

# Law School Selection: Where to Apply



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AIRC Pre-Law Advisors Conference  
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# Four Key Questions

Where can I get in?

Where do I want to apply?

Where will I thrive?

How do I apply?





1) Where Can You Get In?

# Sources of Information

LSAC  
Official  
Guide

Admissions  
Professionals

Admissions  
Materials

ABA 509

Current  
Students

Faculty

Advisors

Consultants

Other Survey  
Data (e.g.,  
LGBTQ Bar)

LSN

Reddit

Rankings

Select schools from a U.S. map [↗](#)

## Start Your Search

Search by Keyword

Search by State

- Any -



Search by Credentials

UGPA

LSAT

Likelihood of Admission

Display All



Sort By

Alphabetical (A-Z)



Search for Schools

The University of  
Akron School of  
Law

The University of  
Alabama School of  
Law

Albany Law School  
Albany, New York

## Creating Your School List

You can keep track of the schools to which you'd like to apply in your LSAC online account. To create your School List, select "Search for Schools" from your account dashboard. From here, you can access a full list of LSAC-member law schools. All ABA-approved law schools are also members of LSAC.

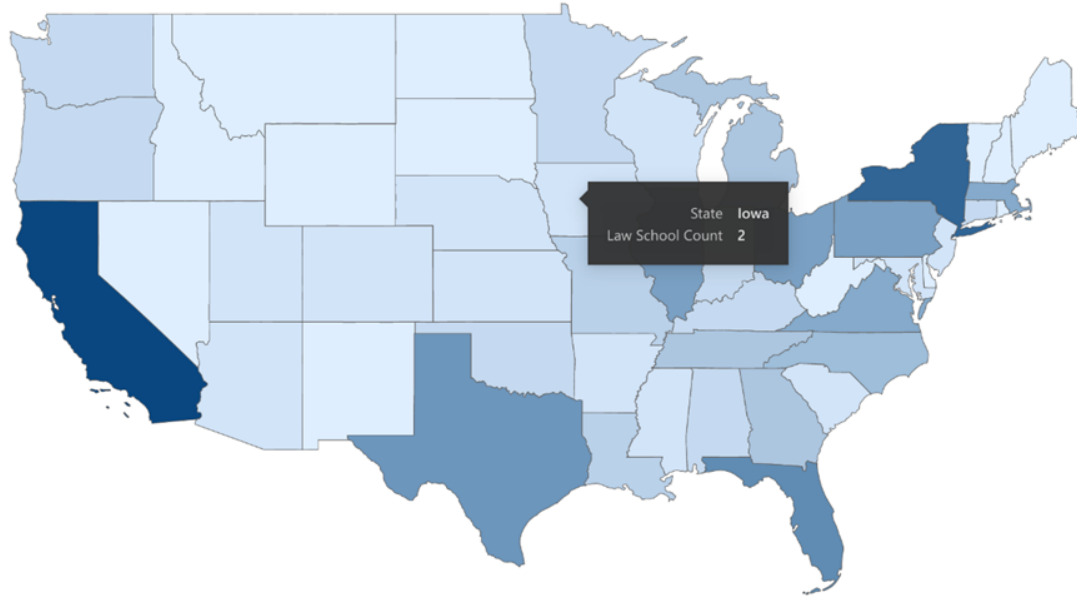
When you find a school that interests you, make sure to add it to your personal School List. This will give you access to the school's online application.

Add Schools





## Continental U.S. States



## Law Schools

The University of Akron School of Law

The University of Alabama School of Law

Albany Law School

American University Washington College of Law

Appalachian School of Law

The University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law

Arizona State University-Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law

University of Arkansas School of Law

University of Arkansas at Little Rock, William H. Bowen School of Law

Atlanta's John Marshall Law School

Ave Maria School of Law

University of Baltimore School of Law

Barry University Dwayne O. Andreas School of Law

Baylor University School of Law

Belmont University College of Law

Boston College Law School

Boston University School of Law

Brigham Young University-J. Reuben Clark Law School

Brooklyn Law School

University at Buffalo School of Law, The State University of New York

California Western School of Law

Campbell University, Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law

Capital University Law School

Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University

## Hawai'i



## District of Columbia



## Puerto Rico



# CALIFORNIA-BERKELEY, UNIVERSITY OF - 2021 Standard 509 Information Report

215 Law Building  
Berkeley, CA 94720-7200

Phone: 510-642-6483

Website: [www.law.berkeley.edu](http://www.law.berkeley.edu)

<http://www.abarequireddisclosures.org>

Report Generated on: 05-26-2022

ABA  
Approved  
Since  
1923



## The Basics

Type of school	Public
Application deadline	February 15, 2022
Application fee	\$75
Financial aid deadline	June 30, 2022

## Academic Calendar

Term	Semester
Months students may begin studying law	August
Months the Law school confers degrees	May, December
# of credit hours required to earn the JD	85

## Curricular Offerings 2020-2021

	2020-2021
Typical first-year section size, excluding Legal Research & Writing	80
Number of course titles,beyond the first year curricular,offered last year	319
Number of upper division class room course sections with an enrollment:	
Under 25	235
25 to 49	52

## 2021 First Year Class (Oct 6th 2020-Oct 5th 2021)

	2021
Completed Applications	7948
Offers of Admission	1086
Acceptance Rate (Percent)	13.66%
Enrollees from Applicant pool	343
Enrollment rate from Completed Applications	4.32%
Enrollment rate from Offers of Admission	31.58%
Other first-year enrollees	41


	All	Full Time	Part Time
Total in First-year class	384	384	0
LSAT	All	Full Time	Part Time
75th Percentile	171	171	0
50th Percentile	169	169	0
25th Percentile	165	165	0
# not included in LSAT calculations	5	5	0
UGPA	All	Full Time	Part Time
75th Percentile	3.92	3.92	0.00
50th Percentile	3.83	3.83	0.00
25th Percentile	3.74	3.74	0.00
# not included in UGPA calculations	5	5	0

year policies and data. The survey consisted of 26 questions, many of which had sub-parts. Based on the schools' responses to the original questions, they were not always asked to answer the sub-parts, or the sub-parts were not applicable based on school policy. In such cases, the fields have been left empty. However, a field that says "Answer left blank" indicates that the school was asked for that information but chose not to answer.

Please click on each individual school's name for more detailed answers and information.

## 2020-2021 LAW SCHOOL CAMPUS CLIMATE SURVEY EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

(Note on the Executive Summary: At the date we went public with our data, 110 schools had completed the survey. Since then, we have had one more school respond. As such, the data in the Executive Summary reflects the original 110 participating schools.)



Law School	Seeks out prospective LGBTQ+ students?	Welcome packet mentions identity group support?	Option for students to self-identify?	Total Students Enrolled
Albany Law School	Yes	Yes	Yes	504 JD students.
Appalachian School of Law	No	Yes	No	
Boston University School of Law	Yes	Yes	Yes	750
Brigham Young University, J. Reuben Clark Law School	Yes	No	No	
Brooklyn Law School	No	No	Yes	1119
California Western School of Law	Yes	Yes	Yes	640
Campbell University, Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law	No	No	No	
Capital University Law School	Yes	Yes	Yes	<a href="#">View Comments</a>
Case Western Reserve University School of Law	Yes	Yes	Yes	405
Charleston School of Law	Yes	Yes	No	
City University of New York School of Law	Yes	Yes	Yes	640
Cleveland State University, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law	Yes	Yes	Yes	481
Cornell Law School	Yes	Yes	Yes	672
Creighton University School of Law	No	No	No	
Drake University Law School	Yes	Yes	Yes	324
Drexel University, Thomas R. Kline School of Law	Yes	Yes	Yes	482
Duquesne University School of Law	Yes	Yes	No	
Florida University School of Law	Yes	Yes	Yes	<a href="#">View Comments</a>



Visiting for  
Admit Days  
\$0 - \$2,500

App Fees  
\$0 - \$100+  
Per school

Acceptance  
Deposits  
\$0-\$1,000+

Relocation  
and Moving  
\$0-\$5,000+

Test Prep  
Program  
\$0 - \$2,000

LSAT &  
LSAT  
Writing

Change  
Fees  
\$125 - \$390

Score  
Preview  
\$45 - \$75

CAS Fee  
\$195

Law School  
Report  
\$45/school

Score Audit  
\$62.50 -  
\$125

# Cost of Applying to Law School





- Fee Waivers
  - From LSAC
  - From Schools - when and how to ask
  - CAS Fee Waivers
- Candidate Referral Service (CRS)
  - Why participate
  - Tips & things to avoid

# Understanding Your Chances

What You Can  
Know

What You Can  
Control

What You Can't  
Know

What You  
Can't Control



# It's More than the Medians

## Test Scores

Scores, Score Bands, Addenda,  
Medians, Ranges, Trends

## Academic Record

uGPA, Graduate Degree, etc.

## Leveraging your Strengths

Statements, Resume, LORs

## Tailoring your Applications

Applying Early (but not necessarily  
Early Decision), School-specific LORs &  
Statements



# Addenda: The WHY & The HOW

Explanations and context for “blips.” Think of them as footnotes for your CAS report. **Frequent topics for addenda:**

## Academic History

uGPA, age of grades, grade trends, outlier grades, “false starts,” rigor of major/school, time to degree, reduced course load, gaps/leaves, other obligations while in school, etc.

## Test Performance

LSAT score: Multiple scores, outlier scores, non-predictive for grades, score cancellation/no-shows, day-of issues, why no retakes, LSAT + GRE, etc.

BE SURE YOU ACTUALLY NEED TO WRITE THESE.

**Remember:** If writing about tests, you are not telling us you are “bad at standardized tests.” You are telling us that “standardized tests are bad at predicting your academic performance.”

## **The standard format that I recommend is:**

(1) **WHAT YOU WANT:** Start with what you want (we have limited time, you need to tell me right away why I should keep reading)

(2) **WHY YOU'RE RAISING IT:** Identify the issue (I'm going to see it anyway, may as well just put it out there)

(3) **WHAT HAPPENED:** Give us context, make your best argument/neutralize the issue

(4) **WHAT SHOULD WE BE LOOKING AT INSTEAD:** End on a positive note - always! What do you have to offer that (a) there is evidence of in your record, and (b) can't be measured by a standardized test? Also, be sure to send in a copy of your SAT score report as documentation (or note that documentation is available upon request) if you're writing an test-exception addendum.



2) Where Do You Want to Attend?





Location

Programs,  
Clinics, etc.

Selectivity

Placement

Affordability

Academics

Prestige

Leadership

Community

Bar Pass

Mission



Alumni

Programs

Selectivity

Placement

Net  
Cost

Academics

Prestige

Location

Community

Bar Pass

Clinics

-Family Housing  
-Undocumented  
Student Support

**Alumni**

**Programs**

**Selectivity**

**Placement**

Net Cost

**Academics**

**Prestig  
e**

Location

**Community**

**Bar Pass**

**Clinics**

-Study Abroad  
-Weather



# Special Considerations

- Proximity to community, family, home.
- Native American community on campus - law school, graduate students, all students, faculty, staff, programs, student center, etc.
- Campus feel and comfort: Belonging.
- Safety.
- Indian Law Program, Certificate, LLM, other.
- Reputation in Indian Country - placement in specific firms, Tribal OGC, Federal and State agencies, etc.
- Regional resources: IHS, powwow, food, etc.





Strength  
Overall

Strength  
Regionally or  
Locally

Strength of a  
Program

Strength of Fit  
for You

# Where Can the School Get You?



Placement  
Rates

Fields of Law

Locations of  
Placement

Public Interest  
Fellowships

Bar Pass Rates

Types of Jobs

Clerkships

Graduation  
Rates



# Affordability

Tuition and  
Fees

(+) Cost of  
Living

(-) Gift Aid

(-) Loan Aid\*

= Net Cost





## Avoiding “Sticker Shock”

- Binding Early Decision Awards
- Programmatic Awards
- Public Interest Fellowship
- Continuing Student Scholarships
- Donor-Based Awards
- International Student Support
- Loans (Federal, Private, Institutional, Emergency)
- Merit Based Aid
- Need Based Aid
- Native American Tuition Plans
- Other Aid (COVID-19 Emergency, etc.)
- Parent Grants
- Post-Grad Support (e.g., LRAP)
- Programmatic Awards (e.g., BLOS)
- Reconsideration Process
- Undocumented Students & DACA Recipient Support
- Yellow Ribbon and/or Other Veteran’s Benefits

# Other Ways to Think About Affordability

A photograph of a university campus scene. In the foreground, a young woman with dark hair, wearing a red shirt and a backpack, is sitting on a long, grey concrete bench, looking at her phone. In the background, two other students are sitting at a table under a large blue umbrella, working on laptops. The scene is outdoors, with many trees and a building in the distance.

Salary to Debt  
Ratio

Return on  
Investment

Loan  
Repayment  
Assistance

PSLF





3) Where Will You Thrive?

Diversity

Student  
Organizations

Grading  
System

Support  
Systems



Community



# Academics & Curriculum

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a black academic cap and gown with a purple and yellow stole, is speaking at a wooden podium. She is wearing gold-rimmed sunglasses. A microphone is positioned in front of her. In the background, another person in academic regalia is partially visible.

Experiential  
Education

Access to  
Faculty

Flexibility

Joint Degrees

Research

Depth &  
Breadth



Student-  
Centeredness

Reach

Mission

Vision

Leadership

**“Reaches” or  
Dream Schools**

**3-5 Schools**

Unpredictable, opaque

You’d regret not trying

You understand it’s not all a  
numbers game

Would you go for no \$?

**Solid Chances  
\$?**

**3-5 Schools**

Numbers are close, or one is  
above medians

Good fit, checks many of  
your boxes

**Nearly Certain  
\$\$-\$\$\$\$**

**3-5 Schools**

You’ll be desirable

You’d actually attend

Use Fee Waivers

Only if you would be happy  
as a graduate!

**4) How Do I Apply? Application Strategy**



# Ask Me Anything!

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