LAW SCHOOL TIMELINE

Below you will find a checklist/timeline to help you keep track of your law school application progress. Please note that this timeline is just a suggestion. Some people will find that they will do things in different order or at different times.

**Freshman Year**

\_\_\_\_\_ Focus on your grades. It is difficult to get into law school if you perform poorly during **any** academic year.

\_\_\_\_\_ Stay out of trouble (any disciplinary action must be disclosed during the application process).

\_\_\_\_\_ Explore the legal field; conduct informational interviews, volunteer/intern in legal settings, utilize Pitt Career Network or the Alumni Search on LinkedIn.

\_\_\_\_\_ Speak with your Academic Advisor about your career interests in the legal profession and other areas.

\_\_\_\_\_ Select a major that you are interested in- **there are no prelaw required courses or majors**.

**Sophomore Year**

\_\_\_\_\_ If you haven’t done so during freshman year, select a major that you are interested in – there are no prelaw required courses or majors.

\_\_\_\_\_ Explore the legal field – conduct informational interviews, volunteer/intern in legal settings.

\_\_\_\_\_ Continue to build rapport with professors and supervisors for future recommendation letters.

\_\_\_\_\_ Meet with the Prelaw Advisor to ensure you are on the right track and to identify what you need to work on over the following year(s).

\_\_\_\_\_ If you would like to study abroad, it is recommended you do this during your sophomore or junior year (keeping in mind LSAT prep).

**Junior Year**

\_\_\_\_\_ Continue to get to know your professors and potential letter writers.

\_\_\_\_\_ Study for the LSAT (*Recommend to take June after junior year*).

\_\_\_\_\_ Start researching law schools *(Attend a law fair or check-out law schools’ web sites)*

\_\_\_\_\_ Visit law schools (*if able*) or attend an LSAC Forum (*schedule and registration found at lsac.org*).

\_\_\_\_\_ Take LSAT practice tests to determine baseline score.

\_\_\_\_\_ Register for the LSAT and CAS (*Registration materials are available on line at http://www.lsac.org.*

\_\_\_\_\_ Take LSAT *(Preferably the June after your junior year*).

\_\_\_\_\_ Start working on a personal statement *(Bring to Pre-Law advisor for help)*

\_\_\_\_\_ Locate web-based applications on LSAC.

**Senior year**

\_\_\_\_\_ Complete application materials *(The earlier the better, especially for financial aid)*

\_\_\_\_\_ Ask professors or supervisors to write letters of recommendation.

\_\_\_\_\_ Request transcripts from every college you ever attended and send to CAS.

\_\_\_\_\_ Take the LSAT if you did not take it in June. *(It is better to take it in the fall rather than the winter).*

\_\_\_\_\_ Finalize personal statement, resume and other supporting essays/statements.

\_\_\_\_\_ Send in application materials as early as possible.

\_\_\_\_\_ Thank professors for writing letters.

\_\_\_\_\_ Check to be sure applications are complete.

\_\_\_\_\_ File financial aid applications.

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