaders of successful law student chapters will also be invited to attend our national law student leadership conference. Hosted annually, the conference will provide not only intensive education and training, but also valuable networking opportunities, as well as discussions about career options.

Will the LDB Law Student Chapters lead to professional opportunities?

We also provide our chapters with information on LDB [legal clerkships](#), [civil rights legal fellowships](#), and [other opportunities](#). We envision these chapters as a source of education, training, engagement, and advocacy.

Quotes from LDB Law Student Leaders:

"The recent rise in anti-Semitism on university campuses is undeniable and deeply disturbing. Vigorously combating this pernicious trend is one of our generation's great new challenges. It is my hope that our Louis D. Brandeis Center chapter at the University of Chicago Law School will help train our future lawyers in how to do precisely that." --Josh Hammer, University of Chicago Law School

"We are very excited to be partnering with Ken Marcus and the Louis D. Brandeis Center. The new chapter will help us empower our fellow law students by providing them with information and the tools to engage in Jewish, civil rights advocacy. The chapter will also be a springboard for connecting students with attorneys locally, and nationwide. As other law schools form their own LDB Center chapters, we are proud to become part of a nationwide network of law students and attorneys who are pursuing the paramount mission of advancing the civil rights of the Jewish people." -- Paul Geske, Chicago-Kent College of Law

I am interested! Now what?!

If you are interested in helping to organize an LDB law student chapter, please contact Aviva Vogelstein at avogelst@brandeiscenter.com.

LDB Law Student Chapters:

Our law student chapters span across the country from New York to Los Angeles, Seattle to Atlanta, Philadelphia to Chicago, and continues to grow. Our current list of law student chapter can be found below:

Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, New York City, NY
Case Western Reserve University School of Law, Cleveland, OH.
Chicago Kent College of Law, Chicago, IL
City University of New York (CUNY) Law School, Queens, NY
Cornell University School of Law, Ithaca, NY
DePaul University College of Law, Chicago, IL
Emory University School of Law, Atlanta, GA
Harvard University Law School, Cambridge, MA
Loyola University of Chicago School of Law, Chicago, IL
Northeastern University School of Law, Boston, MA
University of California - Berkeley School of Law
University of California – Los Angeles (UCLA) School of Law, Los Angeles, CA
University of Chicago School of Law, Chicago, IL
University of Minnesota Law School
University of Pennsylvania School of Law, Philadelphia, PA
University of St. Thomas School of Law, Minneapolis, MN
University of Virginia School of Law, Charlottesville, VA
University of Washington School of Law, Seattle, WA

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About the Brandeis Center

The Louis D. Brandeis Center, Inc., (LDB) is an independent, nonprofit organization established to advance the civil and human rights of the Jewish people and promote justice for all. The Brandeis Center conducts research, education, and advocacy to combat the resurgence of anti-Semitism on college and university campuses. It is not affiliated with the Massachusetts University, the Kentucky law school, or any of the other institutions that share the name and honor the memory of the late U.S. Supreme Court justice.