2025 Cycle Application Orientation
Agenda

- Get to Know Us
- Application services
- Application components
- Some data
- What happens after?

How I think I look explaining the pre-law process to my bartender at 3:00 am vs how I actually look.
Two overall goals

- Inform you about the application process to law schools and the ways our office will support you in this process

- Enable you to gauge whether you feel ready to put your best foot forward if applying to law schools this upcoming cycle
Two overall goals
Get to Know Us

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Director

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Pre-Professional Advisor

Sue Ruggiero
Program Assistant

Makenzie Cosette
Student Administrative Assistant
Get to Know Us

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Rowe Building, 4th floor
Get to Know Us

ListServ/weekly newsletter

Email prelaw@uconn.edu to be added
~Our commitment~

At the Pre-Professional Advising Office, we recognize the importance of Black and Brown lives, acknowledge systems of oppression, and center diversity, equity, and inclusion in all aspects of our work.

To this end, we are committed to a sustained, holistic approach to advising that supports and celebrates the success of students from historically marginalized, underrepresented groups.
LSAC

Law School Admissions Council

- Main hub for all things law school
  - LSAT, Applications, CAS, etc...
- Create an account for free now
  - Get familiar with LSAC and all it offers
Credential Assembly Service (CAS)

- LSAC’s service to verify transcripts, collect Letters of Recommendation, and any other documents needed for your application
- $200 CAS subscription fee
- $45 CAS fee per school
Fee Waivers

Two-tiered LSAC Fee Waiver program

- Tier 1 LSAC Fee Waiver covers one option:
  - Two LSATs
  - One CAS registration
  - Six CAS reports
  - One-year subscription to LawHub Advantage
  - Score Preview for two LSATs
  - If eligible, one LawReady registration
Fee Waivers

Two-tiered LSAC Fee Waiver program

• Tier 2 LSAC Fee Waiver covers one option:
  ○ One LSAT
  ○ One CAS registration
  ○ Three CAS reports
  ○ One-year subscription to LawHub Advantage
  ○ Score preview for one LSAT
  ○ If eligible, one LawReady registration
Find JD Programs

- Free service on LSAC with data for each school
- **LST Wizard** from Law School Transparency
  - search tool through LawHub (free)
  - generates custom list based on your interests and preferences

Find a Law School

**ABA-Approved JD Programs**

Earning a JD degree from an ABA-approved law school is the most straightforward path to becoming a lawyer in the United States.

Using LSAC’s Official Guide to ABA-Approved JD Programs, you can search for law schools by location, keyword, and UGPA/LSAT combination to find schools that interest you. Each school’s profile includes valuable information on admission data and requirements, tuition, special programs, student life, and more.

Search the Official Guide →
Applying to Law School Timeline

Important Things to Remember

Everyone’s journey looks different! This is just an example of an ideal timeline when applying to law schools.

The best time to start on law school applications is around a year and a half from your starting term. (So, if you’re starting law school in Fall 2025, you should get started around the beginning of the calendar year in 2024).

Starting early is especially important if you want to be a competitive applicant who applies early in the cycle.

The goal is to apply to law schools as early as you can WITHOUT sacrificing the quality of your application.

1. January - March
   - Plan & start your LSAT prep
   - Reflect on why you want to go to law school and your goals
   - Register for the Credential Assembly Service (CAS) on LSAC.org
   - Apply for LSAC Fee Waivers (if applicable)

2. April - May
   - Continue LSAT prep
   - Research schools & start your list
   - Start asking for letters of recommendation
   - Attend LSAC Forums

3. June - August
   - Take the LSAT 1-2 times
   - Start drafting your personal statement
   - Secure letters of recommendation
   - Narrow down school list based on your profile
   - Request transcripts be sent to CAS/LSAC

4. September - November
   - Finalize personal statement
   - Submit your FAFSA (opens in Oct)
   - Draft supplemental essays per school
   - Attend UConn’s Law School Fair in October
   - Submit application as early as possible, ideally by Oct. 31
   - Prepare for + receive interview offers (many sent on a rolling basis, if they do interviews)
   - *All applications open by September*

5. December - January
   - Finish any outstanding applications by December 31
   - Receive additional interview offers
   - Respond to any waitlist offers
   - Search for & apply to any scholarship or pipeline programs
   - *Early applicants likely to receive decisions*

6. February - March
   - Receive all admissions decisions
   - Attend admitted students events
   - Continue to apply to scholarships

7. April
   - If you receive multiple offers, weigh your options before you decide
   - Deposit deadlines are usually in April
   - Continue to follow up on waitlists

8. May - August
   - Waitlist offers can come as late as August
   - Continue to follow up on waitlists and cultivate relationships with waitlist schools

UCONN
OFFICE OF PRE-PROFESSIONAL ADVISING
Application Components

Holistic admissions

“LSAC advocates for a holistic approach to admissions, using LSAT score along with other indicators of a candidate’s educational and personal history.” (LSAC)
Application Components

1. Application
2. Personal Statement
3. LSAT score
4. Letters of recommendation

*A school does not typically touch any part of your application until all 4 components are received.

“Law School defined:”
Application Components

1. Application

- **ABA approved schools will have their application in LSAC’s Credential Assembly Service (CAS)**
- **With CAS, your transcripts, letters of recommendation, and any other documents required for each of your law school applications only need to be sent one time to LSAC**
Application Components

2. Personal Statement

- Likely limited characters
  - Some schools may have specific prompts
  - Some schools set no limit for personal statements, but most suggest either 2–3 or 2–4 pages.
    - Aim for two pages, double-spaced.
    - Do not make the error of thinking that more is better.
    - Law schools value the ability to persuasively convey information in a relatively short space.

- Focus on you
  - Your statement should sound the way you speak

- “Why” law school?
- What is your vision for post-JD life?
2. Personal Statement continued...kind of...

- Some schools may have school specific supplemental/optional essay questions

- The most common two types of optional essays are: (1) a diversity/perspective statement and (2) a “Why 'X Law School'?” essay.
Application Components

3. LSAT

- 3 hours (Four, 35 min. sections)
- Can be taken in person or remotely.
- Testing accommodations
- LawHub offers four free practice exams
  - For even more practice, you can purchase LawHub Advantage, which provides one year of access to an extensive library of full Official LSAT PrepTests® for just $115.
Application Components

3. LSAT

- Logical Reasoning (x2 scored sections)
- 1 scored Reading Comp. section,
- 1 unscored section of either:
  - Logical Reasoning or
  - Reading Comp.

Changes to the LSAT

- Beginning August 2024
- Removal of logic games
  - Two logical reasoning sections
3. LSAT

- We **strongly recommend** that you take the LSAT *no later than mid/late November*.
- You can submit your application before you’ve taken the LSAT!
  - Kick off verification process
    - AKA transcript summarization
  - Only need to apply to one school
Application Components

3. LSAT

- You can take the LSAT...
  - up to 3 times within the calendar year (Aug-June)
  - up to 5 times in 5 years
  - up to 7 times in a lifetime
- Cancelled LSAT scores will be counted against these limits
Application Components

3. LSAT testing dates

- 24-25 year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>LSAT Testing Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 2024</td>
<td>Primary test dates:</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Wednesday, August 7</td>
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<td>Saturday, August 10</td>
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<td>Score Release:</td>
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<td>Region:</td>
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<td>November 2024</td>
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<td>All testing regions</td>
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## Application Components

### 3. LSAT Fees

#### Basic Fees

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Fee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LSAT (includes LSAT Writing)</td>
<td>$222</td>
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<tr>
<td>Credential Assembly Service (CAS)</td>
<td>$200</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAS Report</td>
<td>$45</td>
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</table>
3. LSAT Fees

- Auxiliary
  - In addition to basic fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LSAT Score Preview</td>
<td>If you sign up prior to the first day of testing for a given test administration: $45</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>If you sign up during a specified period after testing concludes: $75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Official Candidate LSAT Score Report</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(includes nonreportable LSAT scores)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Score Audit</td>
<td>$150 (or $75 if you have been pre-approved for a fee waiver)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test Date Change</td>
<td>Through your test administration’s registration deadline: No charge</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Up to 7 days after your test administration’s registration deadline: $135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8 days after your test administration’s registration deadline through the day before testing begins: $222</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. LSAT score

- Scores range from 120-180
  - Median score 152
- Remember- this is just 1 part of your application
Application Components

4. Letters of recommendation

- Two to four letters total
- Recommenders should be people who can tell good stories about you as a student and applicant
Application Components

4. Letters of recommendation

- We recommend:
  - 2 faculty LOR
    - Your major and another area
  - 1-2 character references
Application Components

4. Letters of recommendation

- Ask with 1-2 months notice
- Never assume someone will write
- Be prepared to share resume and personal statement draft with letter writers
4. **Letters of recommendation**

- Remember to send your individual LOR writers a thank you message. It takes several hours to draft an excellent letter and some of them write dozens of LOR! Also, keep them updated throughout the application cycle.
4. Letters of recommendation

- Formatting:
  - Date
  - Letterhead (professional or personal)
  - Hand signature (electronic hand signature OK)
Application Components

• A note about official transcripts:
  ○ Only the UConn Registrar can release official transcripts
  ○ UConn uses the Parchment e-transcript service (request in Student Admin)
  ○ Wait until spring grades are posted before requesting
Some Data

For those accepted to law school for 2023:

- **GPA range** = 3.31 – 3.86 (25th – 75th percentile)
- **LSAT range** = 152 – 165 (25th – 75th percentile)

- ~61,300 applicants
- ~42,900 accepted
- 69.9% acceptance rate
- 37,750 matriculants
Some Data

Those who applied to attend law school starting Fall 2023.
165 applied to law school for the 2023 cycle
  • 129 were offered acceptance to 1+ law schools
  • 114 matriculated
  • The average number of law schools applied to was 7.7

UConn applicants’ acceptance rate in 2023 = 78.2%
  *this is 8.3% higher than the national acceptance rate*

For those admitted to a law school:
  • Average age was 25
  • Ages ranged from 20 – 43
  • Undergrad GPAs ranged from 2.0 – 4.0 with ave. GPA of 3.54
  • LSAT scores ranged from 144 – 175 with an average of 158.8
What Happens After?

Law School

What society think I do
What my friends think I’ll do for them
What my teachers think I do all day

What classmates think I do
What I think I do
What I really do
What Happens After?

- **Center for Career Development (CCD)**
  - 45-minute mock interviews
  - Personal statement review (also: W Center)
  - Husky Mentor Network for alumni networking
What Happens After?

- Use caution when sending updates/letters of interest to schools: not all want them.
- We are here to counsel you on ways to improve your application and/or growth year plans.
What Happens After?

- The timeframe for each law school varies
  - Some schools may contact you within a month
  - Other schools may take 3-4 months
TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF THROUGH THIS PROCESS

- me thinking about my dream job
- me studying for my dream job
How to connect with us

- Join our newsletter!
- Website: prelaw.uconn.edu
  📧 prelaw@uconn.edu
  📱 uconn_prelaw
- Workshops, appts., drop-ins, etc...
Thank you!