

The University of Texas at Dallas Pre-Law Advising and Resource Center Law School Admissions Timeline

First and Second Academic Years	Academic Year Before Graduation/ One to One and a Half Years Before Anticipated Start Date	Graduating Academic Year/Year Before Anticipated Start Date
<p>Take classes that are challenging and that build your logical reasoning, analytical, research and writing skills. Law-related classes (listed on reverse side) are not required or even expected, but may introduce you to concepts you will see in law school.</p> <p>Involve yourself in activities in which you have an interest and may develop your leadership, organization, time-management and delegation skills.</p> <p>Begin your research on law schools and the legal profession. Attend Pre-Law Society events with admissions deans and legal professionals, especially the local Law School Fair in the fall. Look through the American Bar Association (abanet.org) and LSAC (LSAC.org) websites.</p> <p>Consider an internship or participation in the competitive teams or seminars: Mediation, Mock Trial, Moot Court or Innocence Project. These are not necessary, but may serve to clarify interests.</p> <p>Foster relationships with your professors by utilizing office hours so that you are comfortable asking for letters of recommendation later.</p> <p>Start your resume so you can add accomplishments, jobs, and honors to it as you accumulate them.</p> <p>Get to know your pre-law advisor so he/she can help point you towards classes that might help you, internships in which you may be interested or other opportunities that will complement your interests.</p>	<p>Continue investigating law school programs, possibly scheduling visits to law schools in which you are interested.</p> <p>Attend the Law School Fair to gather information about schools.</p> <p>Begin your LSAT prep. Allot at least 200 hours, ideally including 20 full-length, timed, practice tests.</p> <p>Register for the LSAT and Credential Assembly Service (CAS). Try to take the LSAT early, ideally in June.</p> <p>Brainstorm ideas for your personal statement, sketch out a rough draft. Utilize your pre-law advisor to help formulate your “story.” Determine if any addenda (grades, LSAT, conduct) are necessary.</p> <p>Request admissions materials from schools in which you are interested or look at their online applications to determine which require additional essays, dean’s certifications or other extra material.</p> <p>During the summer, approach potential recommenders to ask for letters. If they agree, send them a packet with your resume, personal statement (or a draft, if necessary), copy of your transcript and, for professors, a copy of your best work in his or her class, a cover letter specifying a deadline by which you need your letter sent, and completed LSAC waiver form (hard copy or emailed). Recommenders send letters directly to LSAC.</p> <p>Send transcripts from every institution from which you have college credit to LSAC for processing through the Credential Assembly Service.</p>	<p>Continue revising and polishing your personal statement and resume. Draft any necessary addenda.</p> <p>Retake LSAT if necessary. Sign up for the Credential Assembly Service.</p> <p>Meet with your prelaw advisor to go over your application materials. Compile applications and submit them in early fall. Complete the FAFSA to submit for financial aid applications.</p> <p>Keep copies of all of your application materials and keep a record of all communication with each school.</p> <p>Be sure to direct letters of recommendation to every school to which you want them sent. Periodically check your LSAC account to confirm that LSAC reports were ordered by all the schools to which you applied. Confirm that your applications are complete either through online status-checks or communication with the schools.</p> <p>Note if there are special scholarship applications.</p> <p>Inform law schools of your decision. Also let your recommenders and the Pre-Law Advising Center know of all of your acceptances.</p> <p>Arrange to have your final transcript (which shows your degree has been awarded) sent to the law school you’ll be attending. The ABA requires this of all law school matriculants.</p>