Application Instructions

Competition for the 150 spots in the entering class is high. When we review files, our question is this: Is a candidate ready to meet the intellectual challenges of our program? The admissions committee evaluates each applicant's file, looking carefully at the candidate's undergraduate grade-point average and LSAT score as well as at other, non-quantitative factors, such as level and difficulty of undergraduate coursework, writing ability, graduate coursework (if applicable), leadership potential, and work experience.

ADMISSION

Admission Policy

Our selection process, while rigorous, is not rigid. We insist upon diversity in our student body because we believe that the entire law school community benefits from it. We will consider with sensitivity any information about a candidate's special circumstances.

Admission Requirements

To enroll in the JD program, a student must have a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution. We encourage undergraduates interested in law to gain a broad educational background and to choose challenging courses requiring critical thinking and logical analysis, such as history, economics, philosophy, and accounting. We particularly urge students to choose courses in which they will develop strong writing skills.

Standard of Truthfulness and Full Disclosure

As future members of the legal profession, applicants are expected to possess the highest standards of ethics and character. All applicants, including those who enroll in the Case Western Reserve University School of Law, must certify that all responses in their application and on all supplemental documents are complete, true, and correct and that they understand that they are under an ongoing obligation to notify the School of Law if there is any change in the information submitted prior to and/or during their enrollment in the School of Law. Failure in the application's accuracy or completeness or in the applicant's obligation to update the information may affect enrollment status and/or result in disciplinary action, including dismissal or revocation of offers of admission.

In addition, we adhere to and participate in the Law School Admission Council's Rules Governing Misconduct and Irregularities in the Admission Process.

Admission Procedures

- Take the Law School Admission Test (LSAT). Although we recommend that you take the LSAT in the summer or fall before applying to law school, we do accept scores for tests taken closer to the start of law school including the February administration. We will also consider applicants who take the LSAT in June for a spot in the class entering that August on a case by case basis. We look at all LSAT scores with the emphasis on the highest score. You may register for the LSAT by contacting LSAC by phone at 215.968.1001 or via the web at LSAC.org.
- Register with LSAC's Credential Assembly Service (CAS). Follow the necessary instructions to arrange for the Credential Assembly Service to send us your letters of recommendation and its analysis of your undergraduate and graduate school transcripts. Case Western Reserve University School of Law's Credential Assembly Service code is 1105.
- Submit a completed application, which may be obtained:
  - from our website at www.law.case.edu; or
  - from LSAC, as part of its electronic applications service

We accept applications that have been prepared using the Law School Admission Council's electronic applications service. This service allows you to use your computer to efficiently fill out applications for all ABA-approved law schools. The application fee for applications electronically submitted to Case Western via the electronic applications service is waived.

Applications submitted to LSAC for transmission to this law school will be considered postmarked on the day they are electronically submitted.

Alternatively, you may submit a completed paper application, available for download at the Admissions section of our website at www.law.case.edu. The application fee for paper applications is $40.

The Timetable
Early Decision Process

The Early Decision Process is an option for applicants who are certain and can certify that they will attend Case Western Reserve University School of Law if admitted.

Applicants who apply under the Early Decision Process must:

- Submit their Early Decision Agreement and Application for Admission (including a Credential Assembly Service Law School Report) by November 30;
- Agree that they will not submit an Early Decision Application to any other law school this year;
- Agree that if admitted to Case Western Reserve University School of Law under the Early Decision Process, they will withdraw any pending applications to other law schools and not submit any additional applications; and
- Agree that if admitted to Case Western Reserve University School of Law under the Early Decision Process, they will enroll in Case Western Reserve University School of Law in the next fall semester.

Early Decision applicants may be admitted, denied, or held for consideration through the regular decision process. Candidates who meet the requirements for Early Decision Process consideration will be notified of their status by December 20. The seat deposit deadline for candidates admitted under the Early Decision Process is January 15. Students admitted under the Early Decision Process will be notified of any scholarship award prior to the January 15 deposit deadline. Applicants who are not admitted under the Early Decision Process are not bound by this Early Decision Agreement.

Regular Decision Process

Our priority application deadline is March 1; however, regular applications will be accepted until April 1 for the fall entering class. Late applications will be considered after that date, up to August 1, on an individual basis. Beginning in January we take action on the applications. We have a rolling admissions policy; that is, as decisions are made, applicants are notified. We make most admission decisions between January 1 and May 15, at which time we establish a wait list. As vacancies occur up to the date of registration we draw the best-qualified candidates from the wait list.

The Application Packet

We consider an applicant file complete once we have received a completed application, including the application fee (waived for applications submitted electronically), personal statement, résumé, two letters of recommendation (required), and a law school report. Include your name and LSAC account number on any supplemental enclosures and identify the question number to which they correspond.

Letters of Recommendation

Two letters of recommendation are required and are to be submitted through LSAC. This service is included in your Credential Assembly Service registration. Your documents will be forwarded to us along with your law school report. To use this service, follow the directions for submitting letters outlined at LSAC.org.

SPECIAL APPLICATION PROCEDURES

International Students

We require that your international transcripts be submitted through the Credential Assembly Service (CAS) offered through the Law School Admission Council. If you completed any postsecondary work outside the US (including its territories) or Canada, you must use this service for the evaluation of your international transcripts (exception: if you completed the international work through a study-abroad, consortium, or exchange program sponsored by a US or Canadian institution, and the work is clearly indicated as such on the home campus transcript). This service is included in the Credential Assembly Service subscription fee. An International Credential Evaluation will be completed by the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO) and will be incorporated into your law school report. If your transcript is not issued in English in its original form by your institution, you will need to submit a TOEFL score as well. To do this, you must contact the Educational Testing Service (ETS) and request that your TOEFL score be sent to LSAC. LSAC’s TOEFL code for the Credential Assembly Service is 8395. Your score will be included in the International Credential Evaluation document that will be included in your law school report.

To use the Credential Assembly Service, log in to your online account and follow the instructions for registering for the service. Be sure to print out a Transcript Request Form for each institution and send it promptly to them. More time is usually
required to receive international transcripts.

Questions about the Credential Assembly Service can be directed to LSAC at 215.968.1001 or LSAC.org.

Transfer Students

Students currently enrolled in an accredited law school may apply for admission with advanced standing. The number of transfer applicants that we accept varies from year to year, depending on the number of spots available in the second-year class. The primary factor in the admission decision is prior law school performance; undergraduate grades and LSAT score will also be considered. In addition to the application and documentation required of JD candidates, transfer applicants must submit: (a) two letters of recommendation, (b) an official transcript of law school work completed, (c) a letter of good standing from their dean, and (d) an official class rank. Transfer applicants must submit an original Credential Assembly Service Law School Report from the Law School Admission Council; we cannot accept a copy of your law school report from your current school.

Early Action Program for Transfer Applicants

Applicants for transfer to the Case Western Reserve University School of Law have the option of applying for Early Action. Applications received and completed by March 30 will be reviewed, and decisions will be made by April 30. Completed applications must include final grades from the applicant's first semester at law school. Offers of early decision will be conditioned upon the applicant’s successful completion of all first-year courses at the law school from which they are transferring.

Transfer Application Deadlines:

For entry spring semester: December 1; For entry fall semester, Early Action Program: March 30; Regular Action Program: July 1

Visiting Students

Students currently enrolled in other law schools who wish to take courses here for credit toward the other school's degree requirement may apply to be visiting students. In addition to the application and documentation required of transfer applicants, visitor applicants must submit: (a) a letter from their dean indicating that the school will accept academic credits from Case Western Reserve University School of Law, and (b) a letter explaining their reasons for wishing to take courses here.

Visiting Student Application Deadlines:

For entry spring semester: December 1

For entry fall semester: July 1

Dual-Degree Candidates

Applicants to a dual-degree program must apply separately to—and be admitted by—both the law school and the school that will grant the second degree. This means that applicants must meet the application and admission requirements of each school. To get information about the other programs, review the Dual Degrees section of our website at www.law.case.edu.

Character and Fitness - Continuing Obligation to Disclose

Because of the high ethical standards to which lawyers are held, the failure to disclose an act or event such as the ones described in the Character and Fitness questions is often more significant and leads to more serious consequences than the act or event itself. Failure to provide truthful answers or failure to inform the admissions office of any changes to your answers may result in revocation of admission, disciplinary action and/or dismissal by the law school, and/or denial of permission to practice law by the state in which you seek admission.

Each of the character and fitness question requires a "yes" or "no" answer. If your answer is "yes" to any of the questions, you are required to supplement your response with a full explanation of the circumstances, including dates. You also have the obligation to notify the School of Law if there is any change in the information contained in those documents.

All matters must be reported, even if they were dismissed, expunged, or the records sealed! Even if you were advised differently in the past, you are required to disclose all matters in this application process.

Admission to a State Bar
In order to be eligible to take the bar exam in any state, you will need to complete an application. In addition to a bar examination, there are character, fitness, and other qualifications for admission to the bar in every U.S. jurisdiction. Applicants are encouraged to determine the requirements for any jurisdiction in which they intend to seek admission by contacting the jurisdiction. Addresses for all relevant agencies are available through the National Conference of Bar Examiners.

The application questions will vary from state to state, but generally will require you to disclose whether you have been subject to any criminal or disciplinary proceedings. Different states handle such offenses differently. If you would respond to such questions in the affirmative, you should contact the Board of Bar Examiners of the states(s) in which you wish to practice law in order to establish the impact of your offense on your eligibility to practice law in that state. Any discrepancy between your responses on your applications for law school admission and for admission to the bar may be an impediment to your admission to the bar in many states.

AFTER APPLYING

Acknowledgement of Application

After receiving your application packet, the Office of Admissions will send you instructions by email on how to access the Applicant Online Status for the continual up-to-date status of your file. Most correspondence will be done via email so please keep us informed of any changes in your email address.

Credential Assembly Service Law School Report

Upon your submitting your application, we will automatically receive your Credential Assembly Service Law School Report once you have subscribed to LSAC's Credential Assembly Service.

Deposit Deadlines

An offer of admission must be accepted before the date indicated as the deadline; if not, it may be withdrawn by the law school. Accepted applicants will be required to submit a $300 first deposit and a $400 second deposit to hold their place in the entering class or, if depositing under the First Choice Option, a single $500 deposit. Deadlines for deposits are strictly enforced. Deposits are non-refundable.

First Choice Option

Admitted first-year applicants for whom Case Western Reserve University School of Law is their first choice law school are invited to make an early commitment to enroll. First Choice Option students are required to make only one deposit in the amount of $500 by the designated deadline date. Please note the first choice option is an agreement between the applicant and our School of Law. In recognition of the applicant early commitment to enroll at Case Western Reserve School of Law the fall semester immediately following our offer of admission, the School of Law will provide the applicant with all required first year textbooks for the first year classes.

Transcripts

All students are required to have obtained their four-year bachelor's degree prior to matriculation. Before registration, every student must submit two official transcripts to the School of Law from undergraduate degree-granting institutions certifying receipt of a bachelor's degree and one official transcript from a graduate degree-granting institution, if applicable. All entering students must also have a final transcript evidencing receipt of a bachelor's degree on file with LSAC prior to matriculation. Failure to adhere to these requirements may result in suspension or dismissal from the School of Law.

Withdrawal of Admission

The law school reserves the right to withdraw an offer of admission if the candidate fails to maintain satisfactory scholastic standing for work in progress, if final records fail to show completion of courses and/or degrees required for admission, or if the admission decision was based on incomplete or inaccurate information.

FINANCIAL AID TIMETABLE

February
We will automatically email financial aid (loan) information to all applicants for admission, along with extensive instructions.

By March 15

Complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This form, which is used to determine a student's eligibility for the various loan programs, may be completed online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). Paper versions of the FAFSA are available from public libraries and college financial aid offices. List "Case Western Reserve University-LAW" as a school to which you would like an analysis report sent (Federal School Code E00082).

By May 1

Submit the Case Western Financial Aid Application to the law school Office of Student Financial Services. Students who have been admitted and have submitted all documents by May 1 can expect to have an estimate of their financial aid package by the beginning of July.

**Deposits**

Early Decision Applicant Deposit (postmarked by January 15): $400

First Deposit (postmarked by April 15; rolling thereafter): $300

Second Deposit (postmarked by June 1): $400

First Choice Option (postmarked by April 15; rolling thereafter): $500

Transfers/Visitors: $250

All deposits are non-refundable.

**Tuition and Fees for the 2016-2017 Academic Year**

Tuition (full time): $49,500

Tuition per credit hour: $2,066

Health insurance (student only): $1,760

Student activities fee: $134

Graduate student council fee: $28

Living expenses (estimated, will vary): $18,320 (nine-month budget)

Books: (estimated, will vary): $1,800

Loan origination fee: $1,240
Program Applying for
Please be sure that you carefully read the Application Instructions before making any program selections.

Please choose from the following:

_____ First Year JD (Fall only)
_____ Reapplicant First Year (Fall only)
_____ Reapplicant Transfer
_____ Transfer
_____ LL.M Transfer to JD (CWRU LL.M only)
_____ Visitor

Please select a Term: (NOTE: If you selected First Year (Fall only) or Reapplicant First Year (Fall only) above, you must select Fall.)
_____ Fall
_____ Spring

Please select one of the following: (NOTE: Early Decision deadline is November 30; Early Action (Transfer only) deadline is March 30.)
_____ LL.M Transfer
_____ Regular
_____ Early Decision
_____ Early Action (Transfer only)
Program Applying for continued

If you wish to be considered as a candidate for the Early Decision Process, your application for admission, including this Early Decision Agreement, must be submitted by November 30. Applications are considered complete when all required application materials, including a Credential Assembly Service Law School Report, have been received by the Office of Admissions. Candidates who meet the requirements for Early Decision consideration will be notified of their status by December 20. The seat deposit deadline for candidates admitted under the Early Decision Process is January 15. Students admitted under the Early Decision Process will be notified of any scholarship award prior to the January 15 deposit deadline. The Early Decision Process is an option for applicants who are certain and can certify that they will attend Case Western Reserve University School of Law in fall 2017 if admitted.

Applicants who apply under the Early Decision Process must:

Submit their application and Early Decision Agreement by November 30. Agree that they will not submit an early decision application to any other law school this year. Agree that if admitted to Case Western Reserve University School of Law under the Early Decision Process, they will withdraw any pending applications to other law schools and not submit any additional applications. Agree that if admitted to Case Western Reserve University School of Law under the Early Decision Process, they will enroll in Case Western Reserve University School of Law in the fall semester.

Early Decision applicants may be admitted, denied, or held for consideration through the regular decision process. Applicants who have not been admitted under the Early Decision Process are not bound by this Early Decision Agreement.

Please note before you sign: This is a binding Agreement. Do not sign unless you understand, agree with the statement below, and are willing to be bound by it.

By signing electronically below, I declare that I have read the description of the Early Decision Process at Case Western Reserve University School of Law and am applying for admission as an Early Decision applicant. I understand that if admitted under the Early Decision Process, I will withdraw all applications at other law schools, not submit any additional applications, and enroll at Case Western Reserve University School of Law in the fall 2017 semester. Name and Date:

_________________________________________________________

Dual Degree:
___ (JD/MA) Art History and Museum Studies
___ (JD/MA) Law/Legal History
___ (JD/MA) Law/Political Science
___ (JD/MA) Law/Bioethics
___ (JD/MBA) Law/Management
___ (JD/MS) Law/Biochemistry
___ (JD/MD) Law/Medicine
___ (JD/MPH) Law/Public Health
___ (JD/MSSA) Law/Social Work
___ (JD/MNO) Law/Nonprofit Organizations
___ Other
Demographics Continued
Do you identify as LGBTQ?
   ___ Yes
   ___ No

Are you the first in your immediate family to graduate from college?
   ___ Yes
   ___ No

Are you the first in your immediate family to attend graduate/professional school?
   ___ Yes
   ___ No

Are you a first generation United States Citizen?
   ___ Yes
   ___ No

County
If Ohio is your Permanent State of Residence, please choose your County of Residence.
_________________________________________________________________________________

Character and Fitness
In order to be licensed to practice law, you will need to sit for a state bar examination. The bar examination application questions vary from state to state but generally will require you to disclose whether you have been subject to any criminal or disciplinary proceedings. When answering these questions, please keep in mind that any discrepancy between your responses on your application for law school admission and your application for admission to the bar may be an impediment to your admission to the bar in many states.

If your answer is “yes” to any of the Character and Fitness questions, you must supplement your response with a full explanation of the circumstances, including dates. Use a separate sheet or electronic attachment and clearly identify the number of the question. All matters must be reported, even if they were dismissed, expunged, or sealed under the laws of any state.

In addition to a bar examination, there are character, fitness, and other qualifications for admission to the bar in every U.S. jurisdiction. Applicants are encouraged to determine the requirements for any jurisdiction in which they intend to seek admission by contacting the jurisdiction. Addresses for all relevant agencies are available through the National Conference of Bar Examiners.

Have you ever been the subject of a hearing pursuant to the Law School Admission Council's Rules Governing Misconduct and Irregularities in the Admission Process?
   ___ Yes
   ___ No
Character and Fitness continued

As an adult or juvenile, have you ever been cited for, charged with, subject to a penalty for, or convicted of a crime? A crime includes a misdemeanor, traffic offense, or felony (excluding minor traffic violations for which the penalty was a fine of $150 or less). Include traffic offenses involving driving under suspension or any in which being under the influence of drugs or alcohol was an element of the offense, regardless of the amount of the fine.

___ Yes
___ No

Have you ever been charged with academic or disciplinary misconduct at any postsecondary educational institution?

___ Yes
___ No

Have you ever been dismissed, suspended, placed on academic warning or probation, disciplined, expelled, or officially requested or advised to withdraw from a postsecondary educational institution due to inadequate academic performance?

___ Yes
___ No

Have you ever been subject to a restraining order?

___ Yes
___ No

Has a professional association or state licensing board ever suspended or revoked a professional license that you held or has such an association or board ever required you to appear at a proceeding where license suspension or revocation was a possible sanction?

___ Yes
___ No

Have you ever been terminated, suspended, disciplined, or permitted to resign in lieu of termination from any job?

___ Yes
___ No

University Affiliation

For undergraduate students at Case Western Reserve University: Are you a preprofessional scholar?

___ Yes
___ No

List relative(s) who attended Case Western Reserve University. Please specify name, relationship, school within the University, degree and year of graduation.

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

Are you applying for the 3+3 program? Note, this is only available to students at colleges and universities with a valid 3+3 agreement with Case Western Reserve University School of Law.

___ Yes
___ No
Coursework

Please select up to three area(s) of law which are of particular interest to you.

List Recommenders

Please list the names of the two individuals who will be your recommenders.

Certification

I declare that the information given by me in this application and supplemental documents is complete, true, and correct to the best of my knowledge and recognize that it is subject to verification. I understand that any offers of admission or financial assistance and/or continued enrollment are contingent upon its accuracy and completeness. I also understand that I have an ongoing obligation to promptly notify the School of Law if there is any change in the information contained herein prior to and/or during my enrollment in the Case Western Reserve University School of Law and that failure in this application's accuracy or completeness or in my obligation to update this information may affect my enrollment status and/or result in disciplinary action. I also understand that admission is conditional upon meeting the requirements stated in the law school catalog and any further written conditions expressed at the time of admission. The law school does not authorize nor is it bound by any requirements or conditions other than those communicated by the law school Office of Admissions. I acknowledge that I have proofread my application and that all information I am about to submit to LSAC for transmission is true and accurate. LSAC is authorized to transmit this electronic signature and my law school application.

Personal Statement

Please complete this section by discussing academic achievements, work experience, special interests, honors, community involvement, and other matters you believe will assist the Admissions Committee in evaluating your application. Please limit your answer to two 8-1/2 x 11 pages (which must be attached electronically). Please include your name and LSAC account number on each supplemental page.

Resume

Please attach a résumé. Include job dates, the employer name and location, and your position held. List in chronological order, most recent first.
Interests and Goals

In evaluating applicant files, it is helpful for us to learn about an applicant's interests, goals, and expectations of law school. We encourage you to attach a supplemental statement describing your particular interest in Case Western Reserve University School of Law as it relates to your personal and professional objectives.

Relevant Factors

In evaluating your LSAT score and academic performance, and in fulfilling our commitment to diversity, we may consider relevant such factors as a history of economic or educational disadvantage, cultural or language differences, disability, or unusual family circumstances. Please include an electronic attachment if you would like us to consider any such factors in the evaluation of your file.

Leadership

At Case Western Reserve University School of Law we have a strong tradition of inspiring leaders. We evaluate all of our applicants for leadership potential. Describe in one page or less what characteristics you have that make you a leader. Please be sure to include at least one example of a time when you demonstrated your leadership potential.

Character and Fitness 1

You answered "yes" to the following question:

Have you ever been the subject of a hearing pursuant to the Law School Admission Council's Rules Governing Misconduct and Irregularities in the Admission Process?

Please explain the circumstances.

Character and Fitness 2

You answered "yes" to the following question:

As an adult or juvenile, have you ever been cited for, charged with, subject to a penalty for, or convicted of a crime? A crime includes a misdemeanor, traffic offense, or felony (excluding minor traffic violations for which the penalty was a fine of $150 or less). Include traffic offenses involving driving under suspension or any in which being under the influence of drugs or alcohol was an element of the offense, regardless of the amount of the fine.

Please explain the circumstances.

Character and Fitness 3

You answered "yes" to the following question:

Have you ever been charged with academic or disciplinary misconduct at any postsecondary educational institution?

Please explain the circumstances.
Character and Fitness 4
You answered “yes” to the following question:

Have you ever been dismissed, suspended, placed on academic warning or probation, disciplined, expelled, or officially requested or advised to withdraw from a postsecondary educational institution due to inadequate academic performance?

Please explain the circumstances.

Character and Fitness 5
You answered “yes” to the following question:

Have you ever been subject to a restraining order?

Please explain the circumstances.

Character and Fitness 6
You answered “yes” to the following question:

Has a professional association or state licensing board ever suspended or revoked a professional license that you held or has such an association or board ever required you to appear at a proceeding where license suspension or revocation was a possible sanction?

Please explain the circumstances.

Character and Fitness 7
You answered “yes” to the following question:

Have you ever been terminated, suspended, disciplined, or permitted to resign in lieu of termination from any job?

Please explain the circumstances.