

Applying to Law School

Law School Application Timeline

FRESHMAN AND SOPHOMORE YEARS

- Attend a Pre-Law Advising Workshop at the UCI Division of Career Pathways (see details on Handshake at uci.joinhandshake.com)
- Schedule an appointment with a pre-law advisor who can help you with your individual concerns
- Consider an internship or part-time position in the legal field
- Get involved in pre-law student clubs or organizations
- Check out the Law School Admissions Council for complete application information at lsac.org

JUNIOR YEAR

- Research law schools that are a good fit for you
- Attend a Law School Forum where you can talk with representatives from various law schools. Dates and locations are available at lsac.org
- Attend the Law School Fair on campus in the fall – another opportunity to speak with representatives
- Make a preliminary list of law schools you are considering

END OF JUNIOR YEAR / SENIOR SUMMER

- Start writing your personal statement
- Set up your LSAC account at lsac.org
- Consider taking an LSAT (Law School Admissions Test) test prep course
- Take the LSAT (offered 4 times per year)
- Start asking professors and employers for letters of recommendation

EARLY SENIOR FALL

- Make a checklist and schedule for each application and photocopy all forms
- Send transcripts and have letters of recommendation sent or completed through lsac.org
- Finish your personal statement. Tailor it to specific essay topics, if any
- Explore financial aid options (a law school education could exceed \$200k)

SENIOR FALL / WINTER

- Complete online applications through lsac.org and send off by deadlines
- Fill out the FAFSA and financial aid profiles, if required (varies by school)
- Check your LSAC Report for completion

Keep in mind, this is a suggested timeline – your individual deadlines may vary depending on the schools to which you apply.

Division of Career Pathways Resources

Law School Fair (fall) • Applying to Law / Grad School workshops
Pre-law advising • ABA-LSAC Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools
Online resources • LSAC information pamphlet

Application Checklist

LSAC REPORT & TAKING THE LSAT

- Subscribe and submit documents (transcripts, etc.) to LSAC's Credential Assembly Service (CAS) and take the LSAT, usually no later than the December test date for admission of the following year

APPLICATION FORMS

- Complete ABA-approved law school applications online through lsac.org or go directly to law school sites to obtain application information

PERSONAL STATEMENT

- Write your personal statement. Adhere to what each law school is requesting

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

- Submit letters of recommendation. LSAC has a letter of recommendation service, which is optional unless the law school to which you are applying states that it is required

DEAN'S CERTIFICATE

- A Dean's Certificate is a verification of your student conduct record and is not required by all law schools. If needed, obtain the certificate through the Student Life & Leadership Office of Student Conduct

APPLICATION FEE

- Pay the application fee by the deadline