

## Juris Doctor (Law) 2020-2021 Admission Requirements

**Program Details:** The Faculty of Law's rigorous program of study is well-known among leading law firms for providing students with the knowledge to succeed in the legal profession. Through the University of Alberta's targeted program of required courses and a wide-range of options, you'll receive a strong foundation in the law—its origins, meaning, and limits—while also having flexibility to customize your studies. The end result is a degree that opens doors.

**Quota:** 185 Students

**Minimum Standards:** For the 2020/2021 cycle the average GPA for admission was a 3.8 on a 4-point scale. The average LSAT score for admission is 160 out of a possible 180. There is no direct entry from high school into the Juris Doctor program (JD). Exceptional students may be admitted to the program after completing two years of university study with a minimum GPA of 3.7 and 90th percentile Law School Admission Test (LSAT) score. All other students must have completed at least the first three years of a degree before being admitted to the JD. There are no specific university courses that must be taken for admission to the JD, and no specific degree that is recommended. Admission is competitive based on a student's overall academic record and LSAT score. The Law School Admission Test (LSAT) is compulsory for all applicants. There are additional considerations for Indigenous applicants, as per the university Calendar.

Please note: Admission is competitive and meeting the minimum standards does not guarantee admission.

### Admission Requirements:

#### I. Prerequisite Courses:

There are no prerequisite courses required for admission to Law.

Students must have successfully completed an undergraduate degree, or at least the first three years (90 credit hours) of a program leading to a degree, at the University of Alberta or from a university recognized by the University of Alberta.

However, in special circumstances the Committee will consider applications from applicants without a degree who have completed two years (60 credits), or equivalent, of a full program of studies that would be accepted for credit towards any degree at the University of Alberta. To be considered in this way, students must present a minimum GPA of 3.7 over the two years of study, as well as an LSAT score placing the applicant in the 90th percentile.

#### II. Other Requirements:

1. LSAT: Students must have written the Law School Admission Test within a 5-year period preceding the September of the year in which admission is sought. If multiple LSAT scores are presented, the highest will be used..
2. Personal Statement (750 – 1000 words)
3. 2 Letters of Reference, a resume and proof of status are required for those applying for consideration under the Indigenous

Category

#### III. Selection Process:



1. Admissions will be based on GPA and LSAT Score:

- a. The GPA is determined by reference to the applicant's most recent 60 units/credits (equivalent to 10 full courses or 20 half courses) of study in a recognized university degree (undergraduate or graduate), provided those units of course weight are completed by February 1st in the year in which admission is sought. This is the minimum number of units/credits or courses that will be used in the assessment of an applicant's GPA. In many cases when we count back to obtain the 60 units/credits, we may have to go part-way into an academic semester. If this happens, we do not stop at the 60th unit/credit, we will use the courses and grades for that entire session.
- b. The GPA and the LSAT will be used to create a Prediction Indicator to rank the regular applicants. The Committee may also take into account exceptional circumstances that adversely affected particular grades or overall academic performance and/or LSAT score(s), but do not pose an ongoing issue in terms of the applicant's ability to succeed in law school.

**Deadlines:**

Application Deadline: December 1 one year prior admission

Document Deadline: February 1