

# LAW SCHOOL

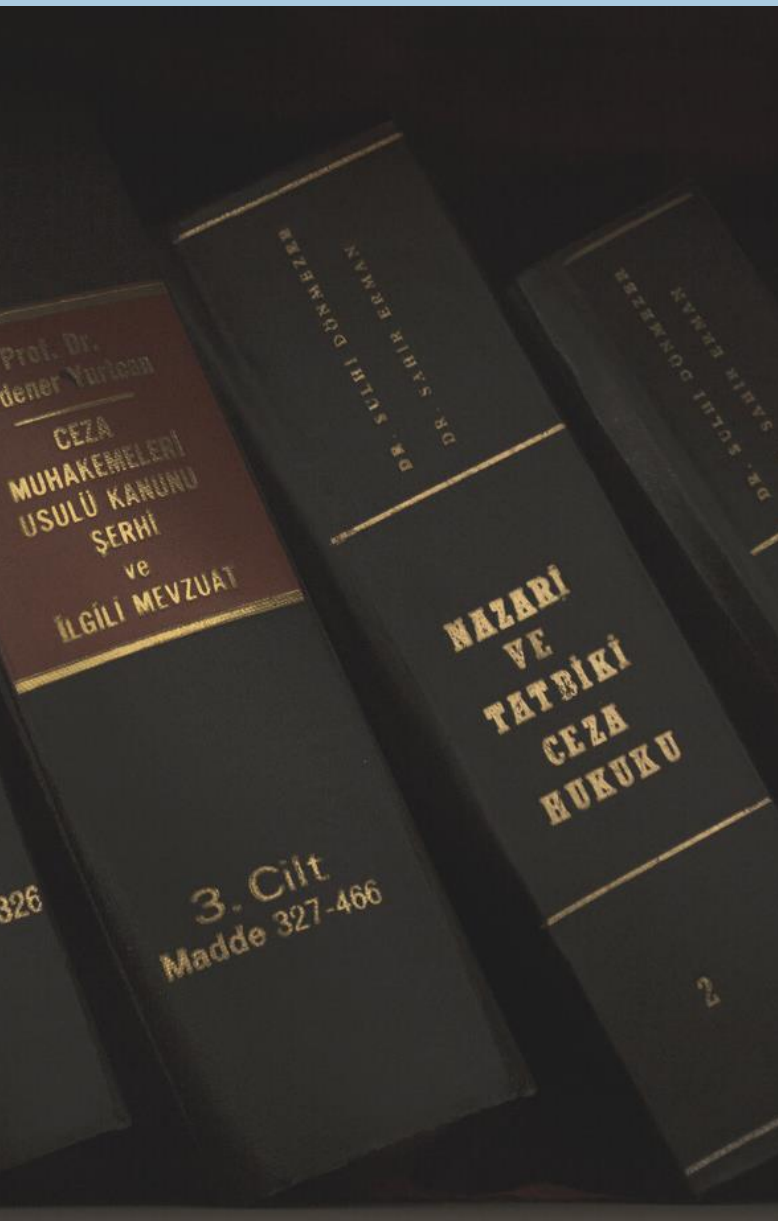
AN INTRODUCTORY SESSION ON  
LAW SCHOOL AND A LEGAL  
CAREER



# OUTLINE

## PREPARING FOR LAW SCHOOL

- LAW SCHOOL & LEGAL CAREER OVERVIEW
- TIMELINE
- APPLYING TO LAW SCHOOL
  - LSAC
  - GPA
  - LSAT
  - PERSONAL STATEMENT
  - LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION
  - DIVERSITY STATEMENT & OTHER ADDENDUMS
- A LEGAL CAREER
- PRE LAW RESOURCES



# LAW SCHOOL OVERVIEW



## LAW SCHOOL

Law school is a three year rigorous academic course of study where you will essentially learn how to think like a lawyer.

You will learn the foundations of the law in addition to different skills including legal research and writing, critical thinking and analysis, written and oral communication and advocacy.

# LEGAL PROFESSION OVERVIEW



## LEGAL PROFESSION

Lawyers advise and represent individuals, businesses, and government agencies on legal issues and disputes.

Lawyers work in private and corporate legal offices. Some work for federal, local, and state governments.

To become a lawyer one must have a law degree and must also pass a state's written bar examination.

# TIMELINE



## SECOND YEAR

Continue to focus on your academics, build your resume and develop relationships with your professors. You can also seek out leadership opportunities and take advantage of studying abroad. Meet with your pre-law advisor.

## THIRD YEAR

Prepare to take the LSAT, register an LSAC & CAS account. You could also consider a law related internship this year and begin drafting your personal statement. Research law school and create a list of 10-15 schools you would like to apply to.

## FOURTH YEAR

Meet again with our pre-law advisor. Submit your application in early Fall. Visit law schools if possible and look into financing your education and applying for FAFSA, if necessary.

## FIRST YEAR

Focus on your grades and begin to familiarize yourself with requirements to apply for law school.

# LSAC

The Law School Admission Council (LSAC) is a nonprofit, membership organization composed of all ABA-accredited law schools in the United States.

LSAC provides many services to the member schools, including the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) and the Credential Assembly Service (CAS). Students register for the LSAT and apply to all law schools through the LSAC website ([www.lsac.org](http://www.lsac.org)).

# CREDENTIAL ASSEMBLY SERVICES (CAS)



- CAS assembles and summarizes data from academic transcripts, letters of recommendation, your LSAT score(s) and any other documents required for each law school and sends out a full report to schools you apply to.
- The data is then transmitted as an Academic Summary Report to law schools to which you have applied.
- You are able to view your Academic Summary Report in your LSAC account and will be able to view the same materials the law schools will see.
- All law schools require subscription to this service. You must subscribe through your LSAC account.
- Consider opting in to the [Candidate Referral Service \(CRS\)](#).

# APPLYING TO LAW SCHOOL



LSAT SCORE  
REPORT

TRANSCRIPT

LETTERS OF  
RECOMMENDATION

RESUME

APPLICATION  
MATERIALS

(ESSAYS, PERSONAL  
STATEMENT,  
DIVERSITY  
STATEMENT, SCHOOL-  
SPECIFIC ESSAYS )



# LSAT



- The Law School Admission Test (LSAT) is the standardized admission test accepted by law schools in the U.S., Canada, and a growing list of other countries.
- The purpose of the LSAT is to test the skills necessary for success in the first year of law school. Those skills include reading comprehension, reasoning, and writing.

# LSAT EXAMINATION

- LSAT score is ranged from 120 -180
- **Multiple Choice Section**
  - Reading comprehension
  - Analytical reasoning
  - Logical reasoning
- **Writing section**
  - 35 minutes
  - Unscored
- **Unscored variable section**

either reading comprehension, analytical reasoning or logical reasoning

# PREPARING FOR THE LSAT



- Private Tutor
- LSAT online prep courses
- LSAT live classroom prep courses
- Books (self - study)

Some good LSAT resources: 7Sage, Khan Academy, LSAT trainer (book), PowerScore (book)

# PERSONAL STATEMENT



The purpose of the personal statement is to articulate who you are and why you want to go to law school. Your personal statement allows an admissions officer to understand your motivation to attend law school, and the reasons why you want to attend their particular school.

# LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATIONS



**Letters of recommendation** are required for almost every law school application and are a very important part of the application process.

You will typically need between 2-3 letters of recommendation depending on which law schools you apply to.

# DIVERSITY STATEMENTS AND ADDENDUMS



**Diversity statement** - is an addendum to the law school application process that allows an applicant to expand on a quality which makes them different from other applicants.

**Addendums** - An addendum is a short, objective explanation for any potential discrepancy or complication in your law school application.

# ESTIMATED APPLICATION COSTS



- **LSAT - \$200**
- **Credential Assembly Service - \$195**
- **CAS Reports (10 x \$45) - \$ 450**
- **Application Fees (10 x \$75) - \$ 750**
- **LSAT Prep Course - \$1,500**

**Total \$ 3,095**

# ESTIMATED COST OF ATTENDANCE

<b>Books and Supplies</b>	<b>\$1960</b>
<b>Personal</b>	<b>\$2800</b>
<b>Room &amp; Board</b>	<b>\$21,990</b>
<b>Transportation</b>	<b>\$1770</b>
<b>Tuition &amp; Fees</b>	<b>\$65,420</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$93,940</b>

Estimated Cost of Attendance (Full-time JD)  
GW 2021 - 2022



# LEGAL FIELDS

**CRIMINAL  
LAW**

**FAMILY LAW**

**IMMIGRATION  
LAW**

**SPORTS &  
ENTERTAINMENT  
LAW**

**REAL ESTATE  
LAW**

**INTELLECTUAL  
PROPERTY  
LAW**

**EMPLOYMENT  
AND LABOR  
LAW**

**TAX LAW**

# LEGAL FIELDS CONT'D

INTERNATIONAL  
LAW

CONSTITUTIONAL  
LAW

PERSONAL  
INJURY LAW

CIVIL RIGHTS  
LAW

ENVIROMENTAL  
LAW

HEALTH LAW

BANKING AND  
FINANCING  
LAW

ADMIRALTY  
LAW

# LAW SCHOOL F.A.Q.'S

- WHAT ARE THE MAIN THINGS LAW SCHOOLS ADMISSIONS COMMITTEES ARE LOOKING FOR?
- WHAT DO I NEED TO MAJOR TO APPLY TO LAW SCHOOL?
- WHEN DO I APPLY FOR LAW SCHOOL?
- HOW DO I CHOOSE THE RIGHT LAW SCHOOL FOR ME?
- HOW DO I FINANCE MY LEGAL SCHOOL?

# GWU PRE-LAW ORGANIZATIONS

- [Pre-Law Student Association](#) - events and workshops, networking, sponsors  
Undergraduate law review.
- [Phi Alpha Delta](#) - world's largest legal fraternity.
- [GW Mock Trial](#) - competitive speech and debate activity focused on trial advocacy.  
Students simulate the roles of both attorneys and witnesses in criminal or civil trials against teams from other institutions
- [GW Undergraduate Moot Court](#) - adopts a simulated court proceeding structure and asks its participants to engage in debates in Supreme Court argument style, while judges ask impromptu questions
- [GW Parliamentary Debate Society](#) - competes within the American Parliamentary Debate Association, traveling weekly to debate at tournaments at universities around the country

# PRE-LAW RESOURCES

- [LSAC](#) - The law school admissions council.
- [ABA](#) - The American Bar Association.
- [Access Lex](#) - A helpful law school preparation site including helpful resources on how to finance your legal education.
- [Khan Academy](#) - LSAT preparation.
- [7Sage](#) - LSAT preparation.
- [Law school transparency](#) - non-profit organization a nonprofit that has useful resources.