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Diversity statement law school

Are you thinking about law school? Would you like to be part of a challenging, rewarding profession that helps protect the rights of others? Are you interested in a career that will help you formulate our laws and policies? Whether you're working on a bachelor's degree or considering going back to school after a few years of work, law school may be the right choice for you. According to the Law School Admissions Board (LSAC), more than 60,000 potential first-year law students took LSAT in fall 2009, about 20 percent more than in fall 2008. The increase is due to the decline in the economy; many people turn to a graduate school to make the most of a slow labour market [Source: SmartMoney]. Since the number of open doors in accredited law schools remains relatively constant every year, getting into law school is highly competitive. For example, in 2008 Yale Law School received 3,400 applications for about 200 places in its first year class [source: Yale Law School]. So what distinguishes those who are accepted, except those who have not made it? Right admissions committees are looking for candidates who will make the best students and become successful professionals. To determine who makes the cuts, law schools consider a number of factors that can be used objectively in all potential applicants. Two criteria that all schools in the US (and several in Canada, Europe and Australia) rely on most assessments of the Legal School Admissions Test (LSAT) and the Undergraduate Average Score (GPA). In addition to these metrics, schools can request a personal essay, interviews or recommendations - or all three. They may also seek out students with special professional experience, academic experience, even ethnic or cultural backgrounds to help create a diverse academic environment where different perspectives are presented. Do you think you have what it takes? Read on to make sure. Here are the five tips to get into law school. Content that applies to law schools is a long process that begins at least two years before classes actually begin. The Law School Admissions Board (LSAC) administers LSAT and serves as a link between the applicant and law schools. The Office of Credentials (CAS) centralizes and standardizes undergraduate academic documentation, and prepares a report on each school law that you apply for admission. Most law schools have their own requirements and application deadlines, so visit their websites and make sure you've created a system to keep you on track. Here's a short list of steps: Prepare for LSATResearch law schools and application deadlinesSee the schools you're interested in if possibleRegister for LSAT and create LSAC accountOn your official copy sent to LSACACsk for recommended letters and send them to LSAC or to the schoolFor you have your and academic results a report (multiple calculations of your GPA compared to that of other applicants from your school) sent to the schools where you apply Fixed-term personal interviews, which may be required by schoolUse LSAC to monitor the file status and accepts stack odds in your favor. Check the LSAT averages and average grades (GPA) in the schools you are interested in. Choose multiple competitive schools with an average score in your range, some safety schools that fall below your range and one or two reach schools above it. Please use your app and personal essay to show why your background or aspirations make you an excellent choice for your chosen legal programs. Doing well with LSAT is just like consulting Carnegie Hall: you need to practice, practice, practice. The test is designed to measure skills that are essential for success in law school: the ability to think critically, understand complex texts, analyse facts and draw reasonable conclusions and objectively assess the opinions of others. Familiarise yourself with test guidelines and question types, the practice of sample tests and information on the study of test admission techniques [source: LSAC]. The LCC offers publications with sample tests, LSAT logic guides and explanation responses. Several companies also offer prepared programs to help you hone the skills needed to perform well. Advertising Get ready on the day of the test, getting a good night's sleep, dress comfortably and enjoy a protein-packed breakfast. You'll get your score in about three weeks. LSAT is noted on a scale of 120 to 180. The average score is 160, but it takes a much better result to get into the best schools. At Harvard, scores in the 25th to 75th percentil range from 170 to 175. (This means that 25 percent of admitted students have scores above 175 and only 25 percent have scores below 170.) Even if the result is not in the top percentil, there are many excellent top schools to choose from. Don't despair. Sometimes test teneu on they wonder if their result will improve by overloading it; while results tend to improve slightly, most law schools look at the average grade, so it's good for the first time [source: LSAC]. The performance of a student at a student school is considered a good indicator of law school success, so law school admissions committees look very carefully at their GPA. They also watch the coursework: Straight As in the basket weaving and history of modern dance are not as impressive as the same ratings in honor of international politics or philosophy. Admissions committees expect good grades in their junior and senior years, plus an increase in course work. In fact, they like to see ratings, improve throughout your college career, which shows maturity and intellectual curiosity. Advertising A pre-law program is usually not a prerequisite for admission to law but your dossier must show a commitment to careful study, analytical thought and written and oral communication. General specialties for legal entities that are candidates for training include literature, history, philosophy and political science, as these topics help to develop the ability to think critically and analytically. Writing skills are particularly important in law school, so a minor in English can help you prepare for the rigours of law school - and that will look good in your record. If you have your heart set for attending a particular law school, see what undergraduate schools are represented among those currently attending. You may see a pattern: A highly rated school like Harvard or Yale accepts large numbers of students from Ivy League schools; schools may also have feeder colleges of free arts. It may seem that applying law school is all game numbers spun around GPA and LSAT results, but in reality, law schools are looking for people who are dedicated, hardworking, and show a commitment to a career in law. Use your personal essay to explain your past, personal experiences, volunteering activities, and achievements. Explain why you want to graduate with Dr. Juris. Have you been inspired by a week of jury service, or were you fascinated by seventh grade with the precedents set by Gibbons v. Ogden? Whatever your story, tell it in a way that reflects your passion and represents why you will be an asset to the school curriculum and profession. - Sell yourself. Your personality should shine in a way that sets you apart from the rest of the package. Essays also represent a chance to show off your writing skills. Advertising The first classes are relatively small - between 200 and 400 students - so admissions counselors want interesting and attractive students who can work well with other students. Over the next few years, you'll spend a lot of time with your colleagues, so you'll appreciate having a sense of friendship and shared goals. In addition to a personal essay, some schools want letters to be recommended. Be sure to choose someone who knows you well and who sincerely believes in your abilities; Their sincerity and tone will speak much louder than words from a distant relationship you barely know, even if it happens to be Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. To successfully apply to law school, it makes sense to look at the schools that are best suited to your academic background, areas of interest, test scores and undergraduate GPA. News and World Report in the US publishes an annual round of top accredited law schools that could be an excellent place to start [Source: US News and World Report]. Spend some time on the legal websites you are interested in and study the profiles of the Schools. You will find rich information about the results of the average tests and GPI, as well as demographic profiles, presented institutions and previous areas of study. Advertising If your LSAT ratings and ratings are in the top app percent, then you should consider top-ranked law schools. Even if your results are not the highest notch, there are many excellent schools where you can study and prepare for a successful legal career. Finally, you know what kind of right you are interested in practicing and where. If business or international law fascinates you, Columbia Law School may be the right choice. You may have set out to join Washington, D.C. Yale or Harvard can help you develop your contacts to do so in government, or you can head to the capital by studying at Georgetown or American University. If your ideal situation is your own office on a small town main street, look for a school in the region you want to practice. But not pressure. We have 10 tips on how to stay calm, make a plan and learn effectively about MCAT. Cohen Wade, Ari. Get into law school. City of Sott. July 8, 2008 Accessed March 15, 2010. Susan. How do I get you into law school? 2004 New York: Riverhead Trade. Faculty of Law: Tips and Statistics. News and world report. April 22, 2009 Daniel R. Tips to get into law school. Department of Political Science. John Jay College of Criminal Justice at New York University. Alexandra. Will there be too many lawyers in 2013? Smart money. 17 November 2009 Accessed March. 15, 2010 Frank H. Why law schools are for everyone. 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