



BASICS FOR STUDENTS INTERESTED IN LAW SCHOOL

Texas A&M University is a national leader in preparing students for law school. In 2024, we ranked 8th nationally for the number of students we send to law schools across the country. That year, over 600 Aggies applied to law school, and our recent graduates achieved a 95% admittance rate—well above the national average of 68%. Aggies applied and were accepted to 165 law schools. There are currently 196 ABA-accredited law schools in the U.S.

The most successful applicants begin preparing early and take full advantage of available resources. Start by reviewing the **American Bar Association (ABA) Statement on Pre-Legal Preparation**, which outlines essential skills for law school, such as:

- Analytical problem-solving
- Critical reading and writing
- Oral communication and listening
- Research and time management
- A commitment to justice and public service

Use your undergraduate years to explore if law is the right path. The Office of Professional School Advising (OPSA) will guide you throughout your journey—from career exploration to law school applications. OPSA Services Include:

- Campus resources to strengthen your application
- Workshops to enrich your experience and application
- Full-time advising dedicated to law school applicants
- Access to the Aggie-Lawyer listserv: tx.ag/opsalistservs

CHOOSING A MAJOR

Law schools do **not** require or prefer any specific major. They care more about how well you perform in your chosen field. Every discipline develops valuable skills:

- **Engineering, agriculture, science:** analytical reasoning
- **Liberal arts:** societal structures, logic, reading, and writing
- **Business:** corporate and entrepreneurial understanding

Choose a major you enjoy and would consider for an alternative career. Performing well in engaging coursework enhances your academic record and law school prospects. Use electives to broaden your knowledge and explore different fields.

While there are **no required courses**, many Aggie lawyers and admissions deans recommend **PHIL 240 (Introduction to Logic)** to help build reasoning skills critical for the LSAT and legal analysis.

MAKING THE GRADE

Law school admissions rely heavily on your **cumulative GPA** and **LSAT score**. Don't resort to easy classes, they can hurt you long-term. Your LSAT score will reflect cognitive growth and thinking skills. Law school demands intense reading and analysis. You'll face highly motivated peers so be prepared. Engaging, challenging courses often provide award winning professors that can provide strong recommendation letters and reasonable class sizes for debate opportunities.

Remember: law schools calculate your GPA from **all college-level coursework**—including community college, online classes, and dual credit. Grades from AP, IB, or CLEP **do not** count toward your GPA.

THE LSAT

The LSAT is a key quantitative factor in law school admissions, scored on a scale of 120 to 180. It includes [four 30-minute multiple-choice sections and a 50-minute writing section](#), assessing reading comprehension, analytical reasoning, and logical reasoning.

Do not take an official LSAT as practice. Some schools average multiple scores, and a lower second score can hurt your chances. Instead, use free practice tests available through LawHub by creating an LSAC account at lsac.org.

Because law schools use **rolling admissions**, plan to take the LSAT by September of your senior year—earlier if possible—to review your score before applying. Preparation is crucial. Most Aggies spend 3–6 months studying, so start early and plan strategically.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Beyond grades and scores, law schools want to see a **well-rounded, active resume**. Join student organizations like:

- **Pre-Law Society**
- **Moot Court**
- **Mock Trial**

These groups offer:

- Speaker events and admissions panels
- Mock LSATs and competitions
- Field trips to law schools
- Community and support from fellow pre-law students

Other valuable experiences include **internships, community service, study abroad, and research projects**. Strong candidates often demonstrate leadership, global experience, or academic research like a senior thesis.

LAW SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

Begin the application process at the end of your junior year. Because many schools use rolling admissions, aim to submit all applications by November of your senior year. This includes LSAT scores, transcripts, recommendation letters, resume, and personal statement. Most law schools do not conduct interviews. Stay up to date by meeting regularly with your pre-law advisor.

PLANNING IS CRITICAL

Effective planning helps you meet your goals in four years. Work with your academic advisor and the Pre-Law Advisor to map out your:

- Coursework
- LSAT preparation
- Study abroad or internship plans
- High-impact experiences like Honors or undergraduate research

MAKE YOUR PLANS

- Explore law as a career by reading, speaking with lawyers and judges, joining law-related student organizations, and Pre-Law advising. Gain practical experience through internships, volunteering, part-time work, or summer jobs in legal settings.
- Create an account at www.LSAC.org to access free resources from the Law School Admission Council.
- Sign up for the Aggie-lawyer listserv by visiting [Aggie-Lawyer Listserv](#)
- Explore options with your academic advisor, [Professional School Advising](#), and the [Career Center](#). Make use of your campus resources!
- Identify academic areas you need improvement in. Improving reading comprehension, study skills and test-taking strategies are just some of the free workshops offered at the [Academic Success Center](#). Your academic college and department may also offer sessions designed to increase your academic performance.
- Build relationships with professors early. They're valuable mentors and recommendation writers. Don't wait for a problem to visit office hours. Professors are interesting and have a wealth of knowledge. Advocate for yourself! That's what being a lawyer is all about!
- Above all, prioritize your academics. Don't let a weak GPA limit your future. If things get tough, ask for help!