

Pre-Law Career Checklist

Freshman and Sophomore Years

- Select a major in a field that both interests you and allows you to excel academically.
- Begin to form relationships with professors, lecturers, and TAs so that they will know your work well enough to serve as recommenders in the future.
- Expand your education by seeking summer jobs or internships in fields of interest.
- Contact the **Career Center** for assistance with finding an internship and taking the Arts & Sciences internship course.

Junior Year

- Meet with a **Career Center** pre-law advisor to assess your academic, extracurricular, and work experiences and to discuss the application process.
- Begin preparing for the LSAT; if you are ready, register for the June administration.
- Secure a summer job or internship, if possible, in a law-related field.
- Research law schools and compile a list of tentative schools.

Senior Year (or Year Before Entering Law School)

- Decide whether to use the Law School Admission Council's electronic applications to apply, or call/write to law schools or visit their websites to request catalogs and application materials.
- Register for the Law School Data Assembly Service (LSDAS). Have transcripts from all undergraduate institutions you have attended sent to the LSDAS after verifying their accuracy.
- Make sure your LSDAS report is correct.
- Ask potential recommendation writers if they would be willing to write letters on your behalf. Provide them with the LSDAS recommendation forms or the schools' forms along with sufficient information to write detailed letters.
- Make arrangements to have dean's certifications sent to schools that require them.
- Attend law school fairs and programs offered by your college or university on the application process.
- Take the LSAT on September 29 if you did not take the test in June.
- Begin drafting and revising your personal statement.
- Meet with a pre-law advisor, who will help you assess the strength of your application in relation to schools you are considering. Request a critique of your personal statement draft.
- Complete applications by early to mid-November.
- Take the LSAT on December 1 if you did not take it previously or are retaking the test.
- Check with schools to make sure your files are complete.
- Complete the FAFSA and other need analysis forms such as Need Access as well as any institutional financial aid applications as soon after January 1 as possible.
- Have financial aid transcripts sent from Rutgers to all schools to which you are applying.
- Meet with a Career Center pre-law advisor in the spring to assess your options as schools respond to you.
- Take appropriate action on acceptances, wait-list status, and financial aid packages.
- Before leaving campus, have a final transcript sent to the law school you plan to attend and/or to any schools still considering your application.