

LAW SCHOOL APPLICATION GUIDE 2009-2010

Dartmouth Career Services

63 S. Main Street, 2nd Floor • 603-646-2215 • www.dartmouth.edu/~csrc • career.services@dartmouth.edu

Table of Contents

Pre-Law Advising Contacts in Career Services	2	LEO Credential Service	5
Preparing for Law School	2	LSAC's Letter of Recommendation Service	5
Law School: Now or Later?	2	Citations	6
Applying to Law School	2	Dean's Certifications	6
Application Procedures	3	Personal Statements	6
Fee Waivers	4	Deadlines	7
Law School Admission Test (LSAT)	4	Misconduct and Irregularities in the Admissions Process	7
Application Forms and Catalogs	4	Admissions Decisions	7
LSAC Credential Assembly Service (LSDAS)	4	Financial Aid	8
Transcripts	4	Pre-Law Resources	8
Letters of Recommendation	5		

Application Checklist

SPRING (in year you are applying)

- Attend the Applying to Law School and Personal Statement workshops
- Open a free online account with the Law School Admission Council (www.lsac.org). Authorize the release of your LSAT score(s), biographical, academic, and application information to Dartmouth for statistical purposes.
- Prepare for and registrar for the June LSAT
- Conduct research on law schools
- Open a LEO Credential File with Career Services (<http://leo.dartmouth.edu/>)
- Begin requesting letters of recommendation

SUMMER

- Take the June LSAT administration or prepare for the October LSAT
- Subscribe to LSAC's Credential Assembly Service (LSDAS)
- Have official transcripts sent to the Credential Assembly Service (LSDAS)
- Research law school websites for applications and brochures
- Research, visit, and select law schools
- Prepare personal statement
- Check-in with your letter of recommendation writers
- Request a Dean's Certification through LEO

FALL

- Attend the Applying to Law School and Personal Statement workshops (if did not attend in spring)
- Take September LSAT if necessary
- Request a Dean's Certification through LEO (if not yet requested)
- Participate in the Career Services Law School Visit Program – Informational meetings with admissions officers representing various law schools
- Attend the Law School Forum in Boston - meet representatives from law schools
- Make a well-balanced list of law schools
- Check online that your LEO Credential File is complete – Request letters to be mailed to LSAC's Credential Assembly Service (LSDAS) or your selected schools (please allow 3-5 days for processing)
- Complete and submit your applications and all supporting materials **by December 1st**
- Take the December LSAT if necessary

WINTER

- Check to be sure application file is complete, including letters of recommendation and Dean's Certification
- File your financial aid applications
- Send an updated transcript with Fall term grades to LSAC or directly to law schools

SPRING

- Pay your seat deposit by law school deadline

Pre-Law Advising Contacts in Career Services

The Pre-Law Advisor is available to meet with you to discuss your career interests, decision to apply to law school, and all aspects of your application.

Johnny Pryor, Pre-Law Advisor & Senior Assistant Director of Career Services

Call 603-646-2215 to make an appointment.

Bonnie Holbrook, Administrative/Program Assistant

Bonnie can provide assistance with your LEO/credential file and questions on application procedures (transcripts, Dean's Certification, etc.). Phone: 603-646-2603; Email: Bonnie.Holbrook@Dartmouth.edu

Preparing for Law School

Begin your law school preparations as early as possible during your undergraduate career. The American Bar Association Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar has provided a statement on **Pre-Law Preparation** at (www.abanet.org/legaled/prelaw/prep.html). Explore and examine both the profession and the law school experience. Carefully examine your interests, abilities and goals. Question your preconception about 'the Law,' and weigh your aspirations against the realities of job opportunities and law school admissions. If these considerations do not yet confirm your commitment to a legal career, work a year or two before applying to law schools.

- Meet with the Pre-Law Advisor to help you clarify your career interests.
- Career Services' Alumni Career Advisory Network and the Dartmouth Lawyers Association (www.dla.org) identify alumni/ae who may be contacted for information and advice about their careers.
- Monitor the Career Services Blitz Bulletin for relevant program information, law school visits, and law school application procedures.
- Participate in the Daniel Webster Legal Society (Blitz DWLS) and attend programs presented by the Dartmouth Lawyers Association (www.dla.org).

Law School: Now or Later?

In recent years, the Dartmouth applicant pool has contained more recent graduates than graduating seniors and there is no disadvantage to delaying applications. Many people apply with the expectation of deferring admission. While one-year deferments are sometimes granted after acceptance, they are not automatic nor can they usually be extended beyond one year (policies vary from school to school).

Many seniors consider the option of working a year or two before applying to law schools. They question what kind of employment will enhance their chances of admission to law school. Students are often concerned that they may lack the motivation to return to school after they have begun a working career. Our surveys indicate that Dartmouth graduates do, in fact, return to school. Moreover, the overwhelming advice of alumni/ae currently enrolled in law schools is to take time to work before attending.

Law school admissions officers encourage work experience. The goals of older applicants are generally more focused and, therefore, they are better prepared applicants. Dartmouth graduates have worked in any number of fields before applying, ranging from business and education to the media and the social services. For example, both teachers and paralegals apply to law school. Paralegal work can give an undecided senior some experience in the field and help reinforce a career decision, but it is far from being an automatic, even desirable, route to admissions.

If you apply as a senior and are not accepted, you can always reapply without prejudice. Plan to take at least two years to gain experience and knowledge in a job you enjoy. Develop some skills that will make your next application significantly different from your earlier ones. In general, unless you are very certain about a career in law and have a strong record going into senior year, our advice is to wait. Don't rush. A challenging job can be a good foundation for your postgraduate education. Feel free to discuss your questions or concerns with the Pre-Law Advisor in Career Services. We wish you every success.

Applying to Law School

If you decide that you will apply to law school, you should begin the application process at least 18-24 months prior to desired matriculation. Dartmouth's Pre-Law Advisor can help you find the best fit between your interests, credentials, and

the range of feasible alternatives. When choosing where to apply, use the many guides and other resources available in Career Services and online (www.dartmouth.edu/~csrc/students/gradschool/law/index.html). Take the following factors into consideration:

Numerical Indicators

Undergraduate grade point average (GPA) and your score(s) on the LSAT are two important factors in the admissions process. Each of these numbers should be compared to the median at individual schools and to the grids in *The Official Guide to U.S. Law Schools* (<http://officialguide.lsac.org/>) and the **Boston College Law School Locator** (<http://www.bc.edu/offices/careers/gradschool/law/lawlocator.html>). Additionally, the **law section** in the Career Services Resource Center contains **Dartmouth College admissions statistics** for the previous five years.

The Academic Program

Many schools offer a wide variety of options for specialization and dual degree programs. Almost every combination is available at some institutions, the most popular being JD/MBA and JD/MA in areas such as history, international relations, economics, and government. Please note clinical programs, law journals, and study abroad options. The annual *NAPLA/SAPLA Book of Law School Lists* (available in the Career Services Resource Center) contains more information on special programs.

The Law School Environment

Every fall admissions representatives visit Dartmouth to discuss their programs with students. These events are advertised on the Career Services Blitz Bulletin. Although interviews are usually not a part of the admissions process, you will find visits to law schools very informative. Make an appointment to sit in on a class. Discussions with law students and professors can help you assess the school. The number of excellent law schools is far greater than most people realize. If you are planning an academic career or a judicial clerkship, it is important to select schools which most commonly graduate students who become professors and judicial clerks. For applicants with specific professional objectives, looking at the schools' elective courses, clinical programs, and law journals can be useful. Most schools' websites and catalogs contain profiles detailing percentages of graduates entering major law firms, corporations, law-related positions, the judiciary, federal and state government, and private practice. When you speak with current law students, ask about placement opportunities, including summer jobs available to first-year students. Consider carefully the following:

- Likelihood of admission
- Quality and accessibility of faculty
- Reputation
- Method of instruction
- Enrollment and class size
- Overall cost and the availability of financial aid
- Special programs and clinical opportunities
- Size and diversity of the student body
- Location, housing, and kinds of recreation available
- Facilities, especially the library
- Ambiance of the law school
- Extracurricular programs
- Career placement
- Bar passage rate (percentage of graduates who pass the bar)

The competitiveness of the admissions process varies among schools. Rankings of schools are controversial, especially if the criteria are not defined. There is no optimum number of applications one should file. The application process is not only lengthy and time-consuming it is also costly. Please apply to a range of schools.

Application Procedures

Application Components

- Law School Admission Test (LSAT)
- LSAC Credential Assembly Service (LSDAS)/Law School Report
- Official Transcript(s)
- Applications from individual schools (free electronic individual school applications available from LSAC)
- Letters of recommendation
- Personal statement
- Resume (can be two pages – expanded version)
- Other Materials: Citations; Dean's Certification (required by some schools), additional essays

The *LSAT and LSDAS Information Book*, published by the Law School Admission Council, is available in Career Services and provides procedural information about applying to law school. The information contained in the booklet is also available online at (<http://www.LSAC.org>).

Fee Waivers

Information about **fee waivers** for the LSAT and LSDAS is available online at (<http://www.lsac.org/Applying/lstdas-fee-waivers.asp>) and in the *LSAT and LSDAS Registration/Information Book*. You must apply online through the LSAC website and LSAC recommends that you submit your completed fee waiver online application at least four weeks prior to the regular registration deadline for a particular test date. If you also require a fee waiver for an application fee contact the admissions office at a law school of your choice to determine if the school participates in the fee waiver program and how it wants you to submit your application. Get an early start during spring or summer, well before you plan to apply. Procedures for requesting application fee waivers are described in the individual law school catalogs.

Law School Admission Test (LSAT)

The test is offered in June, September or October, December, and February. Most schools accept scores of tests taken up to five years before applying, although some law schools *may* require more recent test scores. You should take that test no later than September/October in the test year in which you are applying to law school. Taking the test the previous June, however, gives you the added advantage of knowing your score before the application process begins. It also allows you time to repeat the test in October if your score is unsatisfactory. Law schools will accept the December test, but **do not plan** to take the test more than once. Remember that all scores are reported to law schools, and many schools review multiple scores and not just the highest. We highly recommend you not take the test if you are not adequately prepared. The range of possible scores on the LSAT is 120-180. The median score of Dartmouth students and alumni/ae who applied to law school to matriculate in the fall of 2008 was 163.

We recommend using the official Law School Admission Council (LSAC) materials to prepare for the LSAT. Test-taking strategies and a sample LSAT are in the *LSAT and LSDAS Information Book*. Additional preparation materials may be ordered online from the Law School Admission Council. Commercial test preparation courses are offered at Dartmouth and in most metropolitan areas. Before you enroll in a course, make sure you really need it. Study carefully the information, advice and sample questions in the *LSAT and LSDAS Information Book*, and then take the sample test. For best results, time yourself and do the entire test at one sitting. Learn from your mistakes, and then try one or more additional tests. If this strategy is **not successful**, then consider commercial preparation courses.

Application Forms and Catalogs

LSAC provides free electronic applications to all applicants after they register for the LSDAS. Applicants can complete applications online for all of the ABA-accredited schools using their LSAC account. Applications are usually available from law schools near the end of the summer. If you want to begin your applications before fall term, consult the school catalogs and sample applications from the previous year. Get a head start on the essay or personal statement section. Note the application and financial aid deadlines so that you can organize your individual timetable. Law schools utilize a rolling admission method. Aim to have your **applications submitted by Dec. 1st**, well ahead of the stated deadlines.

LSAC Credential Assembly Service (LSDAS)

Law schools require applicants to subscribe to the **Credential Assembly Service (LSDAS)**. The LSDAS prepares and provides a report for each law school to which you apply. Information contained in the report includes an undergraduate academic summary, including copies of all undergraduate, graduate, and law school/professional school transcript(s), LSAT score(s) and your writing sample copy, and copies of letters of recommendation processed by LSAC. This information along with your application, personal statement, and letters of recommendation is used to make a decision on your application. Register for the Credential Assembly Service (LSDAS) online at www.lsac.org. **Register only in the year in which you are applying to law schools.** Fees and services are explained online. LSDAS subscriptions are valid for five years.

Transcripts

Complete the **Transcript Request Form** available from your LSAC online account. Log into your account and go to Apply/Credentials/Transcripts, and click on Transcript Request Form. Also complete the Dartmouth College Registrar Transcript Request Form available online at (www.dartmouth.edu/~reg/services/transcripts.html). Submit **both** forms to the Registrar in person (105 McNutt Hall), by fax (603-646-2247), or mail (6014 McNutt Hall, Room 105, Hanover, NH 03755). Questions regarding transcripts should be directed to the Registrar's Office (603-646-2246). Transcripts must be ordered at least one week in advance of the required mailing date. Undergraduates usually send transcripts during the summer before senior fall unless they are taking courses in the summer. Dartmouth does not charge for transcripts. You must order transcripts from every academic institution in which you have been enrolled. Although credit for coursework completed elsewhere is recorded on your Dartmouth transcript, grades are not; consequently, transcripts from all institutions you attended must be sent

to LSAC's Credential Assembly Service. It takes LSAC approximately two weeks to process a transcript from the time it is received.

Letters of Recommendation

Before requesting letters of recommendation, consult the law school applications for specific instructions. Most schools **require at least two academic recommendations** and accept no more than four. Applicants usually request one letter from a major professor and one from a professor in a second discipline. In addition, letters from employers are often relevant. There are no absolute rules, but as a guideline, three academic letters are not too many, provided they present different information and describe substantively your skills and accomplishments. More than four letters, however, may be excessive. Since recommendations are weighed heavily in the admissions decisions, make your choices carefully, gathering strong evaluations from persons who have had an opportunity to observe your academic strengths and your personal qualities.

Contact your professors early. Make an appointment (phone appointment for alums) with each of your recommenders to discuss your course work and other interests as well as your plans for law school. Writers will appreciate you providing information to assist them in writing your letter. This information includes: Resume; Transcript; Personal statement draft (if written); a statement on why you are choosing to go to law school; a summary of what you learned from your experience with the writer; a copy of a paper you wrote for their class (with their comments).

Specify a reasonable and agreed upon deadline for the completion of your letter. Professors are busy and they write letters out of interest in you and in your future. Given the Dartmouth calendar, a writer may be on leave when you need to have your recommendations, so check their schedules early. It may take more than one reminder and a longer time than you might expect, so allow **at least four weeks from the time of request**. Aim to have your file complete by **November 1**.

Although many law school applications include recommendation forms with their applications, these forms are usually not required. Dartmouth professors and administrators prefer to write recommendations on their letterhead stationary and send them to your LEO credential file in Career Services, to LSAC's Letter of Recommendation service, or directly to the schools to which you apply.

LEO/Dartmouth College Credential Service

Dartmouth students and recent graduates may establish a file with Letters of Evaluation Online (LEO) to assemble letters of recommendation from letter writers. To open a LEO file go to (<http://leo.dartmouth.edu>) and click on Create a LEO account.

If you choose to store your letters in your Career Services LEO file, we then mail copies to LSAC or law schools at your request. Career Services will mail letters only to schools or LSAC, and will never release confidential letters directly to the applicant. All files will be maintained for ten years following graduation. It is your responsibility to check your online LEO account that the letters you have requested have arrived in Career Services. **Allow 3-5 days for processing of your requests.**

LSAC's Letter of Recommendation Service

LSAC offers the Letter of Recommendation Service as a convenience to Credential Assembly Service (LSDAS) registrants, evaluation letter writers, and LSDAS-participating law schools. Use of this service is optional unless a law school to which you are applying states that it is required. Be sure to check the letter of recommendation requirements for each law school. You can request Career Services to mail letters from your LEO account to LSAC.

To use LEO and the LSAC Letter of Recommendation Service:

1. Go to your LSAC online account. Choose Apply – Credentials – Letters of Recommendation
2. Under the My LORs and Recommenders section, click on the Add Recommender button.
3. Under **Recommender Information** enter the **name of your recommender**.
4. Under **Contact Information** enter the following **Career Services address**:
Dartmouth College, Career Services, 63 South Main Street Suite 200, Hanover, NH 03755-2091.
Phone: 603-646-2215 **Email:** credentials@dartmouth.edu
DO NOT enter your recommender's address. Click Submit.
5. Repeat this step for each of your letter writers.
6. Under My LORs and Recommenders click on each letter in the Letter ID/Description column to print the forms.
7. Print the Letter of Recommendation forms for each letter writer and mail them or drop them off to Career Services, 63 South Main Street, Suite 200, Hanover, NH 03755-2091 (on campus HB 6208).
8. **DO NOT GIVE THE LSAC LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FORM TO YOUR LETTER WRITER.**
9. Go to your LEO account for directions on how to send your letters to LSAC.
10. When LSAC receives and processes your letters the "Date Received" will be listed under the My LORs and Recommenders section.

11. **IMPORTANT:** You must assign your letters to each law school to which you are applying in order for them to be sent with your Law School Report. You may assign the letters before or after LSAC receives the actual letter.
12. To Assign Letters: Under My Law Schools, click on the Add School/Term button.
13. Choose your schools and review the letter of recommendation requirements.
14. From the Letters of Recommendation main page, go to the My Schools section and click on the Assign Letters button next to each school.
15. Choose your letters and click Submit.
16. When you submit your electronic applications through the LSAC website, LSAC will send the assigned letters to your designated schools.

Any letter sent to LSAC with an incomplete LSAC Letter of Recommendation Form or without a form will be returned to Career Services or the recommender. LSAC will not accept letters sent by the candidate.

LSAC must receive your letters at least two weeks prior to a school's application deadline to ensure that the school receives your letters before its deadline. Be sure to inform your recommenders of the importance of sending their letters promptly. You are encouraged to have your letters sent to LSAC as soon as possible after you have registered for the Credential Assembly Service (LSDAS). This will help ensure that schools receive your letters in a timely manner. Remember that you can have letters sent to LSAC before you decide on the law schools to which you apply.

Reminders:

- Any letter sent with an incomplete form, without a form, or without the recommenders signature will be returned to the recommender/Career Services. **Letters cannot be signed electronically.**
- You should always check the specific letter of recommendation requirements of each law school.
- Letters sent to LSAC remain the property of LSAC and will be neither returned to nor copied for the candidate.
- In addition to monitoring credential file activity with LEO, you should check the status of letters in your online LSAC account.

Citations

LSDAS forwards citations to law schools with your Dartmouth transcript. You do not need to send your citations to your Career Services LEO account. Please contact the Registrar's Office with any questions about citations. (603-646-2246; www.dartmouth.edu/~reg/services/transcripts.html).

Dean's Certifications

Many law schools require certification of the applicant's undergraduate record. At Dartmouth, one of the deans from the Undergraduate Dean's Office attests to the applicant's academic and personal record as part of the Dean's Certification. This certification will include notification of any major disciplinary sanctions (i.e. Conduct: Suspension or Separation; Academic: Probation, Suspension, or Separation). It is not College policy to report the specifics of the proceedings. All law schools will accept Dartmouth's standard Dean's Certification form, in lieu of their own forms.

To obtain a Dean's Certification **you must open a LEO account**. Print out the Dean's Certification Request form from LEO and submit it to Colleen Murphy in the Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Students, 6003 Parkhurst, Hanover, NH 03755. The Dean's Office will forward your Certification to be included in your Credential File in Career Services. When a law school requests a completed Dean's Certification, please use LEO to request that it be sent directly to the school. LSAC does not process dean's certifications.

Current Students: Dean's Certifications are signed by your Dean. If you are required to include the name of your Dean in your application, please contact Colleen Murphy at 603-646-2506 for this information.

Alumni: Dean's Certifications are signed by Deborah A. Tyson, Dean of Undergraduate Students.

Personal Statements

Most applications include an open-ended question about your accomplishments and career goals. Even if not required, it is wise to provide one. The essay is your opportunity to present your personal attributes, accomplishments, passions, and interests to the admissions committee, since interviews are not part of the process. A good essay might be the deciding factor in an admissions decision; an unconvincing or unremarkable essay can adversely affect your chances of admission.

The most effective essays convey a personal dimension. They describe an individual, distinguished by intellectual motivation and accomplishment, social concerns and contributions, and personal values. You may want to develop the essay around an experience, an accomplishment or an interest. It may help to imagine yourself in an interview situation with the admissions officer, or simply talking to a good friend whom you have not seen for a while. What do you want the admissions officers to know about you? In general, avoid second-guessing what lawyers do or discussing legal issues unless pertinent to your

experience. Above all, be sure your essay is interesting and well written. Since the essay is evidence of your writing ability, be careful about grammar and spelling. Limit yourself to two typed pages, double-spaced. Review the Personal Statement handout available online at (<http://www.dartmouth.edu/~csrc/pdfs/Personal%20Statement%20Handout.pdf>)

Deadlines

Submit your applications by **December 1**, well ahead of the deadlines. Most admissions officers begin to read applications in December and schools with rolling admissions begin to announce their decisions in January or February. The earliest deadlines are usually between January 1 and February 1. When fall term grades have been released, send an updated transcript to LSAC using the LSDAS Transcript Request form. This information will be incorporated into your file and updated transcript reports will be sent to the law schools.

Misconduct and Irregularities in the Admissions Process

“The Law School Admission Council has established procedures for dealing with instances of possible candidate misconduct or irregularities on the LSAT or in the law school admission process. Misconduct or irregularity in the admission process is a serious offense with serious consequences. Intent is not an element of a finding of misconduct or irregularity. This means that an “honest mistake” is not a defense to a charge of misconduct or irregularity. Misconduct or irregularity is defined as the submission, as part of the law school admission process, including, but not limited to, regular, transfer, and visiting applications, of any information that is false, inconsistent, or misleading, or the omission of information that may result in a false or misleading conclusion, or the violation of any regulation governing the law school admission process, including any violation of LSAT test center regulations.” (See LSAC website for examples of misconduct and irregularities.)

–*Law School Admission Council* (<http://www.lsac.org/Applying/misconduct-and-irregularities.asp>)

Applicants should be prepared to answer candidly and honestly questions about their background. Examples follow:

From Cornell Law School

Have you ever been the subject of disciplinary proceedings, or been warned; placed on probation; dropped; expelled or been asked or advised or permitted to withdraw; or suspended for academic, nonacademic, or any other reasons by any of the colleges, universities, graduate schools, or professional schools you have attended, or are any such proceedings pending?

-and-

Have you ever, either as an adult or a juvenile, been cited, arrested, taken into custody, charged with, indicted, convicted or tried for, or pleaded guilty to, the commission of any felony or misdemeanor or the violation of any law, except minor parking or traffic violations, or been the subject of any juvenile delinquency or youthful offender proceeding?

From Boston College Law School

Have you ever been placed on academic warning, academic probation or conduct probation, or been dismissed or subjected to any disciplinary action from any college, graduate or professional school, law school or professional licensing agency?

Are you currently charged with (note: we are not inquiring about arrests) any violation of law other than minor traffic violations with a fine of less than \$100.00 per violation?

Applicants who answer "yes" to any such question should meet with a pre-law advisor and include an addendum with their applications. This document should describe and take full responsibility for the incident. Failure to disclose is considered misconduct and can result in expulsion from law school, refusal of an application to take the bar exam, or even subsequent disbarment.

Admissions Decisions

Most law schools begin to announce decisions in February. By the beginning of April, you should know your status at most schools. If you are notified that your decision will be placed on “hold” or that you’ll be placed on a “wait list”, acknowledge the notification and send any relevant current information, including an updated transcript, an additional letter of recommendation, a brief account of your present academic work, especially if you are writing a thesis, any new honors/awards, and accomplishments and new responsibilities in your job if you are working. “Hold” status implies that your application has been reviewed, and that the school has not made a decision. This may be because a school wants to see a larger percentage of the applicant pool before making a decision. “Wait list” status implies that the law school believes that you are qualified to be a member of the entering class, but that there were too many other candidates who were even more qualified. Many times students are admitted off the wait list through late in the spring and summer. If you find yourself on hold or on a waitlist at a school, please discuss your options with the pre-law advisor.

Financial Aid

Most financial aid is administered through individual law schools, and most awards are based on financial need. Although most financial aid packets have a large loan component, some merit scholarships are offered. Read individual law school catalogs for procedures for applying for specific scholarships and for financial aid policies. Contact the financial aid office at the law school if you need further information. Many schools have **loan repayment assistance programs (LRAP)** for graduates who choose to enter low paying or public-interest law firms.

If you wish to be considered for **federal aid**, you must complete the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** form, available from the law school's financial aid office and online at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>. The new form is usually available in January and should be completed as soon as possible after January 1. Individual institutions will require additional financial aid forms to be completed. Please be sure to read the institution's financial aid information and deadlines carefully.

Pre-Law Resources

Selecting Law Schools

Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools: http://officialguide.lsac.org/ONLG_Default.aspx

Boston College's Law School Locator: <http://www.bc.edu/offices/careers/gradschool/law/lawlocator.html>

Directory of Law School Public Interest & Pro Bono Programs: www.abanet.org/legalservices/probono/lawschools

U.S. News Law School Rankings: www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/rankings/law/lawindex_brief.php

The NAPLA/SAPLA Book of Law School Lists: Contains information on academic programs, clinical programs, admission policies, student organizations, scholarships, and more (available in Career Services and on reserve in Baker).

Application Information

Law School Admission Council: www.lsac.org

Career Services Applying to Law School Online Workshop: <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~csrc/students/handouts.html#VII>

LEO Credential Service in Career Services: <https://leo.dartmouth.edu/>

LSAT Information (Career Services does not endorse or recommend any particular test-prep program.)

Law School Admission Council: www.lsac.org

Kaplan: www.kaptest.com

The Princeton Review: www.princetonreview.com

PowerScore: www.powerscore.com

TestMasters: www.testmasters180.com

Applicant Resources (including diversity initiatives)

American Bar Association - Preparing for Law School: www.abanet.org/legaled/prelaw/prep.html

LSAC's Diversity Initiatives: <http://www.lsac.org/SpecialInterests/SpecialInterest-menu.asp>

LSAC's Discover Law: (<http://discoverlaw.org>) Initiative to encourage racially and ethnically diverse students to discover career opportunities in law and choose a path in undergraduate school to help them succeed.

Council on Legal Education Opportunity (CLEO): www.cleoscholars.com

LSAC's Information for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgendered Applicants:

www.lsac.org/SpecialInterests/information-lesbian-gay-bisexual-applicants.asp

ABA's Commission on Women in the Profession: www.abanet.org/women/home.html

Financial Aid and Scholarship Sources

Dartmouth Scholarship Advising Office: www.dartmouth.edu/~scholarship

LSAC: Financial Aid for Law School: www.lsac.org/Financing/financial-aid-introduction.asp

Free Application for Federal Student Aid: www.fafsa.ed.gov

U.S. Department of Education Federal Student Aid: <http://studentaid.ed.gov>

FinAid: Sponsored by the National Association of Student Financial Administrators (www.finaid.org)

FastWeb: Resource for local, national and college-specific scholarships (www.fastweb.com)

The Access Group: A non-profit group that provides education financing to eligible students (www.accessgroup.org)

Nellie Mae EDvisor: Provides loan programs and information on financing an education (www.nelliemae.org)

Debt Relief & Loan Repayment Assistance Programs: (www.equaljusticeworks.org/resources/student-debt-relief/default)

Includes information on the College Cost Reduction and Access Act – Public Service Loan Forgiveness

LSAC Scholarship Listings: <http://www.lsac.org/SpecialInterests/minorities-in-legal-education-scholarships.asp>

(Resources continued on next page)

Legal Career Information**American Bar Association:** <http://www.abanet.org/legaled.html>**The Association for Legal Career Professionals (NALP):** Legal career planning and recruitment information (www.nalp.org)**Equal Justice Works:** Information on law careers in public service (www.equaljusticeworks.org)**FindLaw:** Comprehensive set of legal resources including section for students (www.findlaw.com)**Hieros Gamos:** A comprehensive law and government portal (www.hg.org)**Internet Legal Research Group:** Information concerning law and the legal profession (www.ilrg.com)**Law.com:** News, legal information and e-law services (www.law.com)**Dartmouth Lawyers Association:** www.dla.org**Employment Resources****Martindale:** Database of law firms and lawyers searchable by location and practice area. (www.martindale.com)**The Association for Legal Career Professionals (NALP) Directory of Legal Employers:** (<http://www.nalpdirectory.com>)**National Federation of Paralegal Associations (NFPA):** (www.paralegals.org)**National Legal Aid & Defender Association:** Job listings in civil legal services, defender and public interest organizations and academia (<http://www.nlada.org/Jobs>)**Prosecuting Attorneys Directory:** Links to websites for District Attorneys, Attorney Generals, & US Attorneys Offices throughout the United States (<http://207.74.121.45/Prosecutor/proslist.htm>)**Legal Services Corporation:** Directory of U.S. legal aid organizations (<http://www.lsc.gov/map/index.php>)**West Legal Directory's LawOffice.com:** Searchable directory of more than one million lawyers and legal professionals (www.lawyers.findlaw.com)**Career Services Resource Center and Website**

(*On reserve in the Baker Library Project Room, located in the Reserve Corridor)

Applying to Law School Online Workshop (<http://www.dartmouth.edu/~csrc/students/handouts.html#VII>)**Admissions Statistics Notebooks** - Profiles of national and Dartmouth applicants' outcomes at each school**Best 174 Law Schools** - Princeton Review**Dartmouth Alumni Questionnaires Notebooks****Dartmouth Career Alumni Network** - Networking database, searchable by graduate school and degree (<http://alumni.dartmouth.edu/default.aspx?id=312>)**Funding for Law School Notebook*****LSAT SuperPrep** - Contains three complete PrepTests, a guide to LSAT logic, explanations for every item in all 3 tests (Feb. 2000, Feb. 1999, Feb. 1996), sample comparative reading questions and explanations***LSAT PrepTest 55 (October 2008 LSAT)** - Contains the actual October 2008 LSAT. You can practice as if taking an actual test by following the test-taking instructions and timing yourself. In addition to actual LSAT questions, each PrepTest contains an answer key, writing sample, and score-conversion table.***The NAPLA/SAPLA Book of Law School Lists** - Contains information on academic programs, clinical programs, admission policies, student organizations, scholarships, and more.**Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools** - American Bar Association and Law School Admission Council***The Official Guide to Legal Specialties** - National Association for Law Placement**So You Want to Be a Lawyer: A practical guide to law as a career** - Law School Admission Council**The Ultimate Guide to Law School Admission** by Carol L. Wright