

# PRE-LAW RESOURCES

This handout is designed to provide students a general guide to applying to law schools. For further assistance, please schedule an appointment with a Career Advisor.



CAREER CENTER

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## QUICK FACTS

To practice law in the United States, many students pursue a **Juris Doctor (JD)** from a law school accredited by the **American Bar Association (ABA)**, and then obtain a licensure by passing the **Bar examination**. Because law schools are very competitive, and almost all states require a student to earn their JD before they take the Bar exam, the application process can be daunting.

Here are some general aspects to consider when looking into specific programs:

- Applications usually require the following: **minimum GPA, a resume or CV, LSAT scores, an LSAC Law Report, letters of recommendation, an admissions essay, and an interview**. Thoroughly read through the requirements each school/program has for admission.
- Most schools will require you to use the **Credential Assembly Service (CAS)** application portal run by the **Law School Admission Council (LSAC)**.
- **Schools that use CAS usually open applications in September or October**,
  - Many schools use **rolling admissions**. It is recommended to submit your application earlier rather than later.
  - It's recommended to begin preparing your materials before applications open because the process takes a long time.
  - Some schools will require additional materials to be submitted, so be sure to **carefully review all admission procedures as you apply**.
    - You can find more information on CAS and create your account through this link:  
<https://www.lsac.org/applying-law-school/jd-application-process>

## LSAT PREPARATION

In order to attend a law program, it is required to take the **Law School Admission Test (LSAT)**.

**What is the LSAT?**

- **The Law School Admission Test (LSAT)** is a standardized test that consists of four sections: **Logical Reasoning, Analytical Reasoning, Reading Comprehension**, and one unscored variable section.
  - Each section is scheduled for 35 minutes.

**Take the test early!**

- Many schools require you to have completed the LSAT **before December** for admission the following fall semester, **but it's recommended to take the test as early as possible**.
- Make sure to check the websites of schools you apply for to ensure that you are following their testing procedures and keeping track of deadlines.
- The LSAT is conducted **once a month**, and you will need to register beforehand: [www.lsac.org/](http://www.lsac.org/)
- **You can retake the exam up to three times over a two-year period.**
- It is highly recommended that you spend time before the test studying and practicing, which can be done by enrolling in a prep course or purchasing study books that contain practice tests and examples.
- **The Law School Admissions Council (LSAC)** also offers a variety of free resource materials, including study aides, which can be found here: <https://www.lsac.org/lsat/prep>.
- You can find more information on LSAT scores compared to law school admittance on [The Princeton Review website](#).

## PRE-LAW AT GCSU

Students are not restricted to a specific major to be considered pre-law. **GCSU has pre-law advisors in various departments across campus**. These faculty and staff members are here to help guide you as you navigate law school applications.

- To view our pre-law advisors, use this link: <https://www.gcsu.edu/career/pre-professional-graduate-school-planning#prelaw>.

**Philosophy, Pre-Law Concentration**

- Students may complete a concentration in Pre-Law as part of a Philosophy major by completing ethics and theory-based courses designed to help prepare students for studying law.
  - Visit: <https://www.gcsu.edu/artsandsciences/philosophy/philosophy-ba>

**Legal Studies Certificate**

- GCSU also offers a **certificate in Legal Studies**. The certificate prepares students with practical knowledge on navigating the regulatory environment of the business world.
  - Visit <https://www.gcsu.edu/business/accounting/legal-studies-certificate> for more information on applying and requirements.

## COMMON COURSES

Introduction to Law  
Legal Research & Writing  
The American Judicial System  
Constitutional Law I, II, III

Philosophy of Law  
Logical & Critical Thinking  
Legal Environment of Business

**\*\*This list is not exhaustive. Please consult your academic advisor prior to registering for classes.**

## KEY NUMBERS

- Overall GPA: **3.7/4.0**
- LSAT: **153 (median), 180 (max)**

**\*Check with each individual school for their GPA and score requirements.**

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## THE LAW SCHOOL REPORT

- Included in your CAS application is a Law School Report. This report is put together by LSAC for the law schools you apply to. It consists of your basic information, including LSAT scores, a copy of the LSAT writing sample, an academic summary compiled from the transcripts that you submit, copies of all your transcripts, and copies of your letters of recommendation.
- **NOTE:** There is a fee separate from the initial CAS fee for each report you send to an individual school.

## SOURCES

### American Bar Association:

<https://www.americanbar.org/>

### Credential Assembly Service:

<https://www.lsac.org/applying-law-school/jd-application-process/credential-assembly-service-cas>

### GCSU Legal Studies Certificate:

<https://www.gcsu.edu/business/accounting/legal-studies-certificate>

### Pre-Law at GCSU:

<https://www.gcsu.edu/career/pre-professional-graduate-school-planning#prelaw>

### Pre-Law Concentration, Philosophy B.A.

<https://www.gcsu.edu/artsandsciences/philosophy/philosophy-ba>

### Law School Admissions Council:

<https://www.lsac.org/>

### LSAC - Application Process:

<https://www.lsac.org/applying-law-school/jd-application-process/>

### LSAC - Test Prep

<https://www.lsac.org/lSAT/prep>

### Law School Admission Test:

<https://www.lsac.org/lSAT>

### LSAT Resources:

<https://www.lsac.org/lSAT/prep>

### LSAT Registration:

<https://os.lsac.org/Logon/Access.aspx>

### Princeton Review - LSAT Scores:

<https://www.princetonreview.com/law-school-advice/lSAT-scores>