



# Applying to Law School

## Navigating the Application Process

At LSAC, we know every journey to law school is different. This checklist can serve as a guide to help you navigate the application process.

### 24 Months Before You Want to Start Your 1L Year

- ✓ Register for a free account at [LSAC.org](https://lsac.org).
- ✓ Sign up for a free **LSAC LawHub**® account to access free and affordable LSAT preparation, educational programming, tools and resources, and more.  
Create an account at [LSAC.org/LawHub](https://lsac.org/LawHub).
- ✓ Apply for a **fee waiver**, which is valid for two years, if you qualify.  
Learn more at [LSAC.org/FeeWaiver](https://lsac.org/FeeWaiver).
- ✓ Create an LSAT study plan. Research shows that first-time test takers should start preparing three to six months before their test date.  
Visit [LSAC.org/LSATprep](https://lsac.org/LSATprep) to learn more.
- ✓ Research law schools using LSAC's **Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools**™ and the tools available from **LawHub** and **Law School Transparency** to find your best fit.  
Start your search at [LSAC.org](https://lsac.org).

### 18 Months Before Your 1L Year Begins

- ✓ Choose a date and register for the **LSAT**, and be sure to request testing accommodations, if you are eligible. Schedule your test date for at least six months before your first law school application is due.  
Register at [LSAC.org/LSATRegister](https://lsac.org/LSATRegister).
- ✓ Create an outline for your personal and diversity statements. Decide who you'll ask to write letters of recommendation.
- ✓ Sign up for **LSAC's Credential Assembly Service**™, which will help you compile all the documents required for your law school applications. The best part is that you only need to send these documents one time to LSAC, no matter how many schools you are applying to.  
To learn more, visit [LSAC.org/CAS](https://lsac.org/CAS).
- ✓ Attend **LSAC Prelaw Success Live Events** to get the answers you need to plan and prepare as you begin your journey.  
For more information, visit [LSAC.org/LawHub/Prelawsuccesslive](https://lsac.org/LawHub/Prelawsuccesslive).

## 12 Months Before Your 1L Year Begins

- ✓ Complete the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**. Research and apply for additional aid options, such as scholarships and grants. Request application fee waivers from law schools if you qualify.  
To learn more, visit [LSAC.org/FinancialAid](https://lsac.org/FinancialAid).
- ✓ Take the **LSAT** (and **LSAT Writing**), the only test accepted by all ABA-approved law schools in the U.S. and Canada.
- ✓ Attend an **LSAC Law School Forum**<sup>SM</sup> for the opportunity to interact directly with law school representatives from around the country and get expert answers to your questions.  
To learn more, visit [LSAC.org/LawSchoolForums](https://lsac.org/LawSchoolForums).
- ✓ Finalize your personal statement and diversity statement (if applicable).
- ✓ Submit required documents to law schools. **LSAC's Credential Assembly Service** makes it easy to compile official transcripts and letters of recommendation, only requiring that you send your documents to LSAC one time, regardless of how many applications you are submitting.  
Complete law school applications and apply online through your free [LSAC.org](https://lsac.org) account.

## 6 Months Before Your 1L Year Begins

- ✓ Compare ABA 509 reports to help guide your decision on which law school to attend, as these reports contain important information such as class size, scholarships, bar passage rates, employment results, and more. You should also compare the ABA 509 reports with the resources available through **Law School Transparency**. Both sources contain ample and useful information that can help you make the choice that is right for you.
- ✓ Decide if you'll be applying for a loan. Now is the time to do so.
- ✓ Visit the two or three law schools at the top of your list to make sure you find them an appealing, comfortable fit.

LSAC wishes you the best of luck on your legal education journey!

