



ACADEMIC LAW LIBRARIANSHIP

Qualifications:

Academic law librarians generally hold a master of library science degree from an ALA-accredited library school. An increasing number of academic law library positions also require a J.D. from an ABA-accredited law school. Foreign and international academic law library positions often require fluency in several languages.

Description:

Academic law librarians play an important role in law schools. In addition to operating the library, these librarians routinely assist students and faculty with in-depth research in print and online formats. They often play an integral role in beginning legal research classes, and sometimes teach advanced legal research courses. Some law school librarians have faculty status and tenure, and many are actively engaged in publishing and professional activities at the local and national levels. Larger academic law libraries may also employ librarians who specialize in computer services, and/or foreign and international law.

Salaries:

According to the American Association of Law Libraries' *Biennial Salary Survey & Organizational Characteristics 2009* (p. S-3), the mean annual salary (effective 07/01/09) for a Reference/Research Librarian in an academic law library was \$59,662. The 2009 *Survey* listed the mean salary for an academic Technical Services Librarian at \$57,224, while a Director/Chief Librarian's mean annual earnings was \$153,327.

More information:

The American Association of Law Libraries has a special interest section on academic law libraries. The website is located at <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/allsis/>. Job advertisements for academic law library positions are often posted on the American Association of Law Libraries' website, local AALL chapters' websites, and the print and electronic versions of *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.