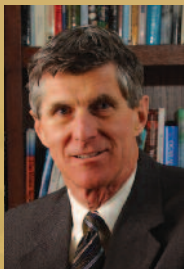




COLORADO LAW

# LOAN REPAYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

*Making Public Interest  
Careers Possible*



“We are proud of the long tradition of public service at Colorado Law and are committed to enabling

our students to continue this tradition by providing access to the legal system for disadvantaged and underrepresented clients in need of first-rate lawyers.”

**David Getches**

DEAN AND RAPHAEL J. MOSES PROFESSOR  
OF NATURAL RESOURCES LAW



COLORADO LAW



## **Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP) Helps Students Serve the Public**

Burdened by educational debt from rising law school costs, many law students hesitate to choose meaningful, low-paying government or nonprofit jobs. Colorado Law's alumni, students, faculty, and staff came together to create LRAP to provide partial loan repayment awards to graduates who choose public interest jobs. LRAP provides students and recent graduates with the freedom to choose public interest work.

### *Whom does LRAP benefit?*

- Recent graduates who need help repaying their law school loans in order to be able to afford to do public interest work
- Disadvantaged clients in need of first-rate representation for their critical legal needs
- State and local communities that run on tight budgets
- Colorado Law by helping to attract highly qualified applicants who plan to work in public interest jobs after graduation

## **Public Interest Legal Work Is Vital to the Legal Process**

Access to justice is severely limited when qualified law graduates are unable to pursue and remain in public service careers. The legal community and our society need lawyers who want to serve their communities.

As law student debts increase, the disparity between private and public sector salaries remains large. For this reason, public service employers have difficulty attracting and retaining law graduates, many of whom leave the public sector for higher salaries within a couple of years—just as they have gained enough experience to provide valuable services to their employers and clients. LRAP awards enable graduates to reduce their debt payments significantly so that they have the option to remain in public service longer.



“The University of Colorado Law School has made a commitment to its graduates having the opportunity for careers providing legal services to

those who otherwise couldn't afford it. The Loan Repayment Assistance Program helps relieve the financial burden of student loans, allowing the graduate to choose a career in public service that they otherwise could not afford to undertake.”

**David Juarez, '83**

# 2010 Colorado Law Data

## Starting Salaries (Median)

Private Practice	\$80,000
Public Interest	\$48,996

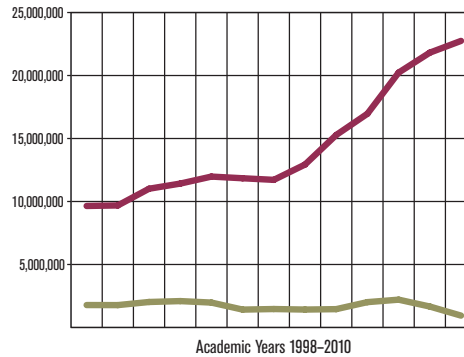
## Debt Burdens

- 25% of students who borrowed have principal debt amounts exceeding \$92,000
- Students borrow as much as \$139,739 (plus private loans)

## Debt Burden Limits Career Options

With state support for higher education declining and law school tuition rising faster than the rate of inflation, student loans are increasing to keep pace. Colorado Law's faculty, students, and alumni are more committed than ever to helping those graduates who choose to pursue worthy public interest employment.

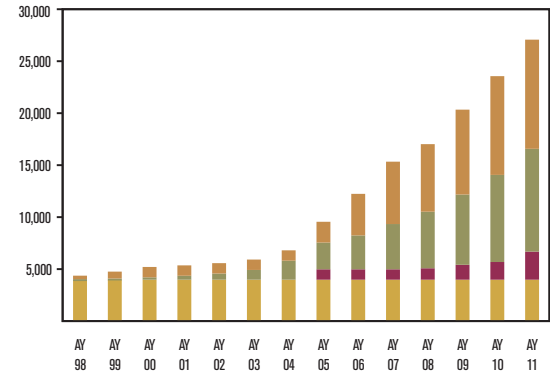
State support vs. total revenue\*



— Total revenue  
— State support

\*Total revenue amounts exclude indirect overhead charges. Graph reflects amounts reported to American Bar Association in its annual survey.

Resident tuition buildup (1L tuition)



■ Law School share of tuition differential  
■ Campus tuition increase  
■ Campus share of tuition differential (including AY 2011 \$800 "campus only" amount)  
■ Base tuition AY '97

## General Qualifications

Qualifying University of Colorado Law School graduates are eligible to receive LRAP awards for up to three years. To be eligible, a Colorado Law graduate must be a licensed, full-time lawyer working in a public interest capacity:

- Directly on behalf of economically disadvantaged clients, for or under the direction of an organization described in Internal Revenue Code (“IRC”) Section 501(c)(3);
- For an organization described in IRC Section 501(c)(3); or
- For a national, state, or local government agency.

Examples include legal services, public defender offices, environmental organizations, or human rights advocacy groups.

The applicant’s annual salary must not exceed \$55,000 (subject to annual increases).



“Many students come to Colorado Law with the goal of becoming public interest lawyers. Unfortunately, the burden of student loans often precludes

graduates from taking lower salary jobs. By assisting recent graduates with their loan repayments, LRAP helps those initial dreams come true.”

**Roger Flynn, '91**

(CLASS OF '91 ESTABLISHED THE SEED MONEY FOR LRAP)

## LRAP Funds Are a Strategic Priority

Just as many Colorado Law scholarships help provide students access to legal education, LRAP helps our recent graduates follow their passions and pursue public interest careers. And just as scholarship gifts profoundly change lives, so too will gifts to support LRAP—a program that addresses the needs of the public, the non-profit community, and our service-minded graduates.

To this end, Colorado Law is determined to make LRAP an endowed program robust enough to ensure that all of our students—regardless of their financial background or debt burden—will be able to pursue legal careers in the public sector.

If you would like to make a donation, please contact John Pepperdine, Director of Development, at 303-492-1215 or [john.pepperdine@cufund.org](mailto:john.pepperdine@cufund.org).



“I chose to leave my 10-year career as an educator so that I could pursue a career in public interest law. Now, as I watch my educational debt grow, I more fully appreciate the difficulty of choosing to pursue a low-paying public interest job when I graduate. LRAP helps students like me choose work they are passionate about—to help those those in need. The program was one of the reasons I chose to attend Colorado Law, and I believe it is one of the most important programs that a law school can offer.”

**Michelle Albert, '08**

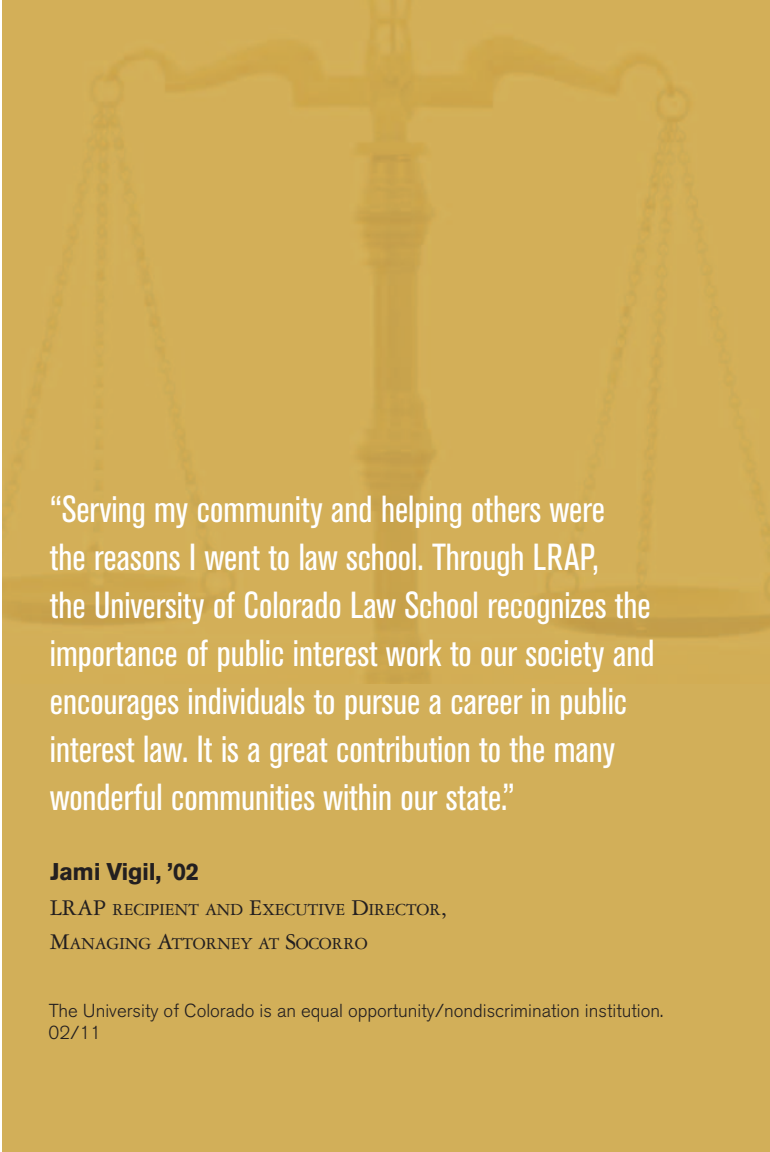


University of Colorado **Boulder**

**Law School**

401 UCB

Boulder, CO 80309-0401

A large, faint background image of a pair of scales of justice, centered on the right side of the page. The scales are rendered in a light gold color against a darker gold background.

“Serving my community and helping others were the reasons I went to law school. Through LRAP, the University of Colorado Law School recognizes the importance of public interest work to our society and encourages individuals to pursue a career in public interest law. It is a great contribution to the many wonderful communities within our state.”

**Jami Vigil, '02**

LRAP RECIPIENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,  
MANAGING ATTORNEY AT SOCORRO

The University of Colorado is an equal opportunity/nondiscrimination institution.  
02/11