

**Application to J.D. Program**

**Please submit your completed application to:**

The University of Michigan Law School  
Admissions Office  
South Hall, Suite 2200  
701 South State Street  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-3091

**Contact Us:**

Telephone: 734.764.0537  
Fax: 734.647.3218  
Email: law.jd.admissions@umich.edu

**Application fee:** \$75 (payable in U.S. funds only)

**Regular decision deadline is February 15; early decision deadline is November 15.** *To properly view and fill out this .pdf form please download and open in the latest version of **Acrobat Reader**.*

**I. Personal Information**

Mr.  Ms.  
 Dr.  Other Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
last (family) first (given) middle

Name you prefer to be called: \_\_\_\_\_ Former name, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

LSAC Account number: L \_\_\_\_\_

U.S. Social Security number (optional): \_\_\_\_\_ (This will be used only to assist us in maintaining your records, and for federal financial aid.)

Gender (optional):  Male  Female  Other/more information

Date of birth (optional): \_\_\_\_\_ Place of birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
month day year city state country

Country of citizenship:  U.S.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

If you are not a U.S. citizen, indicate your status as of the date you submit this application:

Permanent Resident Alien (U.S.)  U.S. Visa type, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

**II. Contact Information**

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Current mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_  
street(1)  
street(2)  
city state postal code country

Current mailing address valid through: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent address: \_\_\_\_\_  
street(1)  
street(2)  
city state postal code country

Please identify the metropolitan area where you are currently residing: \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide the location that you identify as your hometown, or with which you feel most closely affiliated: \_\_\_\_\_

We often put our faculty, alumni, and students in touch with admitted applicants with shared interests or backgrounds so they can communicate about the Law School. Check here only if you do NOT wish to be contacted.

If you have previously been affiliated with the University of Michigan, please let us know:

Your username: \_\_\_\_\_@umich.edu Your 8-digit UMID (located on your M-Card): \_\_\_\_\_

**Please note:** *If you are a current or previous UM affiliate (whether a student or employee at any campus, or even just a summer camper), you will have personal and contact information in Wolverine Access. That information overrides any information you provide in this application, and we cannot alter it. Please make sure to visit Wolverine Access to update your records as necessary.*

### III. Application Type



Please indicate whether you are applying to the Regular Decision or the Early Decision program.

- Regular Decision
- Early Decision. Checking this box denotes your agreement with the following statement: I have applied under the binding Early Decision program. I understand that the deadline for applying is November 15, and that all my application materials must be received in the Admissions Office by that date in order to ensure that I meet the deadline. If I receive an offer from the University of Michigan Law School under this plan, I agree to attend the School, as well as to withdraw all applications pending at other law schools and not to initiate any new applications, and I have signed the certification (XIII at the end of this application).



If you have applied or will be applying this year for a dual degree program, please specify which program: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have applied to the University of Michigan Law School before, state for which year: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have ever registered at a law school, please give the name of the law school, dates of attendance, and your reasons for not completing the degree:

List all dates you have taken, or plan to take, the Law School Admission Test:

\_\_\_\_\_

### IV. Family Information

Please provide information for up to two parents or guardians. If a parent is deceased, please let us know in the address section below.



Mother  Father  Guardian

Mother  Father  Guardian

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary occupation during working years: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary occupation during working years: \_\_\_\_\_

Highest level of education:

- Elementary or junior high school
- High school
- Some college
- Bachelor's degree
- Graduate or professional degree

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Are you in the first generation of your family to graduate from college?  Yes  No



If anyone in your immediate family is a graduate of Michigan Law School, please state the relationship, name, year of graduation, and degree type (J.D., L.L.M., S.J.D., M.C.L.).

## V. Educational Background

List all colleges and universities you have attended (whether full-time, part-time, summer, or graduate study). Begin with the most recent.

Name of institution, location	Dates attended (MM/YY - MM/YY)	Field of concentration	Degree (if any) and date

Please provide the name of the secondary school where you obtained your diploma, and the city and state where it is located:

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List all languages, other than English, that you speak or write, and state your degree of proficiency in each.

If English is not your native language, when did you begin to learn it?

- By age 5     During elementary school     During high school     After high school

## VI. Experience



Please let us know the following, **in a résumé or in some other format**: (A) up to eight positions of full-time or significant part-time employment, paid or unpaid, beginning with your most recent, including the name and location of your employer, your job title, and the dates you held the position, along with any other information you think will be useful; (B) significant extracurricular/non-work-related activities; (C) academic and non-academic honors and awards received, including fellowships, prizes, and memberships in honor societies; and (D) hobbies or special areas of interest or academic pursuits. **If you are not presently enrolled in an educational institution**, we would find it particularly helpful to know what you are doing now; whether you are working, volunteering, traveling, seeking employment, or anything else, **please be sure to tell us your current and planned activities prior to enrolling in law school.**

## VII. Recommenders

List the names of your proposed recommenders. We require only one letter of recommendation, but encourage you to submit three.

Name/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer/institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Name/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer/institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Name/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer/institution: \_\_\_\_\_

## VIII. Essays

The University of Michigan Law School has long understood that enrolling students with a broad range of perspectives and experiences generates a vibrant culture of comprehensive debate and discussion, and we view our student body as one of our richest resources. The wide-ranging and challenging conversations of our diverse student body, inside and outside the classroom, enrich the quality of our community's intellectual life and enhance the quality of the legal education here.

Essay submissions are an extremely helpful tool for evaluating your potential contributions to our community. As you prepare to write your personal statement and any optional essays, please keep the following in mind. First, we do not have a fixed checklist of particular attributes we seek in our students, and you will have the best insights into what is most important for us to know about you. Second, there is no set convention for communicating the information you choose to share. A successful essay might involve writing directly about expansive themes such as your goals or philosophy or background or identity, or very differently, might be a vignette that reveals something significant about you. In other words, think broadly about what you might wish to convey and how you might best convey it.

While the form and content of your essays are up to you, for ease of reading, please use double-spacing and at least an 11-point font.

### A. Personal Statement (required)

There is no formula for a successful personal statement, and different individuals will find different topics to be well-suited to them. Applicants have, for example, elaborated on their significant life experiences; meaningful intellectual interests and extracurricular activities; factors inspiring them to obtain a legal education or to pursue particular career goals; significant obstacles met and overcome; special talents or skills; issues of sexual or gender identity; particular political, philosophical, or religious beliefs; socioeconomic challenges; atypical backgrounds, educational paths, employment histories, or prior careers; or experiences and perspectives relating to disadvantage, disability, or discrimination. Any of these subjects, and many more, could be an appropriate basis for communicating important information about yourself that will aid us in reaching a thoughtful decision. The length of your personal statement is up to you.

### B. Supplemental Essays (optional)



Supplemental essays allow you an opportunity to provide us with relevant information that you were not able to include elsewhere in your application materials. If you wish, write one or two essays (but no more) on the following topics. Each essay should be about one page (and no more than two).

#### Essay One

Say more about your interest in the University of Michigan Law School. What do you believe Michigan has to offer to you and you to Michigan?

#### Essay Two

Describe your current hopes for your career after completing law school. How will your education, experience, and development so far support those plans?

#### Essay Three

If you do not think that your academic record or standardized test scores accurately reflect your ability to succeed in law school, please tell us why.

#### Essay Four

Describe a failure or setback in your life. How did you overcome it? What, if anything, would you do differently if confronted with this situation again?

#### Essay Five

Describe an experience that speaks to the problems and possibilities of diversity in an educational or work setting.

#### Essay Six

What do you think are the skills and values of a good lawyer? Which do you already possess? Which do you hope to develop?

#### Essay Seven

How might your perspectives and experiences enrich the quality and breadth of the intellectual life of our community or enhance the legal profession?

#### Essay Eight

Describe your educational experiences so far. What kinds of learning environments, teaching methods, student cultures, and/or evaluation processes lead you to thrive, or contrariwise, thwart your success?



## IX. Eligibility for In-State Tuition

In-state status for tuition and admissions purposes is determined by criteria set forth in the University's *Guidelines for Qualifying for In-State Tuition*, which can be found, along with the application for in-state tuition, at [www.ro.umich.edu/resreg.php](http://www.ro.umich.edu/resreg.php). Questions pertaining to your in-state status should be addressed to the staff of the Residency Classification Office, University of Michigan Office of the Registrar, 1210 LS&A Building, 500 South State Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1382, phone number 734-764-1400.

Do you meet the eligibility criteria for in-state tuition according to the Guidelines for Qualifying for In-State Tuition?

Yes, since \_\_\_\_\_  No      If yes, county of residence: \_\_\_\_\_

If you answered “yes” and any of the following circumstances applies, please be aware that you must file an application for in-state tuition and be approved in order to be considered in-state for tuition purposes:

- You currently live outside of Michigan (for any purpose, including, but not limited to, education, volunteer activities, travel, or employment).
- You have attended a high school or college outside of Michigan.
- You have been employed or domiciled outside of Michigan in the last 3 years.
- You are not a U.S. citizen or Permanent Resident Alien.
- Your spouse, partner, or parent is in Michigan as a nonresident student, medical resident, fellow, or for military assignment or other temporary employment.
- You are 24 years of age or younger and a parent lives outside of Michigan.
- You previously attended any U-M campus (Ann Arbor, Dearborn, or Flint) as a nonresident.

Other circumstances may also require you to file a residency application.

## X. Conduct



While answering the two questions below, when in doubt, err on the side of full disclosure, as the failure to fully answer any question may result in exclusion from law school or denial of the opportunity to take a state bar examination. (Please note: 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](#).) If, following your completion of this application but prior to matriculation, matters arise that would require you to answer yes to either question, supplement your application with complete details. Note that an affirmative answer to either question does not necessarily preclude or even prejudice admission. Your answer will be reviewed on an individual basis in relation to all aspects of your experience, academic achievement, and potential. **You must submit a supplementary statement with any affirmative responses; provide complete details, including dates and resolution.**

- Have you ever been subject to disciplinary action for academic or other reasons in any of the colleges, universities, graduate, or professional schools you have attended, or are such charges pending or expected to be brought against you?  
 Yes     No
- Have you ever been convicted of a crime (following a jury or bench trial, a guilty plea, or a *nolo contendere* plea), or charged with a criminal offense that was later dismissed as a result of a plea bargain or alternative sentencing arrangement, or are such criminal charges pending or expected to be brought against you? Include misdemeanors and criminal infractions, as well as any interaction with a law enforcement agency that resulted in payment of a fine or order of community service. Do not include minor traffic violations or civil infractions or citations for which jail time was not a potential penalty.  
 Yes     No

## XI. Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity



(Optional) The information requested below is optional. Your answer, or decision not to answer, will have no bearing on the Law School's admission decision.

Please indicate if you identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual or queer.

Please indicate if you identify as transgender.



## XII. Race and Ethnicity

(Optional) The information requested below is optional and will not be used in the admissions process. It is collected to comply with state and federal reporting requirements, as well as for statistical purposes. Your answer, or decision not to answer, will have no bearing on the Law School's admission decision.

**Please indicate whether you consider yourself to be Hispanic or Latino.**

- No**, not Hispanic or Latino.
- Yes**, Hispanic or Latino: a person of Cuban, Mexican, Chicano, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.

**In addition, select one or more of the following racial categories to describe yourself:**

- American Indian or Alaska Native:** a person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.
- Asian:** a person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.
- Black or African American:** a person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander:** a person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.
- White:** a person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.



## XIII. Certification

I hereby certify that all statements and representations on this application and on all accompanying materials are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I certify that the thoughts and words contained in my personal statement and essays are my own, and that no one assisted in the creation of my personal statement and essays beyond basic proofreading or a general critique of my work. I understand that false statements may result in the revocation of an offer of admission or expulsion or rescinding of my degree.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## XIV. Early Decision Certification

I have applied under the binding Early Decision program. I understand that the deadline for applying is November 15, and that all my application materials must be received in the Admissions Office by that date in order to ensure that I meet the deadline. If I receive an offer from the University of Michigan Law School under this plan, I agree to attend the School, as well as to withdraw all applications pending at other law schools and not to initiate any new applications.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**The Law School will contact you by email when we receive your application. After that, you may track your application through our online status checker. It is your responsibility to make sure that all necessary materials reach us. We cannot review incomplete applications.**

Name of applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ LSAC Account # or U.S. Social Security #: \_\_\_\_\_

## University of Michigan Law School Letter of Recommendation Information and Waiver Form

(You may photocopy this form, or use the LSAC waiver form.)

Name of applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ LSAC Account #: \_\_\_\_\_

Letters of recommendation should be written on the recommender's letterhead and, if sent directly to the University of Michigan Law School, should have a copy of this completed form attached. **Recommendations sent in a packet from a placement office or through the LSAC letter of recommendation service need not have this form attached.**

Federal legislation gives students attending the Law School the right to inspect and review the letter(s) of recommendation contained in their educational records. However, the student or applicant may waive that right of access. The letter(s) will then remain confidential between the Law School and the writer(s). You are not required to waive your right of access as a condition for admission to the Law School or for the receipt of financial aid or other benefits. All letters of recommendation, whether written confidentially or not, are carefully considered in the admission decision. You alone must decide whether to waive your right.

Letters of recommendation are most helpful when they contain candid and objective assessments of an applicant. The Law School believes that the writer of a recommendation should know prior to writing it whether it will be held in confidence. We request, therefore, that you complete the declaration below and provide the completed form to each of your recommenders. Your recommenders, in turn, should complete the acknowledgment section at the bottom of the page and submit the form, along with their recommendation, directly to the Law School. If this form is not submitted with a letter of recommendation, or if the waiver on a submitted form is not completed, we will assume that you preserve your right of access to that letter.

### Applicant's Waiver Declaration:

I have read the statement above and understand that I am not required to waive the right of access provided by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 as a condition for admission to the Law School or for the receipt of financial aid or other services and benefits.

- I hereby waive the right of access to this recommendation provided by law.  
 I do not waive the right of access to this recommendation provided by law.

Signature of applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Recommender Instructions

Your letter of recommendation will be most helpful to the Law School if it discusses the extent and nature of your acquaintance with the applicant and comments candidly on as many of the following subjects as possible: the applicant's intellectual and scholarly abilities, capacity for original thought, ability to analyze and critically assess information, quality of oral and written expression, growth potential, achievements, and personality, including interactions with peers and yourself or your colleagues.

Please do not return your letter of recommendation to the applicant. Mail it directly to the University of Michigan Law School, Admissions Office, South Hall, Suite 2200, 701 South State Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-3091, or send it by email to [law.jd.admissions@umich.edu](mailto:law.jd.admissions@umich.edu).

### Recommender's Acknowledgment:

I acknowledge having read both the above statement and the applicant's declaration concerning access prior to providing the attached letter of recommendation.

Signature of recommender \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Name of recommender \_\_\_\_\_ Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Postal code \_\_\_\_\_