

## 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"><li>• Visit the Career Center to discuss your general ideas about legal careers. Explore tools designed to identify your interests and strengths. <a href="http://www.fau.edu/career">www.fau.edu/career</a></li><li>• Visit UAS and inquire about the PLUS (Pre Law University Services) initiative. Visit the PLUS website to learn about FAU pre law resources: <a href="http://www.fau.edu/prelaw">www.fau.edu/prelaw</a> Meet with the pre law advisor to discuss your interests and strengths, and to discuss class choices moving forward.</li><li>• Talk to lawyers: family, friends, neighbors, campus professionals. Ask them about their work, including what they like and do not like.</li><li>• Pay careful attention to your English classes. Do you enjoy reading and writing? Do you enjoy critically analyzing written materials?</li><li>• 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.</li><li>• 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.</li></ul>
Sophomore year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue to focus upon your grades.</li><li>• 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?</li><li>• Consider taking electives that are relevant to legal practice, such as public speaking, communications, technical writing, government, and American history.</li><li>• 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?</li><li>• Continue to speak with and, if possible, shadow attorneys in their work.</li><li>• 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.</li><li>• Research internship, mentorship, and shadowing opportunities.</li><li>• Continue to be involved with PLUS partners and to attend events.</li></ul>
Junior year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue to focus on your grades.</li><li>• Continue the exploratory activities above.</li><li>• Meet with a pre law advisor to discuss your timeline and goals.</li><li>• Visit Law School Admissions Council (LSAC) web site to research law schools <a href="http://www.lsac.org">www.lsac.org</a></li><li>• Start to identify law schools that you are interested in.</li><li>• Research your target law schools. Learn their application deadlines and other details about their application processes.</li><li>• On the LSAC web site, determine future LSAT administration dates.</li><li>• 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: <a href="http://www.fau.edu/testprep">www.fau.edu/testprep</a></li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Register with the CAS (Credential Assembly Service, <i>formerly</i> LSDAS) and for the LSAT exam.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Research scholarships and financial aid opportunities in your target law schools, and start to apply to apply (depending on due dates).</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>
Senior year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not neglect your grades in your senior year! Continue to focus on increasing your GPA as much as possible.</li> <li>• Continue the exploratory activities above. Research law schools, request information from them, and consider visiting some.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Continue to work on your personal statement and make sure that a pre law advisor reads it.</li> <li>• If you have not done so already, register for the CAS and prepare for the LSAT.</li> <li>• Order transcripts from all colleges and universities that you attended, and have them sent to the CAS.</li> <li>• Request all letters of recommendation from professors, employers, etc. Make sure to provide recommenders with your resume.</li> <li>• Apply for financial aid and scholarships.</li> </ul>