INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH LAW & POLICY

at the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law
THE MISSION of the Institute for Health Law & Policy (iHeLP) covers three areas: Education, Scholarship and Service. Each area is grounded by an overarching mission to use law and policy to advance health.

MEMPHIS AS A HUB FOR HEALTHCARE
Healthcare is one of Memphis’ most prominent and important industries, with the Greater Memphis area emerging as a leading medical and bioscience center. Shelby County is home to more than 16 different hospitals, including internationally-renowned St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital and hospitals within two major health systems – Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare and Baptist Memorial Health Care. It’s also home to divisional or corporate headquarters to orthopedic and medical device leaders Medtronic, MicroPort Orthopedics, Smith & Nephew and Wright Medical.

EDUCATIONAL goals focus on developing competencies and skills in law students for interdisciplinary, client- and mission-driven practice via traditional coursework, externships and other skills-based opportunities, and scholarship. Focus areas cover traditional health law practice, as well as public health and health system policy and science/biotechnology. Faculty have expertise in a diverse array of health law fields and are also drawn from the surrounding community – who bring a critical practice-based orientation to education.

SCHOLARSHIP opportunities open up for students the possibility for self-directed and faculty-sponsored research, both within and transcending the law school’s boundaries, to include, for example, collaboration with affiliated faculty with the School of Public Health and the Loewenberg College of Nursing at the University of Memphis, as well as the University of Tennessee Health Science Center.

SERVICE extends iHeLP’s reach into the community where the Institute endeavors to: address unmet health law issues of local organizations and communities, host community forums on health law and policy issues, and work with community leaders to proactively address health policy needs.
We learn by doing; we truly “achieve” our mission only by helping to address, in partnership with others, policy obstacles or gaps that impede the health of the Memphis community. Our mission requires a commitment to civic engagement and collaboration, the very commitments and skills that are necessary ingredients for a successful health law career.
Memphis Law students can take advantage of the robust healthcare industry in the Mid-South through the School of Law’s Health Law certificate program. This program offers a wide selection of courses intended to give students specialized knowledge of the healthcare field, as well as the complex policy areas surrounding the industry.

Certificate Requirements
- 15 Credits, covering the Core Curriculum (Health Law and Administrative Law) and 9 Elective Credits, which must include writing and skills credits
- 25 hours of non-coursework in health law
- GPA requirements: 3.0 minimum for certificate classes; 2.0 minimum overall classes; 2.5 overall in foundational courses (Torts I and II, and Constitutional Law)

Memphis Law has partnered with the School of Public Health at the University of Memphis to offer a unique opportunity for attorneys to obtain a Master of Public Health degree in 12-months. Termed the "Fast Track MPH," the MPH is earned in an intensive full-time format in which attorneys attend classes during the evening and online for three consecutive semesters (fall, spring, summer). As part of their coursework, students also complete a 240-hour community-based practicum.

The 42-credit program is designed to allow attorneys to extend their advocacy skills to a population health perspective and gain substantive knowledge in applying law and policy to public health problems. Special expertise will be gained in urban public health issues, health systems, public health policy and environmental health advocacy. The program prepares attorneys for leadership in addressing public health policy issues related to access to healthcare, health reform, environmental justice and social concerns that affect health equity.
FACULTY

Amy Campbell
Director, Institute of Health Law & Policy; Associate Professor of Law

Professor Campbell leads the Institute. She was formerly associate professor of Bioethics and Humanities at SUNY Upstate Medical University, with a background in teaching health law and ethics to medical, nursing and graduate basic science students, and health policy to an interdisciplinary mix of professional students. In 2014, she was selected as one of ten inaugural “Future of Public Health Law Education” Faculty Fellows by a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation-funded program. She received her JD from Yale Law School, her Masters in Bioethics from the University of Pennsylvania and her BA from the University of Notre Dame.

Alena M. Allen
Associate Professor of Law

Professor Allen joined the School of Law faculty in August 2010. Prior to joining the Memphis Law faculty, Professor Allen worked as an associate in the food and drug group at Arnold & Porter. Additionally, she has served on the selection committee for the Food and Drug Law Institute’s Thomas Austern Memorial Writing Competition. Professor Allen received her juris doctorate degree from Yale Law School and her Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Loyola University New Orleans.

Kathryn Ramsey
Assistant Professor of Law; Director, Medical-Legal Partnership Clinic

Prior to joining Memphis Law in 2018, Professor Ramsey served as a Visiting Associate Professor of Clinical Law and a Visiting Associate Professor/Friedman Fellow of Law at the George Washington University Law School, where she supervised students in the Prisoner & Reentry Clinic, handling civil legal matters for current and formerly incarcerated individuals, as well as teaching related skills and substantive courses.

ADJUNCT FACULTY

Tony Alexander, JD – Of Counsel, Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC (teaches Food & Drug Law)

John D. Fabian, JD – Assistant U.S. Attorney (teaches White Collar Crime with health focus)

McGehee Marsh, JD – Senior Counsel, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital (health-focused Externship Seminar)

E. Haavi Morreim, JD, PhD – Professor, University of Tennessee Health Science Center (teaches Bioethics & the Law)

EXTERNSHIP SUPERVISORS

Steve Barlow – Memphis City Attorney’s Office

Martha Birkhead – Regional One Health

Laurie Christensen – Baptist Memorial Health Care Corporation

McGehee Marsh – St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital

Waid Ray – Baptist Memorial Health Care Corporation

Carla Robbins – Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare

Janet Shipman – Shelby County Health Department

Laura Sy – Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare

Monica Wharton – Regional One Health
COMMUNITY
We are striving to make a meaningful difference in the Memphis community for generations to come. Policy and legislative changes in healthcare can help change the way not simply Memphians live, but also how Memphis as a community fosters and protects the health of its members and neighborhoods. The Institute strives to address unmet health law issues of local organizations and communities, host community forums on health law and policy issues, and work with community leaders to proactively address health policy needs.

HEALTHY HOMES PARTNERSHIP
The Healthy Homes Partnership was established through the leadership of the Institute of Health Law & Policy and Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital, and now includes city, county, health system, business, law and community development leaders. It was formed to find comprehensive solutions to eliminate environmental and safety hazards in housing, to promote collaboration between housing and legal services agencies and healthcare providers, and to advance best practices and strategies, including policy and regulatory changes to increase the availability of and access to healthy housing for all Memphis-area residents. Its mission is to ensure “every child in Memphis grows up in a healthy home.”

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES
Through the strong relationships the Institute has made in the Memphis healthcare community, a number of experiential learning opportunities are available to students.

Externships
Baptist Memorial Health Care Corporation
Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare
Regional One Health
St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital
Shelby County Health Department
Memphis City Attorney’s Office - Anti-Blight Division

Legal Clinic
Elder Law Health Clinic, Memphis CHiLD (a Medical-Legal Partnership with Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare and Memphis Area Legal Services)

MEMPHIS CHiLD
Memphis Law, Memphis Area Legal Services (MALS) and Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital have collaborated to create the Memphis CHiLD (Children’s Health Law Directive) Medical-Legal Partnership, the first medical-legal partnership of its kind in the region. In addition to a variety of training programs and education, bi-directional partnerships, Memphis CHiLD also consists of an on-site legal clinic located at Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital.
IHELP POLICY LAB

To manifest the Institute mission and link its service and educational goals with unique possibilities for scholarship, the Institute launched the iHeLP Policy Lab to foster policy-based service work through interdisciplinary, community-focused engagement.

With support of the ACE Awareness Foundation, the Policy Lab’s first initiative focused on supporting system-level health policy change in the Mid-South Community for the specific purpose of childhood trauma mitigation and reduction through policy research, policy advising, and drafting new policies. Additional support of the Urban Child Institute expands and deepens the work of the Policy Lab, now the policy core to the University’s new iIMPACT initiative. Specifically, the Policy Lab: iIMPACT Initiative – through policy research, capacity-building, and as facilitator of community conversations – helps further the goals of building a “culture of health” for children and families in Memphis. In the short term, it will help connect data and case “stories” to policy, with a long-term goal to facilitate upstream change for systemic, collective impact benefiting children and families in Memphis.

Building on this model, the iHeLP Policy Lab will continue to seek out opportunities to partner in and with the community to address policy-related obstacles to community health and well-being.