PRELAW CHECKLIST FOR TULANE’S
JUNIORS AND SENIORS

JUNIOR YEAR

• Make this a good year academically. Law school admissions committees review applicant’s grades in their search for hard working students. If you hope to attend law school immediately after graduation your junior year grades will be the most recently completed and reported.
• Students perform best on the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT); when they take it in June following their junior year. Prepare for the examination in the spring of your junior year. Explore the option of taking a commercial preparation class. Applicants may purchase a book of past LSAT exams from the Law School Admissions Service at www.LSAC.org
• Read over the Law Schools websites that you are interested in attending. If you would like you can also order catalogs from them which are usually updated each summer.
• Learn as much as you can about the legal profession by reading, talking to attorneys and law students, internships, law related summer jobs, and taking part in campus prelaw activities.
• Visit prospective law schools were ever possible.
• Prepare faculty members to write supportive recommendations for you in the spring. Most law schools request two recommendations. Faculty who know you well and for whom you have done your best work write the most persuasive recommendations.
• Some law schools require dean’s certifications of good academic standing. Know your academic advisor and dean’s so that they may confidently and coherently endorse you to law schools which require dean’s certifications.

SPRING JUNIOR YEAR

• Register for the LSAT and LSDAS online at www.LSAC.org
• Develop a list of law schools. Read the Official Guide to ABA-approval Law Schools. This book is available online at www.LSAC.org
• Evaluate your admissions potential to targeted law schools by comparing your GPA and projected LSAT score to each law school’s accepted candidate average scores. Applicant strategies for admissions should mimic undergraduate admissions plans which include a couple vision schools, the majority of reasonable schools and a couple of confidence schools. Most students apply to between six and ten schools.
• Prepare for and take the LSAT. By taking the June LSAT, applicants know their scores and can better select an appropriate range of law schools. Future applicants may retake the LSAT in October in the event of a problem during the June LSAT administration.
• Develop a system of tracking all registration and application materials. Duplicate forms, applications and correspondence for your own records. Ultimately, your applications are your responsibility, so keep track of the process.
• Request recommendations from faculty members. Consider giving faculty recommders a copy of your personal statement and resume.

FALL OF SENIOR YEAR

• Revise your personal statement. Solicit editorial comments from your professor’s.
• Conclude arrangements for your letters of recommendation
• Contact Tulane University Registrars Office to arrange transmission of your transcripts to LSDAS. Information about transcript transmission is available on Tulane University’s web page. Transcripts must be sent from each institutions attended.
• Obtain financial aid forms, such as FAFSA, from law schools. Law schools designate which forms they require.
• Students uncertain of the strength of their applications or advisability of retaking the LSAT may consult the Prelaw Advisor. Again, appointments are preferred.
• Finalize and post applications by Thanksgiving, if possible. Most law schools admit students on a rolling admissions basis, thus the system favors early applicants.
• Double check everything online. By mid-January, make sure law schools received application, LSDAS reports, letters of recommendation and dean’s certificates that where required.
• Thank recommenders and advise them of application results.
• Notify schools which offered admittance and which you will not attend that you have accepted another law school seat.