

The University of Texas at Dallas Pre-Law Advising Center

Law School Admissions Timeline

Pre-Law Advising Center Office: Founder's 2.202

| 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 are not required, but may introduce you to concepts you will see in law school. Keep a strong focus on your coursework to assure a good GPA.</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. Set up a log in and begin to get familiar with the LSAC (LSAC.org) website.</p> <p>Consider an internship or membership on one of the competitive teams: Mediation, Mock trial or Moot court.</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 advisors so they 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>Register for the LSAT and Credential Assembly Service. Try to take the LSAT early, ideally in Summer. Be sure to give yourself at least four months to prepare.</p> <p>Brainstorm ideas for your personal statement, sketch out a rough draft. Utilize your pre-law advisors 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 and look at their online applications to determine which require additional essays, dean's certifications or other extra material. Visit a Law Fair or the LSAC Forum if possible to gather materials from a variety of law schools.</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, mention your best work in his or her class in a cover letter specifying a deadline by which you need your letter sent. Complete the recommender form on the LSAC website.</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. Meet with your prelaw advisor to get review and assistance with these documents. Check your LSAC account to confirm that all transcripts and letters of recommendation have been received.</p> <p>Retake LSAT if necessary.</p> <p>Meet with your prelaw advisor to go over your application materials. Compile applications and submit them in fall.</p> <p>Keep copies of all of your applications and keep a record of all communication with each school.</p> <p>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 and any deadlines.</p> <p>As soon as possible, fill out the FAFSA and send reports to schools at which you have been accepted and are hoping for financial aid awards.</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> |