

Prelaw at NYU

A Presentation for CAS Students

Law School Admissions by the Numbers

Average GPA of CAS Students Accepted to Law School:

3.58

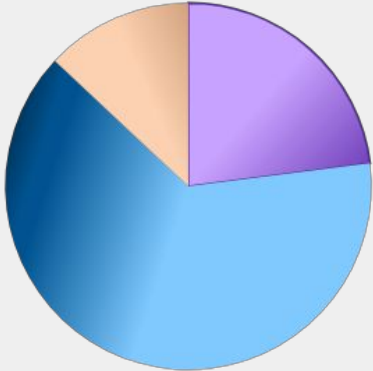
Average LSAT of CAS Students Accepted to Law School:

163

Top 5 Majors of CAS Students Accepted to Law School

- Politics
- Economics
- Philosophy
- English
- Public Policy

Percentage of Accepted CAS Students by Graduation Year



- Seniors
- 1-4 Years from Undergrad
- 4+ Years from Undergrad

Top Law Schools NYU CAS Students Attend

- Brooklyn Law School
- Columbia University School of Law
- Fordham University School of Law
- St. John's University School of Law
- George Washington University Law School
- University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School
- Georgetown University Law Center
- Benjamin N Cardozo School of Law
- Pace University Elisabeth Haub School of Law
- New York University School of Law
- Harvard Law School
- Duke University School of Law



Source: LSAC.org (data 2021-22)

Admissions Criteria for Law School

Law Schools consider:

- LSAT scores
 - LSAT scores range from 120-180; average for CAS is 163 (for year 2020-21)
 - Some law schools are accepting GRE scores as an alternative for the LSAT
- Undergraduate cumulative GPA
 - Consider a program that's rigorous, meaningful, and that will provide you with substantial skills (ie, critical reading, writing, research)
- Letters of Recommendation
 - Law schools prefer 2 letters from faculty members
 - Admissions officers find most helpful if the professors assess your skills in comparison with peers
- Personal Statement
 - Your time to shine! Tell the admissions committee about yourself - they want to know who you are and why you would be a good lawyer.
 - Avoid cliché statements
 - Grammar and spelling must be impeccable
- Résumé
 - Any extracurriculars, internships, work experience should be added here
 - Use the opportunity to showcase your skills and abilities relevant to the study of law
- Other admissions criteria (diversity statement, addendum)

Preparation for Law School:

What You Should Do Now

Choose a Major that interests YOU

- At NYU, there is no such thing as a prelaw curriculum
- Law school admissions committees welcome applicants from ALL majors; they are most interested in how well you do academically
- If you choose a non-liberal arts major, however, be sure to take elective courses that strengthen your analytical research, writing, and communication skills

Get Involved

- Join volunteer and community service activities on and off-campus that interest you, and be sure to take on a leadership role. Check out NYU Engage and attend club fest!
- The activities you choose do not have to be directly related to law
- Quality over quantity

Build community on campus

- If you haven't done so, sign up to receive our newsletter, *The Legal Brief*
- Learn about the legal field through prelaw events, classes, networking, and internships

Start building relationships with professors

- Take advantage of office hours and participate in class
- If class is remote, be sure to keep your camera on during class

Think about your law school admissions test timing

- The LSAT is offered several times a year - plan ahead
- All information is on LSAC.org

Other Factors

- Rigor of the applicant's major and courses
 - Honors courses and seminars
 - Carrying light or heavy credit loads
 - Overloading on pass/fail classes or lower-level courses
 - Withdrawals from courses or repeating multiple times
- Working while simultaneously attending college
- History of performance on standardized tests
- Extracurricular activities
- Undergraduate research
- Demonstrated leadership on- and off-campus

Meet with a preprofessional advisor to discuss any of these factors and how you should address them in your application

In the end, law schools prefer applicants who...

- Apply or pursue their passions in interesting ways
- Bring an interesting perspective to their law school class and the legal profession
- Articulate a mature and compelling reason for pursuing a legal career
- Demonstrate readiness for the challenges of law school

What you can do now to prepare for law school in the future

There **ARE** things you can do now and throughout your time in college to best prepare yourself for law school admissions – **DO NOT WAIT** until you apply.

- Explore your interests and take meaningful classes
- Do your best academically!
- Get involved on or off campus
- Connect with your prelaw advisor!
- Attend prelaw events
- Get to know at least one faculty member well enough for them to write you a convincing letter of recommendation
- Research different law schools and areas of practice
- Research ways to finance law school, look into scholarships or special programs
- Begin planning when to take the LSAT or GRE
- Look into when you will be applying to law school

We're here for you! Preprofessional Advising Center

The **Preprofessional Advising Center's** staff of advisors provides individual advising as well as workshops, seminars, and other programs throughout the academic year to assist you in preparing for law school and, ultimately, a career in the law.

Our weekly email newsletter, **The Legal Brief**, features events, articles, announcements, and job listings that are of interest to prelaw students. You can join the listserv now by going on our website, <http://cas.nyu.edu/prelaw.html> and clicking on "Join the Prelaw Listserv to Receive The Legal Brief."

We encourage you to watch the [Prelaw Overview](#) on our website and meet with a preprofessional advisor often throughout your time at NYU to discuss your path to law school.

Contact us

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