This timeline is designed to assist you in applying to law school. You should start the process approximately eighteen months prior to the beginning of law school. This list is planned for a fall admission right after graduation; adjust this schedule accordingly if taking time off.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>March-June</th>
<th>Prepare for LSAT at least 3 months prior to your registered date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April/May</td>
<td>Apply for June or October/September LSAT</td>
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<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>Take LSAT (receive scores within 4 weeks after test date)</td>
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<td>July-August</td>
<td>Become familiar with the Law School Admissions Council (LSAC) website: <a href="http://www.lsac.org">www.lsac.org</a> Research law schools</td>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Sign-up for the LSAC Credential Assembly Service (CAS) Have official transcripts sent to LSAC Meet with the Pre-Law advisors in the USC Dornsife Office of Advising Attend Pre-Law workshops; Pre-Law website: <a href="http://dornsife.usc.edu/pre-law/">http://dornsife.usc.edu/pre-law/</a> Meet with law school admissions representatives at the USC Law Fair and LSAC Los Angeles Forum Begin writing personal statement Request letters of recommendation</td>
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<td>October-December</td>
<td>Take the Fall LSAT, if necessary Finalize personal statement Review list of planned law school applications Continue to attend Pre-Law workshops offered by the USC Dornsife Office of Advising Check CAS (LSAC) file for accuracy and completion Submit applications</td>
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<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>File financial aid applications (the FAFSA is due in February)</td>
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<tr>
<td>April-June</td>
<td>Celebrate when accepted. Be sure to pay your deposit on time!</td>
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**Freshman & Sophomore**
- Take courses that will enhance your writing, reading comprehension and analytical skills
- Develop your logical reasoning ability and increase your awareness of human institutions and social values.
- Develop a realistic view of legal careers, look for opportunities to obtain law-related experience, talk with lawyers about their work
- Choose a major that represents your own academic interests. Be serious about your studies. Your grades are a very important part of your law school application
- Visit professor office hours regularly and get to know your faculty
- Find the right balance between academic coursework and extracurricular activities. Pursue your interests outside of class, but not at the expense of your grades
- Meet with a Pre-Law advisor in the USC Dornsife Office of Advising
- Familiarize yourself with the Pre-Law website: http://dornsife.usc.edu/pre-law/
- Sign-up for the USC Pre-Law Listserv for Weekly Newsletter
- Join the Pre-Law Society and other Pre-Law groups
- Attend Pre-Law related events and

**Junior**
- Talk to professors about letters of recommendation
- Meet with a Pre-Law advisor to strategize your application
- Attend Pre-Law related workshops
- Think about your decision to go to law school and research other career options if you are not sure. Remember that many law students take time off before going to law school
- If planning to study abroad during your senior year, discuss with Pre-Law advisors
- Start your personal statement
- Pursue internships and other opportunities to gain experience
- Begin to consider how you will finance your legal education
- Volunteer for or attend the annual USC Law Fair.
- Begin LSAT preparation

**Summer after Junior**
- Register for and take the June LSAT
- Become familiar with the services offered by the Law School Admissions Council (LSAC): www.lsac.org
- Sign-up for LSAC’s Credential Assembly Service (CAS)
- Research law schools, and prepare a preliminary list of target schools
- Start drafting your personal statement

**Senior**
- Take the October LSAT, if necessary
- Review your list of law schools and make sure your choices are realistic.
- Schedule an appointment with the Pre-Law advisors
- Attend the Pre-Law workshops
- Get your Dean’s certificate from the Office of the Vice-President for Student Affairs, STU 201
- Attend the annual USC Law Fair
- Complete financial aid applications, including the FAFSA, soon after January 1st (The earlier the better!)
- Expect to receive admissions decisions anytime from December through late spring. Patience is necessary, and let us know how you’re doing!
- If accepted, celebrate! Investigate financial aid, housing, etc.
- If rejected, don't panic. Talk to the Pre-Law advisors and the law schools. Remember – applicants are drawn from the waitlist until the beginning of school year