

# **LAMC LAW CLUB**

## **Law School Application Requirements & Timeline**

### **What you need/do to apply to law school:**

1. Transfer to a University (UC, Cal State, Private School, etc.).
2. Complete the last two or three years of your undergraduate education and receive your B.A. or B.S. in any major of your choice.
  - It is popular for law applicants to have a major in the humanities field (sociology, political science, philosophy, etc.), but it is not required. Law Schools also highly regard majors in the science field because they are considered very competitive and difficult.
3. Take the LSAT (Law School Admissions Test).
4. You may apply to law school during your last year at school, or take some time off and apply after graduation. Most importantly, there is no expiration date or age limit as to when you may apply to law school! People apply many years after college graduation, and at all ages.
  - Whether you apply during your last year or take some time off, it is encouraged for applicants to have involved themselves in extracurricular activities before applying. Ideally an applicant will have participated in some sort of volunteer work and joined in school activities/clubs. Law related internships are also suggested. This demonstrates to law schools that you have taken the additional step of having experienced for yourself the field in which you want to study.

### **Starting A Year Before You Submit Applications!**

#### **Winter [December-February]**

- Create LSAC account at LSAC.org and register for the Credential Assembly Service (CAS). CAS is the service through LSAC that sends out your complete application, and also receives your transcripts, letters of recommendation, etc.
- Take a full-length LSAT practice exam from LSAC.com to see your initial score.
- Research LSAT study methods or prep courses you could register for.
  - Prep Courses can range from \$850-1,500 (depending on whether you are taking an online course), and more if private tutoring is purchased (\$2,600). There are multiple companies that offer their services such as: Princeton Review, Testmasters, Blueprint, Kaplan, etc. Currently, law school students recommend Blueprint and Testmasters.
- Apply to these pre-law programs that could help you with the cost of LSAT prep and applications:

- MTO Fellows Program – Deadline January 1<sup>st</sup>  
<http://www.mto.com/diversity-inclusion/mto-fellows-program>
- Sidley Prelaw Scholars Initiative – Deadline First Week of January  
<http://www.sidley.com/services/sidley-prelaw-scholars>
- Snell & Wilmer Fellowship for Advancement and Resources –  
Deadline July 1<sup>st</sup>  
<http://www.swlaw.com/diversity/go-far>
- UCLA Law Fellows Program – Deadline November 14<sup>th</sup>  
<https://law.ucla.edu/admissions/outreach/>

### **Spring [March-May]**

- Register for the June LSAT in early March.
- Begin studying for LSAT either through personal study or a prep course.
- Make sure to study a solid three months before the LSAT, and implement as many practice exams as possible.
- Remember to visit the test center the day before the exam and be aware of alternate routes in case of a traffic jam.

### **Summer [June-August]**

- Sit for the LSAT in June.
- Start researching schools and discover whether law schools out of state interest you, and what different programs are offered at certain institutions. Keep yourself organized by listing application deadlines, and LSAT median for schools you are interested in. In addition, keep track of which schools require additional essays or have optional supplemental essays (these are always encouraged).
- Ask at least two professors for a letter of recommendation for your application (three if possible). Provide the professor with a letter explaining your interest in studying law, any extracurricular activities that make you an ideal candidate, and directions on how the letter should be submitted to LSAC (additional information can be found on their website). Your goal should be to have all letters submitted to LSAC by October.
- Begin working on your Personal Statement. Have a strong first draft done by the end of summer.

### **Fall [September-November]**

- By the end of September, make sure you have submitted transcript requests to all colleges you have attended. Transcripts should be sent to LSAC (more information available on their website).
- Before October, register for the LSAT if you have decided to retake the exam.
- Create or revise your resume, your resume should not be longer than two pages, and preferably one page.
- Finalize your Personal Statement, and any other additional essays by the beginning of November. Your goal is to submit all your applications by

December 1<sup>st</sup> to receive as much priority as possible when schools begin to review applications.

Anytime after having submitted your applications schools will begin to notify you of their admission decision. Typically, most decisions should be sent out by the end of April.

### **Websites With More Information:**

Forpeopleofcolor.org

Top-law-schools.com

LSAC.org

**For more information regarding the law school application process, the LAMC Paralegal Program, COAF Scholars Program, or the Pathways to Law please do not hesitate to contact Professor David Jordan at: [jordandc@lamission.edu](mailto:jordandc@lamission.edu)**

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