

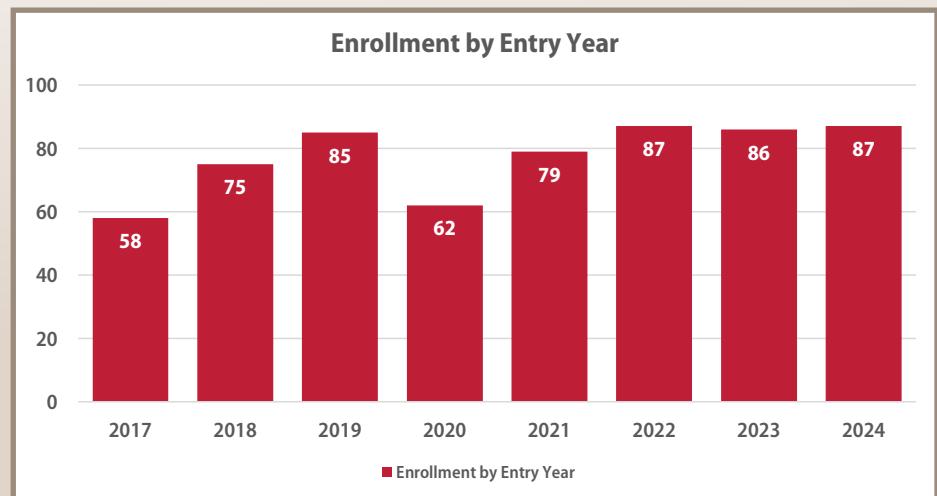


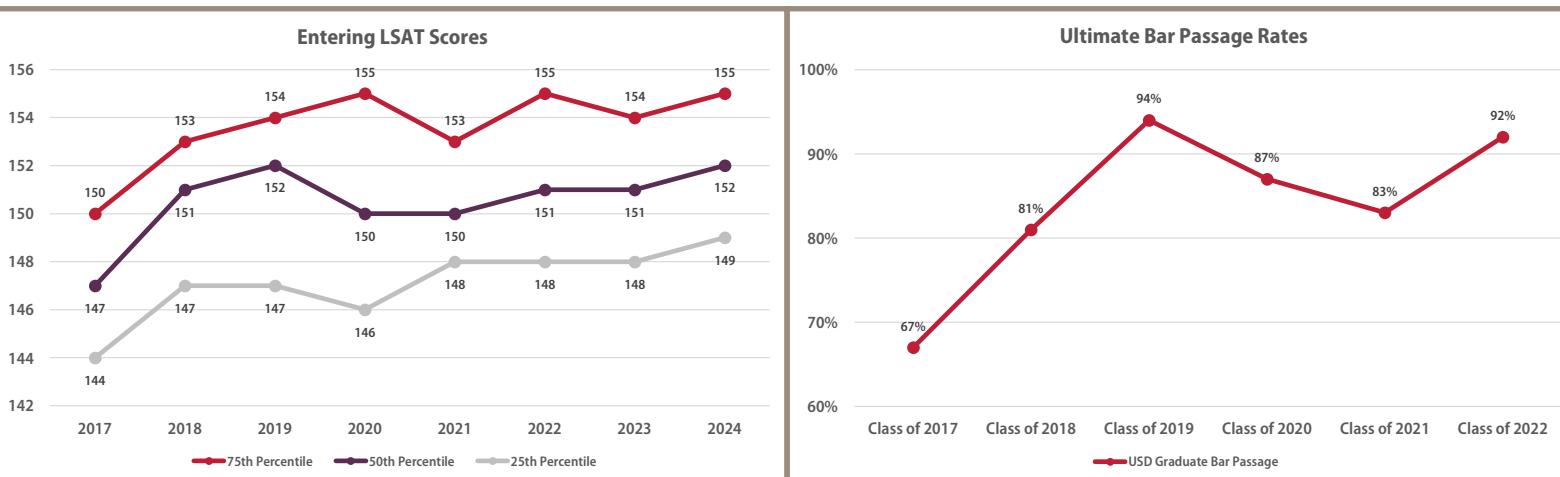
THE 1901 FUND: A COMMUNITY-DRIVEN SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

In the mid-2010s, law schools across the nation saw a dramatic decline in the number and credentials of entering students. A corresponding decline in bar passage followed. USD was not immune to these national trends. Bold steps were required in response. One such step was a visionary investment in scholarships to recruit talented students to the law school.

The 1901 Fund was established to sustain that effort in perpetuity. The 1901 Fund is an endowed scholarship fund that provides a place for everyone to make permanent investments, of any size, in scholarships for the next generation of lawyer leaders. Investing together as a community will sustain our tradition of excellence, service and leadership.

The impact of strategic scholarship investment can be seen clearly in the trends of student numbers, entering credentials and bar passage. Each has dramatically improved. Each demonstrates the transformative impact of the 1901 Fund.





The transformative impact of scholarship investment transcends objective measures. The stories of students demonstrate in a very human way the importance of scholarship investment.



JULIANNE SEVERSON

"My scholarships have made a huge difference in my law school experience. I chose USD Law, in major part, because of the scholarships provided to me, in addition to the excellent academics and supportive community. As I begin to consider where I may work after law school, having received scholarships at USD allows me to prioritize what type of work would be most fulfilling instead of prioritizing which position would cover student loan payments."



ANN MADSON

"My scholarship has made an enormous impact on my experience in law school. The scholarship I received was a large reason why I chose USD Knudson School of Law in the first place. During law school, my scholarship has allowed me to devote all of my time and focus on school and extracurricular activities, such as being an editor for the South Dakota Law Review and participating in various clubs, instead of worrying about finances. I am deeply grateful for the scholarship I received. I can only hope that one day I am able to reciprocate the generosity and kindness demonstrated by donors to the 1901 Fund."



BROCK BROWN

"I have been able to fully devote my time to my legal education. This means that I have been available to take on additional roles within the law school such as a Moot Court member, Student Bar Association president and law ambassador. The 1901 Fund and other scholarships provided by the Knudson School of Law have dramatically reduced my cost of attendance. This low-debt load will allow my family greater financial freedom and opportunity as I begin my legal career."

Investing in student scholarships has literally changed the trajectory of the law school, the lives of students, and the future of South Dakota and the legal profession. There remains work to do, however. It is critical to continue to expand scholarships. The next decade presents a projected decline in college matriculants. In the face of that demographic trend expanded scholarships will be vital for several reasons.

ATTRACTING TOP STUDENTS

Talented students will have more options than ever as schools compete for enrollment. Expanding scholarships helps convince the best and brightest to begin their legal careers in South Dakota.

EXPAND NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS

The USD Knudson School of Law is tremendously affordable. Scholarships pair with low tuition to make it financially accessible for all. Expanding scholarships helps ensure that no talented candidate is turned away because of the cost of attendance.

WIN THE RECRUITING ARMS RACE

Other law schools aggressively seek to buy enrollment. Those efforts will only intensify in the face of declining enrollment. Scholarships are necessary for the law school to win an arms race it didn't start. Failing to keep up will mean falling behind for the legal profession in South Dakota.

PROMOTE PUBLIC SERVICE

Avoiding significant student debt facilitates graduates choosing public service and work in smaller communities. Expanding scholarships help students have the ability to choose where to put their degree to work to make a difference. It is an investment in access to justice.

FACILITATE STUDENT SUCCESS

Scholarships reduce the distractions of outside employment and financial stress. Students who aren't worried about making it financially during law school can focus on their studies, explore enriching extracurriculars and develop the well-rounded minds that great lawyers need.

“

The 1901 Fund and other scholarships provided by the Knudson School of Law have dramatically reduced my cost of attendance. This low-debt load will allow my family greater financial freedom and opportunity as I begin my legal career.

—Brock Brown

“

As I begin to consider where I may work after law school, having received scholarships at USD allows me to prioritize what type of work would be most fulfilling, instead of prioritizing which position would cover student loan payments.

—Julianne Severson



Since 1901 the law school has been a community of excellence, service and leadership. Attracting and developing great minds is foundational to sustaining those values. Investment in scholarships has helped our community meet the challenges of recent years. Your additional investment will sustain these values and push the law school community to greater heights.

Please join these efforts with your generous investment in the 1901 fund.



**PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE TO INVEST,
OR VISIT USD.EDU/LAW TO LEARN MORE.**



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH DAKOTA
FOUNDATION & ALUMNI

1110 N. Dakota Street | Vermillion, SD 57069

USD Foundation & Alumni Association
800-521-3575 | www.usdalumni.com