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## **ABA, IU McKinney School of Law to co-launch Pathway to Law online program**

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WASHINGTON, Oct. 23 2017 — The American Bar Association [Office of Diversity and Inclusion](#) has partnered with the Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law in Indianapolis to co-launch the Pathway to the Law online program, a three-year pilot project to create a pipeline for underrepresented students into legal education and ultimately the profession.

The program, funded with a \$250,000 grant from the ABA, begins next spring and will be based at the McKinney School of Law with an initial class of 50 students. The program's intent is to help undergraduate students develop their skills in critical thinking, reading comprehension as well as study and test preparation strategies. It also aims to broaden their understanding of the legal profession and give them access to mentors and networking opportunities as early as possible.

"I am very proud that the IU McKinney School of Law is at the forefront of national efforts to achieve greater inclusion and diversity in the legal profession," said Andrew R. Klein, dean of the Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law. "We are excited to work with the ABA, utilizing both online resources and a personal approach to introduce a new generation of talented students to the field of law."

The curriculum will include four online courses, including: Introduction to the Legal Profession, Legal Writing Skills, Critical Thinking and Comprehension Skills and Advanced Critical Thinking and Comprehension Skills. Courses will be designed in conjunction with E-Learning Design Services, the primary online design arm of the Indiana University Office of Online Education.

Courses will be designed and taught by law school staff and one or more partner undergraduate institutions. Students will also be mentored by attorneys, current law students and law faculty members.

Students can apply to the program at <https://mckinneylaw.iu.edu/admissions/jd/diversity/pathway-to-the-law.html>.

Depending on the program's success, the ABA could expanded it nationally in the future.