PREPARING FOR A LAW SCHOOL FAIR

You will only have a few minutes to speak with each law school admissions representative, so it is important to maximize your time. Even if you are only a first year student, a law school fair is a wonderful chance for you to become familiar with individual law schools, develop your oral communication skills in a professional setting, and gain confidence when speaking with officials at future interviews.

TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL LAW SCHOOL FAIR EXPERIENCE

UPDATE YOUR RESUME

The first step in preparing for the Law School Fair is to make sure your resume is complete and up-to-date. Check that the basics are accurate: graduation date, school year, major, and GPA. Add your courses, skills, interests, relevant co-curricular experiences, and any work experience.

FIND OUT WHICH LAW SCHOOLS ARE ATTENDING

View the Law School Fair's homepage to see the full list of law schools who are attending (prelaw.uconn.edu).

RESEARCH THE LAW SCHOOLS YOU WILL VISIT WITH

Check out their websites and search online for recent news articles and other relevant information. This will help you think of questions to ask during sessions, and make conversation during one-on-one sessions.

PREPARE A FEW TALKING POINTS

Make the most of your time by distilling your best qualities into a quick synopsis that wows any attending representative! Your "elevator pitch" is a short overview about your background, studies, and career goals. Practice with a friend or family member so you feel ready when it is time to introduce yourself to a law school admissions representative.

ON THE DAY OF THE FAIR

Dress professionally. Find a quiet spot with a neutral background to minimize distractions. When you visit the fair and approach law school representatives, maintain eye contact and practice active listening during your chat. Take down the names of representatives with whom you speak and follow up with a thank you message - they **do** remember students!

SOURCES: 10 Tips for Attending a Law Fair



Fall 2023 UConn Law School Fair

Wednesday, October 11, 2022, 12:00-3:00pm Student Union Rooms 330 & 331

PREPARING TO SPEAK WITH LAW SCHOOL ADMISSIONS REPRESENTATIVES

Always refer to everyone you meet as Ms. or Mr. unless they direct you to call them by their first name. You are entering a field where respect and hierarchies are essential. Respect and etiquette can make a positive impression, but lack of either always makes a negative impression. Also, this is your chance to know if you are a good fit with the school. That is much more important than questions about whether you will be accepted.

SAMPLE QUESTIONS TO ASK LAW SCHOOLS

- Campus and community: What is special about the character of your school? What types of law does the school specialize in? How would you describe the student interactions at your school? What do students like most about your school? Least?
- **Curriculum and faculty:** How would you describe faculty-student relationships at your school? What type of academic support does your institution provide to students? Describe areas of specialization in your course offerings. What joint-degree programs are offered?
- Application process: What do you look for in a personal statement? What kinds of recommendations are most helpful? How important is it for students to have a law-related internship or job before law school?
- **Financial aid:** Do you offer merit or need-based scholarships or grants? If so, what criteria do you use? How many people keep their scholarships or grants for all three years? Do they have non-loan need-based financial aid?
- Diversity: What does diversity mean at your law school? What part should my diverse background play in my personal statement? And, if your law school has an optional diversity statement, how do I highlight my diversity? What is the law school experience like for diverse students? How does diversity translate into your classrooms?
- **Gap years:** What percentage of admitted students come directly from their undergraduate studies? What sort of things have admitted students done if they took time off? If students do take time off, how much is common?
- Class size: How large is the first-year class? Do the first-year classes generally have any small-section classes?
- **Employment:** What kinds of jobs do your graduates take after law school? What career services are offered to students and graduates? How many students find summer or part-time employment through your law school? What are the bar passage rates in the state(s) in which most of your graduates take the bar exam?
- COVID-19 changes: How has your program adapted to COVID-19 in terms of class structure and experiential opportunities?

LAW SCHOOL FAIR SOURCE: LSAC Law Fair Questions