

Four-year action guide for FAU Pre Law undergraduates:

Is law school right for me?

How do I prepare for law school applications?

Freshman year	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Visit the Career Center to discuss your general ideas about legal careers. Explore tools designed to identify your interests and strengths. www.fau.edu/career• Visit UAS and inquire about the PLUS (Pre Law University Services) initiative. Visit the PLUS website to learn about FAU pre law resources: www.fau.edu/prelaw Meet with the pre law advisor to discuss your interests and strengths, and to discuss class choices moving forward.• Talk to lawyers: family, friends, neighbors, campus professionals. Ask them about their work, including what they like and do not like.• Pay careful attention to your English classes. Do you enjoy reading and writing? Do you enjoy critically analyzing written materials?• Consider joining the FAU chapter of Phi Alpha Delta, and/or the Undergraduate Law Journal. Attend their events and workshops, even if you do not become a member.• Focus on your classes and on earning the highest grades possible! For the purpose of being accepted into law school, high grades are generally far more important than a resume full of activities.
Sophomore year	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to focus upon your grades.• Continue the exploratory activities above. Based on what you have learned so far, are you generally more interested in transactions or litigation? Criminal or civil law? Public or private sector?• Consider taking electives that are relevant to legal practice, such as public speaking, communications, technical writing, government, and American history.• Attend court hearings to see if you enjoy the topics and the nature of work that some lawyers do. Did you know that many hearings are open to the public?• Continue to speak with and, if possible, shadow attorneys in their work.• Talk to your professors. Remember that they (as well as your employers and co-workers, if any) are potential sources of future recommendations for law school applications.• Research internship, mentorship, and shadowing opportunities.• Continue to be involved with PLUS partners and to attend events.
Junior year	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to focus on your grades.• Continue the exploratory activities above.• Meet with a pre law advisor to discuss your timeline and goals.• Visit Law School Admissions Council (LSAC) web site to research law schools www.lsac.org• Start to identify law schools that you are interested in.• Research your target law schools. Learn their application deadlines and other details about their application processes.• On the LSAC web site, determine future LSAT administration dates.• Take a mock LSAT exam, and consider taking a prep course. The FAU test prep center has an LSAT prep course that is more affordable than popular commercial programs: www.fau.edu/testprep

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register with the CAS (Credential Assembly Service, <i>formerly</i> LSDAS) and for the LSAT exam. • Prepare a draft of your personal statement after the LSAT. Your personal statement should be slightly different for each law school you apply to, and tailored to each. • Research scholarships and financial aid opportunities in your target law schools, and start to apply to apply (depending on due dates). • For your convenience, make sure your resume is fully updated by the beginning of your senior year. Have a Career Center advisor or a pre law advisor review your resume.
Senior year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not neglect your grades in your senior year! Continue to focus on increasing your GPA as much as possible. • Continue the exploratory activities above. Research law schools, request information from them, and consider visiting some. • Take note of your target law schools' application deadlines, application requirements, and seat deposit deadlines. Some schools may require writing samples; others may require interviews. • Continue to work on your personal statement and make sure that a pre law advisor reads it. • If you have not done so already, register for the CAS and prepare for the LSAT. • Order transcripts from all colleges and universities that you attended, and have them sent to the CAS. • Request all letters of recommendation from professors, employers, etc. Make sure to provide recommenders with your resume. • Apply for financial aid and scholarships.