

Application Instructions

South Texas College of Law Houston admits students in both the fall and spring semesters each year. Application deadlines are March 15 for the fall semester and October 1 for the spring semester (full time only). Typical GPA and LSAT scores for an entering class are 25th/75th LSAT: 148/154 and 25th/75th GPA: 2.95/3.40.

South Texas College of Law Houston recognizes the educational value of cultivating a richly diverse academic environment and considers many factors in addition to GPA and LSAT. It is our policy to encourage applications from qualified members of underrepresented groups.

All applicants are required to take the Law School Admission Test (LSAT), administered throughout the world by the Law School Admission Council (LSAC) each September/October, December, February, and June. South Texas College of Law Houston will not consider an LSAT score from a test administered more than five years prior to the beginning of the semester for which application for admission is made. Applicants must also register with the LSAC Credential Assembly Service (CAS). Each applicant is responsible for making his or her own arrangements to take the LSAT and for submitting official transcripts of all undergraduate work to LSAC for processing. Applicants must have earned a baccalaureate degree from a college or university listed in the Accredited Institutions of Postsecondary Education published by the American Council on Education. The registration procedures for the LSAT and the Credential Assembly Service can be obtained on the web at LSAC.org.

The Admissions Process

The admissions process requires that each applicant: (1) take the LSAT and register with the Credential Assembly Service (as described above); (2) fully complete and sign (or electronically certify) the application for admission, paying special attention to instructions about disclosures and updates; and (3) pay the nonrefundable application fee. In addition, each applicant must submit a résumé of academic and professional experience as well as a detailed personal statement setting forth the applicant's unique individual qualifications, interests, and aspirations for the study of law. When applying electronically, use electronic attachments for your résumé and personal statement. Two letters of recommendation also are required (a third will be accepted). All other items submitted will be discarded. The entire application package along with a nonrefundable application fee of \$55 must be received by the Admissions Office on or before the application deadlines of March 15 for fall and October 1 for spring (full time only). Please note: once an application has been submitted, it must become complete six weeks following the deadline. Applications that remain incomplete by this deadline will be ineligible for committee review.

South Texas College of Law Houston PREFERS that the application is submitted electronically. We require that you utilize the LSAC Letter of Recommendation Service that serves all LSAC-member schools. This service is included in your Credential Assembly Service registration. Your letters will be copied and sent to us along with your Credential Assembly Service Law School Report. To use this service, follow the directions for submitting letters outlined at LSAC.org. Be sure to fill out a Letter of Recommendation Form and give it to each person preparing a letter for you.

Scholarships

All admitted applicants are automatically considered for merit-based scholarships. It is optimal to have a completed file by December 1 for fall and October 1 for spring for timely consideration of scholarships.

Foreign Degree Applicants

Applicants with degrees from foreign institutions are required to take the LSAT and it is preferred that they register with the Credential Assembly Service. South Texas College of Law Houston prefers that your foreign transcripts be submitted through the LSAC Credential Assembly Service. If you completed any postsecondary work outside the US (including its territories) or Canada, you may use this service for the evaluation of your foreign transcripts. The one exception to this is if you completed the foreign 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 registration fee. A Foreign Credential Evaluation will be completed by the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO), which will be incorporated into your law school report.

To use the Credential Assembly Service, log in to your online account at LSAC.org 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 foreign transcripts.

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

Applicants may also choose to use a recognized foreign credential evaluation service. This must include a course-by-course description, state that the applicant possesses the equivalent of a bachelor's degree, and provide a cumulative GPA for that degree.

The law school requires the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) from applicants who obtained their degree from

a country where English is NOT the official language. If you earned your degree from a university where the courses are taught in English, we do not require the TOEFL.

For more information about the exam, contact TOEFL:

TOEFL

P.O. Box 6154

Princeton, NJ 08541

609.921.9000

The Educational Testing Service (ETS) should submit the TOEFL scores to the CAS; LSAC's TOEFL code is 8395. Your score will be included in your law school report. The TOEFL should be taken as early as possible in the application process, and only scores submitted within the past two years will be accepted.

South Texas College of Law Houston classifies any student who is not a U.S. citizen and holds a temporary visa (F-1 or J-1) as an international student. In addition to meeting standard admissions requirements, these applicants must submit the following:

- Official TOEFL report, for students whose native language is not English. Students who have earned their degree from a non-English speaking country are not required to take the TOEFL exam.
- Non-U.S. citizens must include a copy of immigration documents (such as a current U.S. visa or permanent resident card) when submitting the application, if applicable.
- Letter of Financial Backing and Statement of Understanding (U.S. citizens and permanent residents are exempt.)

Notices of Critical Importance

South Texas College of Law Houston admits students of any race, color, and national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, age, race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, or disability, or in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan program, and other school-administered programs.

South Texas College of Law Houston does not represent, warrant, or claim that by attending or graduating from the law school, an accepted applicant will pass the bar exam or be accepted to the bar in any state. In addition, the law school does not represent, warrant, or claim that by attending or graduating from the law school or by subsequently being admitted to the bar of any state, an accepted applicant to the law school will become employed in a legal position or will receive a higher average starting salary than such applicant might otherwise be in a position to receive.

While every effort is made to provide accurate and current information, South Texas College of Law Houston reserve the right to change, without notice, statements in the Admissions Bulletin concerning rules, policies, fees, curricula, or other matters. Publications of the school are not contractual. The faculty and administration may make changes at any time and may make them applicable to students enrolled before and/or after the changes are made.

It is also the applicant's responsibility to research the character, fitness, and other qualifications for admission to the bar in the state(s) in which the applicant intends to practice.

Additionally, if you have been academically dismissed from another ABA-accredited law school, South Texas College of Law Houston requires that you opt out the recommended two years before reapplying to begin your studies all over again.

Program

What program type are you applying for?

Full Time

Part Time

Biographical

Prefix _____

First name _____

Middle name _____

Last name _____

Suffix _____

Previous (other) name _____

Preferred first name _____

Date of birth _____

Place of birth: City _____

Place of birth: Country _____

Place of birth: State/Province _____

Gender _____

Social security number _____

LSAC account number _____

Demographics

Citizenship

Citizenship

Non-Resident Alien

Temporary Resident

US Citizen

US Permanent Resident

Country of citizenship _____

Visa type _____

Visa/SEVIS number _____

Permanent resident number _____

Permanent city _____

Permanent state/province _____

Permanent country _____

Native language _____

Demographics continued

Ethnicity

Are you Hispanic or Latino?

Yes

No

If you selected 'Yes' to the above question, select an ethnicity.

Chicano/Mexican American

Cuban

Other Hispanic/Latino

What is your race? Select one or more races to indicate what you consider yourself to be.

Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Australian

Aboriginal/Torres Strait Isl. Australian

American Indian or Alaska Native

American Indian/Alaskan Native

Asian

Asian

Black or African American

Black/African American

Canadian Aboriginal/Indigenous

Canadian Aboriginal/Indigenous

Caucasian/White

Caucasian/White

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander

Puerto Rican

Puerto Rican

Consent

Decline to respond

Contact Information

Current Address

Country _____

Street address--line 1 _____

Street address--line 2 _____

Street address--line 3 _____

City _____

State/province _____

Zip/postal code _____

Current mailing address good until date _____

Day phone _____

Evening phone _____

Permanent Address

Country _____

Street address--line 1 _____

Street address--line 2 _____

Street address--line 3 _____

City _____

State/province _____

Zip/postal code _____

Permanent mailing address good until date _____

Day phone _____

Evening phone _____

Other Contact Information

Primary e-mail address _____

Secondary e-mail address _____

Mobile phone _____

South Texas College of Law Houston can send text messages to my mobile phone.

Yes

No

Standardized Testing

LSAT

Test Date

Test Score

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Education

List ALL educational institutions attended.

Institution type ___ High School ___ Undergraduate ___ Graduate ___ Law ___ Other Post Graduate

Institution name _____

Major _____

Country _____ Start date _____

State/Province _____ End date _____

City _____ Degree _____

GPA _____ Date degree granted _____

Rank _____

Institution type ___ High School ___ Undergraduate ___ Graduate ___ Law ___ Other Post Graduate

Institution name _____

Major _____

Country _____ Start date _____

State/Province _____ End date _____

City _____ Degree _____

GPA _____ Date degree granted _____

Rank _____

Education continued

Institution type High School Undergraduate Graduate Law Other Post Graduate

Institution name _____

Major _____

Country _____ Start date _____

State/Province _____ End date _____

City _____ Degree _____

GPA _____ Date degree granted _____

Rank _____

Institution type High School Undergraduate Graduate Law Other Post Graduate

Institution name _____

Major _____

Country _____ Start date _____

State/Province _____ End date _____

City _____ Degree _____

GPA _____ Date degree granted _____

Rank _____

Have you ever attended any law school?

Yes

No

Did you leave the law school under less than good standing?

Yes

No

List the academic honors, awards, or other recognitions you have received and explain the reason(s) upon which awards were made.

Education continued

Law School Interest

What prompted you to apply to this law school?

Internet

- ABA
- Law School
- LSAC
- Other

Faculty/Alumni/Professional

- Admissions recruiter
- Alumni
- Faculty/acquaintance
- Law school faculty member
- Legal professional
- Prelaw advisor
- Relative
- University/college faculty member

Publications

- Law school publication
- LSAC Official Guide to ABA Law Schools
- Other advertisement
- Princeton Review
- US News & World Report

Recruiting Events

- Campus event
- Current student
- International forum
- Law school direct mail/e-mail
- Law school fair
- LSAC Forum

If you attended any events mentioned in the Recruiting Events section, please list them below:

Have you previously applied to this law school?

- Yes
- No

If you applied previously, what year was the application for? _____

Were you offered admission?

- Yes
- No

Law School Interest continued

Are you applying, or have you applied, to other law schools? If so, please list them.

Alumni Information

Please list the name(s) and the relationship of any South Texas alumni that may have influenced your decision to apply.

Name:

Relationship:

Name:

Relationship:

Name:

Relationship:

Fitness and Character

It is imperative that you honestly and fully answer all questions, regardless of whether you believe the information requested is relevant. Your responses on your application are evidence of your candor and honesty. An honest "yes" answer to a question on your application is not definitive to the law school's assessment of your present moral character and fitness, but a dishonest "no" answer is evidence of a lack of candor and honesty, which may be definitive on the character and fitness issue. Please note that while you need not disclose expunged or sealed offenses, arrests, tickets, citations, or matters subject to orders of nondisclosure, it is your responsibility to ensure that the offense, arrest, ticket, or citation has, in fact, been expunged, sealed, or made subject to an order of nondisclosure. Failure to reveal an offense, arrest, ticket, or citation that has not, in fact, been expunged, sealed, or made subject to an order of nondisclosure raises questions related to truthfulness in addition to questions regarding the offense itself. You must report any failure-to-appear charge, warrant, or conviction resulting from any violation of the law including traffic violations. Failure to provide truthful answers, failure to inform the Admissions Office of any changes to your answers, or failure to update the law school after enrolling, may result in revocation of admission or disciplinary action by the law school or denial of permission to practice law by the state in which you seek admission. It is also your responsibility to research the character and fitness and other qualifications for the state(s) in which you intend to practice.

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 dropped, suspended, warned, placed on academic or disciplinary probation, disciplined, expelled, or requested or advised to resign from any postsecondary school, college, university, professional school, or law school? This could include, but not be limited to, discipline in any way for any matter by any college, university, law school, or other institution of higher learning, or by any professor, administrator, employee, or entity representing any college, university, law school, or other institution of higher learning. (Entity includes, without limitation, residential facilities or other facilities owned or managed by a college, university, law school, or other institution of higher learning.)

Yes
 No

Have you ever been arrested, cited, or ticketed for, or charged with any violation of the law? You may exclude minor traffic violations. You must report any offenses involving alcohol or drugs, any failure to maintain motor vehicle financial responsibility (aka No Insurance or No Motor Vehicle Liability Insurance), and any offenses in which there was an attempt, whether successful or not, to suspend or revoke your driver's license. You must report any failure-to-appear charges resulting from the offense.

Yes
 No

Have you ever been convicted of an offense, placed on probation, or granted deferred adjudication or any type of pretrial diversion in any jurisdiction? You may exclude minor traffic violations. You must report any offenses involving alcohol or drugs, any failure to maintain motor vehicle financial responsibility (aka No Insurance or No Motor Vehicle Liability Insurance), and any offenses in which there was an attempt, whether successful or not, to suspend or revoke your driver's license. You must report any failure-to-appear charges resulting from the offense.

Yes
 No

Family

Next of Kin/Emergency Contact

Salutation _____
First (given) name _____
Middle name/initial _____
Last (family) name _____
Relationship to applicant _____
Telephone (include area code) _____

Country _____
Street address--line 1 _____
Street address--line 2 _____
Street address--line 3 _____
City _____
State/province _____
Zip/postal code _____

Parent/Guardian - 1

____ Choose not to answer
____ Deceased
First (given) name _____
Middle name/initial _____
Last (family) name _____

Country _____
Street address--line 1 _____
Street address--line 2 _____
Street address--line 3 _____
City _____
State/province _____
Zip/postal code _____

Parent/Guardian - 2

____ Choose not to answer
____ Deceased
First (given) name _____
Middle name/initial _____
Last (family) name _____

Country _____
Street address--line 1 _____
Street address--line 2 _____
Street address--line 3 _____
City _____
State/province _____
Zip/postal code _____

Military

Have you served or are you now serving on full-time, active US military duty?

____ Yes
____ No

Military continued

Date of entrance (month/year) _____

Date of discharge (month/year) _____

Rank _____

Expected military reserve or National Guard status during law school

Branch _____

Discharge type _____

Have you ever been separated from any branch of the US armed forces under less than honorable conditions?

____ Yes

____ No