

The Coelho Center for Disability Law, Policy & Innovation

Our Mission:

The Coelho Center collaborates with the disability community to cultivate leadership and advocate innovative approaches to advance the lives of people with disabilities.

Contact us: CoelhoCenter@lls.edu

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Convening & Developing Community

With an emphasis on centering disabled voices, we bring together thought leaders, advocates and policy makers to discuss and craft agendas that seek positive change for the disability community. We also develop opportunities and create space for new members to engage in these discussions. The center fosters community involvement through roundtables and symposiums hosted throughout the year. Additionally, the center advocates in the areas of special education, immigration and disability, accessibility of elections and voting, and legislative reform.

Innovation, Media & Technology

Drawing from the knowledge of our community and celebration of our differences, we encourage innovative approaches to move toward full inclusion in society. In particular, The Coelho Center focuses on engaging with media and technology as important tools to improve participation and access. The Center hosts roundtables, information sessions and lunchtime discussions to engage the disability community in issues of accessibility, technology, and media representation.

Increasing the Pipeline

The Coelho Center works to bring attention and solutions to the barriers that exist for people with disabilities interested in entering the legal field, becoming public policy experts, and holding political office. With its recently launched Law Fellows Program, The Coelho Center seeks to increase representations of people with disabilities in policy spaces where decisions are being made. The first of its kind, the Law Fellows Program targets early-year college students with disabilities to intervene and provide encouragement, support and mentorship.

Campus-Wide Participation

The Coelho Center represents all the schools and colleges at Loyola Marymount University. The Coelho Center builds a scholarly community dedicated to the study of disability studies, fosters students and practitioners interested in working with the disability community and provides training to enhance campus-wide efforts to improve a positive climate at LMU for people with disabilities. Through its Disability Studies Working Group, the center brings together professors and faculty at Loyola Marymount University who are currently teaching or interested in Disability Studies.