

Admission After 2 Years University - Law

LAW

(S.3599, S.92-40, S.92-115, S.02-011, S.06-96, S.08-90, S.08-191)

A. First Year

There are two categories for admission into first year, General and Discretionary. The Admission Committee - composed of members of the law faculty, law students and the admissions officer- will decide how many offers to make in each category. In no case will the number of students admitted in the Discretionary category exceed 25% of the class.

Deadlines for First-Year Applicants

Application and Transcripts - November 1 for studies commencing the following September.
Last LSAT score accepted - February test for studies commencing the following September.

General Category

Normally, at least a three-year undergraduate degree is required, although the majority of admitted students will have a four-year or honors degree. A competitive candidate will have an A- (80% - 84%) average (GPA 3.7), particularly for the last two full years of undergraduate study, and an LSAT score above the 80th percentile.

The Admissions Committee considers factors other than grades and LSAT, including success in community and public service, business, athletics, or the arts. A full courseload throughout the candidate's academic career, enrolment in honors programs and graduate work are also positive factors.

Discretionary Categories

All applicants who apply in one of three discretionary categories must provide evidence confirming the basis of their application. It is recommended that candidates complete three years of undergraduate study before admission. The Admissions Committee may interview applicants in the discretionary categories.

Mature

Mature candidates must have at least five years of non-university experience since leaving high school, and must have attended university for two years or possess a university degree. A competitive candidate will have at least two years of university with an overall average of B+ (78% - GPA 3.3) and an LSAT above the 65th percentile.

Aboriginal

The Faculty of Law recognizes that members of First Nations, Inuit and Métis are not represented adequately within the legal profession and, therefore, strongly encourages applications from these groups. Aboriginal candidates may be admitted unconditionally, or subject to the successful completion of the Summer Native Law Program at the University of Saskatchewan. Upon successful completion of the program, credit will be given for Property Law. A competitive candidate will have an overall average of B+ (78% - GPA 3.3) and an LSAT above the 60th percentile.

Access

Applicants whose academic performance has been affected significantly by some proven disadvantage may apply in the Access category. The barriers may include, but are not limited to, cultural, financial, and physical or learning disability. Candidates must describe how the disadvantage has affected their academic record, and provide supporting references and documentation. Applicants with disabilities should provide full documentation from qualified professionals on their disability and its effect on their academic record or LSAT score. A competitive candidate will have an overall average of B+ (78% - GPA 3.3) and an LSAT score above the 65th percentile.

B. Admission to Second and Third Year

This category includes:

Transfer Applicants, Advanced Standing, Letter of Permission, National Committee on Accreditation.
A major consideration in the admissions decision is the availability of places in the Faculty.

Applicants seeking admission to the second or third year of the program must submit: complete official transcripts of all university work undertaken; the results of the LSAT; and two letters of reference from the applicant's law professors. Official transcripts must be sent directly from each university attended by the applicant to the Ontario Law School Application Service.

Deadline for Second Year Applicants:

Application and transcripts - May 1 for studies commencing the following September.

Transfer Applicants

Students currently enrolled in the first year at another Canadian law school may be admitted to the second year of the program as transfer students. If admitted, applicants who successfully complete the last two years of the program will be eligible to receive the Bachelor of Laws degree from The University of Western Ontario. Given the limited number of spaces that are available, consideration will be given to the best qualified applicants and those applicants who, for compassionate reasons, seek a transfer to The University of Western Ontario.

Advanced Standing

Students who have successfully completed part or all of their legal education outside Canada may be considered for admission with advanced standing. Except in extraordinary circumstances, a student will not receive more than one year's advanced standing. If admitted, students will be required to satisfy the program requirements of the Faculty. Upon successful completion of the program, students are eligible for the degree of Bachelor of Laws from The University of Western Ontario.

The granting of advanced standing and the extent of credit to be given are at the discretion of the Admissions Committee.

Letter of Permission

Students currently enrolled at a Canadian law school can apply to study for one academic year at Western on a letter of permission. Typically, these requests are made by second-year students, seeking to study at Western in their third year. Students should apply directly to the Faculty of Law, not through the Ontario Law School Application Service. A \$50 fee must accompany the letter of permission application. No application form is required but a letter outlining the reasons for the request should accompany the letter of permission. Transcripts should be sent directly from the undergraduate institution and law school to Student Services (Admissions), Faculty of Law, The University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, N6A 3K7

Students who have been granted permission to register on a letter of permission do not receive the Bachelor of Laws degree from The University of Western Ontario.

National Committee on Accreditation

Applicants who are qualified for practice outside Canada and who seek admission to practice in a Canadian province should first apply to the National Committee on Accreditation (Fauteaux Hall, P.O. Box 450, Station A, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 6N5. Telephone: (613) 562-5204).

This Committee assesses the applicant's credentials to determine the Canadian legal education required to bring the applicant to a level equivalent to the Canadian Bachelor of Laws degree. Based on this assessment, the Committee recommends the courses the applicant requires. A person admitted in this category who satisfactorily completes the required courses, does not receive a Bachelor of Laws degree from The University of Western Ontario

C. Law School Admission Test (LSAT)

The Law School Admission Test is required for all applicants to first year.

An application for the test and further details may be obtained from the Faculty of Law or The Law School Admissions Services, Box 2000, Newtown, Pennsylvania 18940, U.S.A. On-line registration at www.LSAC.org

Although the LSAT need not have been written before applying, the February LSAT is the latest acceptable test session for admission in the following September. (For 2003 admission the test must have been taken on or after June 1995)

Test centres are located in major cities in Canada and the United States. The test is usually given four times a year in most Canadian Centres - in June, October, December and February.

An application for the test and further details may be obtained from the Registrar's Office, from the Faculty of Law, or by writing to the Law School Admissions Services, Box 2000, Newtown, Pennsylvania, 18940, USA. LSAT applications must arrive at the last mentioned address at least 48 days prior to the date upon which the applicant wishes to take the test.

D. English Requirements

Each student granted admission to Western must be proficient in spoken and written English.

Applicants for whom English is not a first language are required to achieve a satisfactory score on one of the following tests:

Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and the Test of Written English (TWE). This test is offered on several dates in a number of places in Canada, the United States and elsewhere. The TOEFL/TWE Bulletin of Information and registration material may be obtained from:

Test of English as a Foreign Language
Box 899-R
Princeton, New Jersey
08541, USA

Michigan English Language Assessment Battery (MELAB). This test is offered in Canada, the United States and elsewhere. Arrangements can be made by contacting:

The English Language Institute
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan
48104, USA

International English Language Testing Service (IELTS). This test is offered in British Council Offices outside Canada and the United States. Arrangements can be made by contacting the British Council Office or:

The IELTS Liaison Officer
British Council
10 Spring Gardens
London, England
SW1A 2BN

It is the responsibility of the applicant to submit proof of English proficiency, as stated above, to the Admissions Office before an offer of admission can be made.

ADMISSION PROCEDURE

A. Application Procedure

All Ontario law school applications are processed through the Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC). Application forms will be available after July 1, from:

The Ontario Universities' Application Centre
650 Woodlawn Road West
P.O. Box 1328
Guelph, Ontario
N1H 7P4

Telephone: (519) 823-1940
Fax: (519) 823-5232
E- mail: olsas@ouac.on.ca
WWW: <http://ouacinfo.ouac.on.ca>

The completed common application form must be received at OUAC on or before November 1, 4:30 pm EST for first year and on or before May 1, 4:30 pm EST for second or third year. Late applications will not be considered. The processing fee and application fee must accompany the application. For admission in 2003 the fee will be as follows: Ontario Law School Application Service (OLSAS) processing fee of \$175.00 plus an institutional levy of \$50.00 for each law school selection.

B. Documentation, Forms

General and Discretionary category candidates will complete a common application form and a personal statement.

The personal statement allows candidates to expand on information provided on the application form. It provides a better opportunity for candidates to explain fully how they think they have excelled, not only in academics but in other areas. The basic premise is that excellence can be demonstrated in a number of different ways and that the ability to excel in a non-academic area may show characteristics that allow the Admissions Committee to predict success in law studies. Similarly, the fact that a candidate has overcome a significant disadvantage (whether economic, physical or other) and achieved significant success, may also provide evidence of those same characteristics.

Applicants must furnish full particulars of all previous university study, including any previous legal study, and of any interruption of their academic program. Official transcripts must be sent directly from each university attended by the applicant to OUAC.

C. Procedure of the Admissions Committee

The Admissions Committee of the Faculty of Law is composed of members of the Faculty, students, members of other faculties within the university, and the Admissions Officer of the Faculty. The Committee will follow this procedure in considering applications to first year.

The Committee will decide how many offers to make in each category. In no cases will the number of students admitted in the Special category exceed one quarter of the class.

Within the Regular category, the Committee will establish a minimum standard for academic success and LSAT score. Candidates who fall below this level will not be considered further in the Regular category.

The Committee will also establish a higher level of academic success and LSAT score; candidates who achieve this level will be offered a place automatically. It may recommend to the Associate Dean (Student Affairs) that a candidate be offered an Entrance Scholarship. All remaining pool of candidates in the Regular category will be considered as follows:

At least two members of the Admissions Committee will assess each file and, following a pre-set guide, assign numerical weights to the various factors on the Application Form. The Committee will then meet to decide on the appropriate number of offers to make at a particular time. A reserve or waiting list will be maintained. Consideration of a particular file may be delayed until further documentation is provided.

Candidates in the Special category will be considered separately and individually by the Committee.

Applications for admission to second or third year will be considered on an individual application basis. Interviews may be held with certain applicants.

D. What are Your Chances?

Competition for places in all years is intense; there may be as many as twenty applicants for each candidate accepted.

The first year class size is 160-165. The class will be a mix of students with two, three or more years of undergraduate education plus a number of applicants from the Discretionary categories (up to one-quarter of the class). The Admissions Committee decides annually the best mix for the coming year, to reflect the General Statement of Policy outlined above.

Because the applicant pool changes yearly, it is difficult to predict what the competitive requirements will be in a particular year.

Academic success is a major factor in each decision, with proven excellence in other areas being highly significant.

Applicants will be informed in writing of the decisions of the Admissions Committee. No applicant should rely upon oral communications in any way.

Admissions are made up to the first day of classes in September although most will be made before mid-June.

D. Inquiries

For further information on the admission policies and procedures, please contact the admission office.

Mailing Address: Student Services Office Faculty of Law Josephine Spencer Niblett Building The University of Western Ontario London, ON N6A 3K7

In Person: Faculty of Law Room 100 Josephine Spencer Niblett Building The University of Western Ontario

Email Address: lawapp@uwo.ca

World Wide Web: <http://www.uwo.law.ca>

HBA/JD COMBINED DEGREE PROGRAM

(S.12-86)

Admission to the Combined Program

Students must apply to the Faculty of Law for admission to the combined program. They may apply after they have been admitted to the HBA program until May 1 following completion of HBA1. Early applicants may be granted conditional admission. All applicants must meet Faculty of Law admission requirements. To be eligible for the combined program, students must have a cumulative, weighted average of 80.0% in HBA1. In addition, candidates must meet the minimum LSAT requirement established by the Faculty of Law Admissions Committee.

Entrance into the combined degree program is competitive and limited. Meeting the minimum requirements does not guarantee a position in the combined program.

JOINT LLB/MBA PROGRAM

(S.2406, Sen.Ag. July 14/83)

Description

The LLB/MBA program is a four-year limited enrolment program administered jointly by the Faculty of Law and the Richard Ivey School of Business of The University of Western Ontario.

The program is structured so that both the LLB and MBA degrees can be completed in four calendar years instead of the normal five year period required if the LLB and MBA degrees are taken sequentially.

Application Information

A completed application for admission to the LLB/MBA program consists of three parts:

1. An application to the Faculty of Law for admission to the LLB program.
DEADLINE* FEBRUARY 1.
2. An application to the Richard Ivey School of Business for admission to the MBA program.
Prerequisite: Undergraduate degree.

DEADLINE* JULY 1 (for applicants in Canada and the United States)
MAY 15 (for applicants outside Canada and the United States)

3. An application to the LLB/MBA program.
DEADLINE* APRIL 1.

Application forms for the joint program are available from the Admissions Officer of the Richard Ivey School of Business and should be submitted to that School.

The only entry date for the LLB, MBA or LLB/MBA programs is in September of each year.

There are two possible routes leading to a completed application for the LLB/MBA program. An applicant may submit all three applications prior to first year, meeting all deadlines above. Alternatively, an applicant may submit an application for admission to first year studies in either the LLB or MBA program and, if admitted, submit the remaining applications during that year. However, as enrolment is limited, students who apply to enter the program after the completion of one year in either the LLB or MBA program have no assurance that they will be admitted to the joint program.