

# Transactional Law Practice Center



N O R T H E R N K E N T U C K Y U N I V E R S I T Y

**“When I was a partner at my law firm, one thing that our newly hired attorneys lacked was skills. Through programs, workshops, and courses offered through the center, we will bridge that gap. Students who complete our Certificate in Transactional Law program will leave NKU Chase with not only the knowledge, but the skills to be an immediate asset to any firm or company.”**

— PROFESSOR SHERRY P. PORTER, DIRECTOR

**The Transactional Law Practice Center**, the college of law’s newest center of excellence, offers a student-focused specialized program designed to help students develop the basic transactional practice skills and acquire the knowledge of allied fields such as accounting and finance that they will need to become successful transactional lawyers. Drawing on the resources and talents of a unique partnership of practicing lawyers, faculty members, and business leaders, the center offers students innovative training in such fundamental transactional skills as interviewing, negotiating, drafting, business planning, and client counseling. The center also offers specialized courses, workshops, and other programs in related disciplines such as accounting and corporate finance that students will need to understand to appreciate the business aspects of commercial transactions.

At the heart of the center’s activities is the Transactional Law Practice Group, a student organization open to all students from the first day of their studies. The organization offers students opportunities to design many aspects of the center’s activities, including opportunities to meet with transactional lawyers from all fields of law as well as participate in center-supported CLE programs and bar association programs.

## **What Is Transactional Law?**

Basically, if it’s not criminal or civil litigation, it’s transactional law. Most lawyers are transactional lawyers. Transactional lawyers are problem solvers; they are ‘can do’ lawyers. They help their clients achieve their goals ethically and legally.

### **Transactional Law encompasses:**

- formation and governance of businesses and non-profit organizations
- contract negotiations and drafting
- real estate transactions
- closing of a multi-million dollar merger

**“The Transactional Law Practice Center is designed to provide NKU Chase students the opportunity to learn the practical skills necessary to become successful transactional attorneys. This is a unique opportunity to learn in law school the skills that would take us one to two years of practice to acquire.”**

— JONATHAN COLLINS, 3L STUDENT, PRESIDENT, CHASE TRANSACTIONAL LAW PRACTICE GROUP

### **The Transactional Law Practice Center’s programming includes:**

- Annual Business Boot Camp
- Certificate in Transactional Law
- Essential Skills Workshops
- Externship Opportunities
- Featured Lectures and Seminars
- Interscholastic Competition Teams
- Joint MBA/JD degree program
- Mentor Program
- Practitioners-in-Residence
- Transactional Law Skills Courses

### **Certificate in Transactional Law**

Students interested in transactional law will learn not only the law but the skills that are required to be a transactional attorney in today’s fast paced legal field. Students take an exciting array of transactional courses, participate in legal externships and perform transactional related *pro bono* projects to hone their legal skills so that they can be an immediate asset to a firm or company upon graduation and passing the bar exam.

The courses, externships and *pro bono* experiences are designed to provide Chase students with the opportunity to focus their skills on the type of law practice they intend to pursue, and to demonstrate to prospective legal employers that they are practice-ready on the day they graduate from law school. This certificate is designed to make the transition from law study to law practice as seamless as possible.

### **Innovative Programming**

The center’s “Business Boot Camp” is NKU Chase’s innovative program designed to enable law students to view transactions through the eyes of their future business clients. During the camp, students work in teams to solve a typical business problem. Guest lecturers from the fields of accounting, finance, human resources, insurance, and banking help teams analyze various aspects of the problem. On the final day of the camp, teams present their proposed solutions to a “Board of Directors” of top Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky business leaders. Participation in the Boot Camp helps students to appreciate the many risks and problems that clients confront. As a consequence, students are better able to understand the role that law plays in the risk-rich world of business.



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