



Pepperdine University

☆ #80
U.S. News & World Report, 2025



Pepperdine University, located in the stunning coastal city of Malibu, California, is a private university renowned for its breathtaking campus—ranked among the Top 20 Most Beautiful Campuses by The Princeton Review. Guided by Christian values, the university emphasizes mission, service, and leadership, preparing students to make a positive global impact. It is situated just an hour from downtown Los Angeles and has a total enrollment of 13,516.

Specialized Excellence in Graduate Studies

Pepperdine is home to several highly-regarded professional schools, all of which benefit from the university's stunning location and strong global reputation.

- **Graziadio School of Business:** The business school combines practical learning with innovation, offering curricula that reflect the latest industry trends. Its global perspective is highly recognized, with its MBA ranking among the top 25 globally by CEO Magazine. The school is ranked #95 (tie) among Best Business Schools by U.S. News & World Report (2024).
- **School of Public Policy (SPP):** The SPP boasts a strong alumni network in government, the World Bank, NGOs, and think tanks, particularly in Southern California and Washington, D.C.. It is consistently a top choice for the Master of Public Policy (MPP) according to NCES, and is ranked in the top 10 for Western public policy programs. The program maintains an excellent 5:1

student-to-faculty ratio, ensuring a supportive and highly engaged learning environment.

- **Caruso School of Law:** A prestigious law school consistently ranked among the best. It is ranked #52 by U.S. News (2024) and is nationally recognized as Top 2 in Dispute Resolution. It is ranked #29 among Best Law Schools by The Princeton Review.

Prime Location and Career Advantage

Pepperdine's Malibu location, an hour from downtown Los Angeles, offers easy access to a massive concentration of businesses and career opportunities across various sectors. Students in the Business School, for example, have a distinct advantage in accessing the thriving L.A. business landscape. Furthermore, the School of Public Policy's interdisciplinary approach, which integrates quantitative analysis with strategy and communications, prepares graduates for successful careers in complex policy environments.

Program Offering and Important Dates for Direct Master's Admission

(Deadlines are subject to change by the university.
Please confirm on the official website.)

TestTest	Minimum Score	Term
Business School	Spring	October 1
Business School	Fall	May 28
Law School	Spring	October 1
Law School	Fall	June 15
Public Policy School	Fall	June 1

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Admission Requirements

(Detailed requirements are subject to the official university website)

Academic Requirements

- **School of Business & Law School:** A minimum undergraduate GPA of 2.6 is required.
- **School of Public Policy:** A minimum undergraduate GPA of 2.0 is required.
- **WES/NACES Evaluation:** For the Law School and Public Policy School, a NACES evaluation is required for all non-U.S. transcripts. For the Business School, NACES evaluation is required for non-U.S. degrees.

English Language Requirements

(The university does not accept Duolingo or TOEFL MyBest scores for the Business and Law Schools)

School	TOEFL (iBT)	IELTS	Duolingo
School of Business	90 (Accept Home Edition) ETS Score reporting code: 7485	6.0	Not accepted
Caruso School of Law	95 (Accept Home Edition)	6.5	Not accepted
School of Public Policy	95 (Home Edition NOT accepted) ETS Score reporting code: 4630	7.0	125

Language Test Waiver Policies:

- **School of Business:** Applicants with a bachelor's and/or graduate degree from a U.S. accredited college or university, or a degree from a foreign institution where the language of instruction was English, may be eligible for a waiver.
- **Law School:** Applicants seeking a waiver must submit their application materials to strasusadmissions@pepperdine.edu for review, and if approved, an online interview will be scheduled.
- **School of Public Policy:** Applicants who have completed four or more years at a regionally accredited English-taught institution may be exempt.



- **Law School Note:** Applicants whose TOEFL/IELTS scores are just below the minimum required can request a Zoom English Assessment with Krestina Torrosian, Senior Manager, Recruitment and Admissions within the Law School. Okay to contact directly at krestina.torossian@pepperdine.edu and cc amy.cruz@shorelight.com.

Other Application Requirements

The GRE/GMAT is optional for all three schools. In addition to transcripts and test scores, applicants must submit the following materials:

- **Law School Note:** Applicants whose TOEFL/IELTS scores are just below the minimum required can request a Zoom English Assessment with Krestina Torrosian, Senior Manager, Recruitment and Admissions within the Law School. Okay to contact directly at krestina.torossian@pepperdine.edu and cc amy.cruz@shorelight.com
- **School of Business:** Requires a Personal Statement (recommended to highlight strengths related to the program) and a CV, with one optional Recommendation Letter.
- **Caruso School of Law:** Requires a Personal Statement, a CV/Resume, and one Recommendation Letter.
- **School of Public Policy:** Requires a Personal Statement (2-3 page essay), a CV, two Recommendation Letters (preferably one academic and one professional), and a separate Moral Dilemma Essay (1-2 pages).

Estimate Tuition and Cost

(Final information is subject to change by the university for the 2025-2026 academic year)

The estimated cost of living expense is \$27,080 per year (for two terms). Estimated tuition for the first 2-3 terms for select graduate programs is:

- Graduate Law Certificate: \$71,960
- Graduate Law LLM, Standard Entry: \$61,680
- Graduate Law Master of Dispute Resolution: \$66,820
- Graduate Public Policy, Standard Entry: \$47,410
- Graduate, MS Applied Finance: \$84,405
- Graduate, MS Business: \$86,760
- Graduate, MS Business Analytics: \$95,775
- Graduate, MS Global Business: \$98,565
- Graduate, MS Real Estate: \$100,665
- Graduate, Master of Business Administration: \$85,230

The Application Guidance Through the Shorelight Admissions Portal

School of Business

STEP 1 | Submit via Shorelight Admissions Portal only

- 1.Go to the Shorelight admission portal: <https://admissions.shorelight.com/login>
- 2.Click"Apply Now" in the top right corner to start your application.
- 3.Begin filling in your basic information. (For the email address, please be sure to provide an accurate address that belongs to the student. This email must be consistent with the one used for the official university application.)
- 4.Select Pepperdine University, then choose your desired program and the correct start term.

Materials Required for Shorelight Portal

- 1.University Transcripts (GPA 2.6 or above)
- 2.English proficiency scores: TOEFL iBT 90 / IELTS 6.0

STEP 2 | Submit Official Application to the University

- 1.Apply via the Pepperdine Graziadio Business School CAS Application:
[<https://bschool.pepperdine.edu/admission/application/>] (<https://bschool.pepperdine.edu/admission/application/>) , please select your intake term under "Start Your Application"
2. Important:
When asked: "Are you applying with the support of a Shorelight educational advisor or via a Shorelight admissions platform?"
Answer "Yes"and provide your Shorelight ID.
3. Required Materials:
 - Transcripts: Minimum GPA 2.6; NACES evaluation required for non-U.S. degrees
 - English Proficiency: TOEFL iBT 90 / IELTS 6.0 | School Code: 7485
 - Personal Statement (recommended to highlight strengths related to the program)
 - CV (work experience preferred for MBA, but not required)
 - 1 Recommendation Letter (optional)
 - Recommenders may email letters directly to: PGBS.Admission@pepperdine.edu
4. After Admission:
 - Accept your offer via WaveNet student portal (instructions will be emailed)
 - Submit the Intent to Enroll Form
 - Pay the \$1,000 enrollment deposit
 - Complete the International Student Data (ISD) Form for I-20 processing
 - Contact PGBS.Admission@pepperdine.edu for support.

Notes:

1. Business School: After submitting the SL Portal application, you must also complete the separate application on the official Business School website.
2. Business School Application Fee Waiver:
On the Business CAS application, when asked:
"Are you applying with the support of a Shorelight educational advisor or via a Shorelight admissions platform?"
You must answer "Yes" and provide your Shorelight ID to qualify for the application fee waiver and be recognized as a partnership student.

School of Law

STEP 1 | Submit via Shorelight Admissions Portal only

1. Shorelight Portal Application
Log in to the Shorelight Admission Portal: [<https://admissions.shorelight.com/login>] Select Pepperdine University, then choose your program and intake term. Submit all required documents through the SL portal. After the application is complete, Shorelight Admissions will forward your materials to Pepperdine Law School for review.
2. SL Portal Document Checklist
 - 1)Transcript: Minimum GPA 2.6+. NACES evaluation is required for all non-U.S. transcripts. The school will create an LSAC account for the student.
 - 2)(If the student already has an LSAC account with a CAS Report from previous applications, NACES evaluation is not required.)
 - 3)Language Scores: TOEFL iBT 95 or IELTS 6.5.

- 4)Alternatively, if the student believes they qualify for an English proficiency waiver, they may request an online interview.
- 5)(Submit a written statement outlining how the requirement is met, along with supporting documents, to strasadmissions@pepperdine.edu.)
- 6)GRE/GMAT: Optional
- 7)Personal Statement
- 8)CV/Resume
- 9)One Recommendation Letter
 - a)Option 1: Upload a signed PDF letter on official letterhead (with recommender's contact information at the bottom) to the "Miscellaneous" section of the SL Portal Checklist.
 - b)Option 2: Have the recommender email the letter directly to StrausAdmissions@pepperdine.edu. (Upload a completed *Recommendation Letter Information Collection Form* with recommender details and student signature to the "Miscellaneous" section.)

STEP 2 | After Receiving Your Admission Offer

1)Accept your offer via the Pepperdine University WaveNet student portal. Continue to monitor your university account for updates.

*(Instructions will be included in your admission email. For support, contact Straus Admissions@pepperdine.edu)

2)Next Steps:

- a)Submit the online Intent to Enroll Form
- b)Pay the \$1,000 enrollment deposit
- c)Complete the International Student Data (ISD) Form to receive your I-20

Notes:

1. Law School: No separate application required.
2. School of Law Applicants whose TOEFL/IETLS score just below min required score can request for Zoom English Assessment with Krestina Torrosian, Senior Manager, Recruitment and Admissions within the Law School. Suggest to contact directly at krestina.torossian@pepperdine.edu and cc amy.cruz@shorelight.com

School of Public Policy

STEP 1 | Submit via Shorelight Admissions Portal only

1.Shorelight Portal Application

Log in to the Shorelight Admission Portal: <https://admissions.shorelight.com/login>. Select Pepperdine University, then choose your program and intake term.

2.Submit all required documents through the SL Portal for comprehensive review by the university.

Required Documents for SL Portal Submission:

- a)Transcripts: Minimum GPA 2.0. Non-U.S. transcripts require NACES certification.
- b)English Proficiency Scores: TOEFL iBT 95 / IELTS 7.0 / Duolingo 130.
- c)GRE/GMAT: Optional.
- d)Pepperdine, and any additional information for the admissions committee.
- e)CV
- f)The personal statement (2-3 page essay) indicating interest in studying public policy, reason for choosing to apply to the Pepperdine School of Public Policy, and any other information that should be considered by the admission committee.
- g)The moral dilemma essay** (1-2 pages) should explain an ethical or moral dilemma the student faced in recent years and describe their reaction and solution to the particular challenge.
- h)Two Recommendation Letters** (preferably one academic and one professional):
 - i.Option 1: Upload a PDF letter to the "Miscellaneous" section in the SL Portal Checklist. Must be

on official letterhead (e.g., university/company). Include recommender's contact details at the bottom and a handwritten signature.

ii.Option 2: Have the recommender email the letter directly to sppadmissions@pepperdine.edu.

Upload a completed and signed *Recommendation Letter Information Collection Form* (with recommender's details) to the "Miscellaneous" section.

The recommender must email the letter from their official email account.

STEP 2 | After Admission

1.Accept your offer via the WaveNet student portal. (Instructions are included in your admission email. For support, contact sppadmissions@pepperdine.edu)

2.Next Steps:

- 1)Submit the Intent to Enroll Form
- 2)Pay the \$400 enrollment deposit
- 3)Complete the International Student Data (ISD) Form for I-20 processing

Notes:

Public Policy School: No separate application required.

Official Contacts

School of Business

- Shorelight Admissions (Pre-Submission)
- University Admissions (Post-Submission)

admissions@shorelight.com (General)

PGBS.Admission@pepperdine.edu

- University Websites

<https://bschool.pepperdine.edu/contact/>

Caruso School of Law

- Shorelight Admissions (Pre-Submission)
- University Admissions (Post-Submission)

admissions@shorelight.com (General)

StrausAdmissions@pepperdine.edu

- University Websites

<https://law.pepperdine.edu/admissions/contact/>

School of Public Policy

- Shorelight Admissions (Pre-Submission)
- University Admissions (Post-Submission)

admissions@shorelight.com (General)

sppadmissions@pepperdine.edu

- University Websites

<https://publicpolicy.pepperdine.edu/contact/>



In Collaboration
with Shorelight