

MY TOP TEN ABOUT APPLYING TO LAW SCHOOL

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1. YOU HAVE TO WANT TO GO TO LAW SCHOOL AND TAKE IT SERIOUSLY TO APPLY!! Do not just do it to see if you can get in, it is a long and expensive process!
2. PREPARE for the LSAT like you are actually going to take the test that day and practice OFTEN. You need to be comfortable with the types of questions they will ask and the timing. It is a grueling test to say the least! Take it in the summer before your Senior year if possible, that way you have more time in the event you want to retake the test to improve your score but do not retake it too many times! However, the score is good for five years following the date of the test for you to use to apply.
3. BE INVOLVED in a variety of things at your undergrad school, but be “loyal” to them. Schools like extracurricular activities and bringing people with a variety of backgrounds to the school. If you are involved, stay involved and become a leader if possible.
4. RESEARCH – go see the schools you are interested in and make sure it’s somewhere you want to be. If you are not happy in the city, you will not be happy at the school, and you need to be comfortable at school, but there may be exceptions. The US News rankings don’t mean everything either, but can be helpful in finding places you may want to go.
5. DON’T BE AFRAID to go outside of your state or top few schools. Most schools teach the same basic topics in your first year applicable to all states, and some professors encourage those who want to practice outside of the state to bring it to their attention and they will point out the differences. There are tons of great schools out there, and remember that law school classes are much smaller than undergrad, the school may only accept a total of 300 people or less into the class!
6. On that note, TRANSFERRING to a different school after your first year is not uncommon, and schools are often more willing to give you a chance after you’ve proven you can handle law school – so that school you got rejected from or waitlisted to may still want you after all!
7. CONTACT the schools if you do not get a chance to visit, and ask for a fee waiver. In addition to the school’s fees, you have to pay the Law School Admissions Council for them to send their report as well and this adds up really quickly. Many schools are willing to give fee waivers if you merely ask or fill out some forms.
8. DO NOT BE DISCOURAGED by rejection letters, they may be your first but they are not the last! It is a stressful time but those acceptance letters are awesome!
9. TAKE SENIOR YEAR SERIOUSLY, law schools can revoke their offer if you slip in your last semester!
10. ASK FRIENDS AND ACQUAINTANCES or the schools themselves about any questions you have with the process, they are always willing to help!

If you have any questions feel free to contact me at trippughes@gmail.com or (804) 239-8977. Best of luck in your studies and in applying to school!