

Pre-Law Checklist

Interested in Law school? Use these steps to prepare.

- 1. Meet with a prelaw advisor regularly.**
 - a. First & Second Year Students (Academic Advising & Transfer Services)
 - i. Josh Goldman jgoldman@southalabama.edu
 - ii. Bria Cox briacox@southalabama.edu
 - b. Third & Fourth Year Students
 - i. Dr. Jaclyn Bunch jbunch@southalabama.edu
- 2. Get involved on campus.**
 - a. Join the [Pre Law Society](#)
 - b. Be a part of an organization that interests you and works to better the community.
- 3. Explore different academic areas. Take courses in a variety of disciplines.**
 - a. This will give you a broader perspective on many topics.
 - b. Check out these [courses](#) to build your critical thinking!
- 4. Develop strong reading and writing skills.**
 - a. Most lawyers need strong reading and writing skills for daily tasks.
 - b. This will also be important for the LSAT and law school assignments.
- 5. Choose a major based on your interests and skills. Do not choose a major just because you think it may help your JD admissions application.**
 - a. Law school does not require any particular major. Pick a major you would excel in that still helps you build your critical thinking.
 - b. Lawyers often specialize in certain areas of law and use their undergraduate work to supplement their understanding. For example, a computer science major who attends law school may specialize in cyber law or a chemistry major may specialize in intellectual property law.
- 6. Meet with Career Services to talk about internships, law school resumes and interview tips.**
 - a. Gain experience through internships and co-ops.
 - b. Refine your resume to emphasize your coursework, GPA/LSAT score and overall work experience.
- 7. Conduct informational interviews with lawyers in your area.**

- a. Lawyers already in the field can give you their honest perspective on the profession.
- b. Possible shadowing opportunities can give you the inside scoop on the job requirements.

8. Work on building relationships with your professors.

- a. JD applicants often use letters of recommendation from their professors. The best letters of recommendation usually are written when the professor and student have a positive working relationship.

9. Look into the legal job market and the cost of attending law school.

- a. Pay attention to the job market and how lawyers are being hired and where.
- b. Research the cost of attending law schools, possible scholarships and student loans.

10. Keep those grades high and study for the Law School Admissions Exam (LSAT).

- a. A strong GPA can elevate a JD application for scholarships and faster admission.
- b. The LSAT score is often the defining factor for JD admissions.
- c. Here's some free study tools and tips you can use to prepare for the LSAT.
 - i. [LSAC June 2007 Practice Exam](#) & [Info on this Exam](#)
 - ii. [Khan Academy](#)-Free LSAT Prep Course
 - iii. [Manhattan Prep](#)-Free LSAT Resources
 - iv. [PowerScore Virtual Proctors](#) -Free Video Proctoring