

Transportation Law



What is Transportation Law?

Transportation law concerns federal and state statutes regarding all forms of transportation. Congress holds the power to regulate interstate commerce under the United States Constitution. The Federal Transit Laws are codified at [49 U.S.C. 5332\(b\)](#) concerning when federal funds are used to acquire, improve, or operate a mass transit system. Chapter 49 establishes agencies within the U.S. government that create transportation regulations and oversee transportation within and across state lines.

According to the [American Bar Association](#), the transportation and energy industries are a bedrock of the United States and global economy. Both industries intersect with antitrust, environmental, and administrative law.

Where Do Transportation Lawyers Work?

Government

[U.S. Department of Transportation](#)—National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Federal Aviation Administration, Office of Inspector General, Federal Highway Administration, Pipeline Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Federal Railroad Administration, Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, Federal Transit Administration, Maritime Administration

[Tennessee Department of Transportation](#)

Private Sector

Private firms handle contracts and tort litigation in the area of transportation law. Transactional attorneys handle drafting contracts and bidding for federally and state-funded infrastructure.

What Classes Should I Take?

- Civil Procedure
- Contracts
- Torts
- Administrative Law
- Employee Benefits
- Tax Law
- Professional Responsibility
- Legal Methods
- Business Organizations
- Economic Analysis of the Law
- Constitutional Law

Transportation Law Resources



Resume Boosters for Transportation Law

Intern or extern with Memphis and Shelby County Airport Authority, FedEx, Memphis City Attorney's Office, and the Shelby County Attorney's Office

Intern or extern with another state or federal transportation agency

Work at a law firm that handles state and federal regulatory work

Clerk for a federal judge

Professional Associations

American Bar Association

All University of Memphis law students have free membership to the [American Bar Association](#). Their website provides routinely updated information and interest-specific career advice. Join different sections to find out what they offer. Check out the [Infrastructure and Regulated Industries Section](#), the [Section of Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice](#), the [Section of Public Contract Law](#), and the [Government and Public Sector Lawyers Division](#).

Transportation Lawyers Association

The [Transportation Lawyers Association](#) ("TLA") is an independent bar association, comprised of in-house government and private practice attorneys. Its members assist providers and commercial users of domestic and international logistics and transportation services in all modes. The TLA has a [Career Center](#) with both transportation related and non-transportation related job postings.

Transportation Law Links

Blogs

[Truck Law Blog](#)

[Train Law Blog](#)

Podcasts

[The War on Cars](#)

[Streets Ahead](#)

[Sustainability Defined](#)