

## **Boston University School of Law**

### **Resume**

A current résumé is required of all applicants. Your résumé should reflect all full-time and part-time employment, both paid and unpaid, and all extracurricular activities and honors. Please format your résumé in reverse chronological order, with the most recent employment at the top. Please do not include high school activities or awards in your résumé. **Please include your current activities, whether you are currently employed or unemployed. A gap of three months or more in the timeline of your résumé should be explained with an addendum.** There is no required length for the résumé.

### **Personal Statement**

Please include a statement that explains the significant personal, social, or academic experiences that have contributed to your decision to study law. There is no required length, however most personal statements are approximately two pages long. Please double-space your personal statement.

### **Optional Essay**

Consistent with the American Bar Association, Boston University School of Law believes that knowledge about bias, cross-cultural competency (ability to understand people from different backgrounds and engage with them effectively), and racism are central to the legal profession. Please tell us how your education, training, or lived experience has deepened your knowledge about bias, cross-cultural competency, and racism? and/or prepared you to explore these topics at BU Law

## University of California, Berkely, School of Law

### **Resume**

In addition to a personal statement we require that you include a resume. There is no page limit, but generally two pages is adequate. The resume should include chronological information about your work experiences, extracurricular activities, honors and awards, volunteer experience, travels, and accomplishments.

### **Personal Statement**

You are required to submit a personal statement as part of your application. It should be limited to four double-spaced pages in 11 or 12 point font that is highly legible and with normal page margins.

### **Optional Statements**

In addition to your personal statement, you may choose to attach a response to one or more of the following questions if you feel the information would be helpful to us when considering your application.

#### **Interest in Berkeley Law**

Tell us more about your interest in Berkeley Law. What makes our school a good fit for you in terms of academic interests, programmatic offerings, and learning environment?

*This essay is required if you are applying to the Public Interest Scholars Program.*

350 word maximum

#### **Perspectives and Experiences**

How will you (your perspective, experience, Voice) contribute to diversity in our classrooms and community? Feel free to address any factors or attributes you consider important and relevant. In the past, applicants have included information about characteristics such as: race/ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, socioeconomic background, first generation college or professional school student, student parent, re-entry student, geographic diversity, ideological diversity, and others.

500 word maximum

#### **Interest in the Legal Profession (Video Submission Only)**

Looking beyond the four corners of your application, please share more about why you are applying to law school by answering one or more of the following questions:

- What about you (your experiences, your values, your perspective, etc.) calls you to law school?
- How will you use your law degree with integrity, vision, creativity, and/or to innovate?

- What makes you hopeful, optimistic, or excited about entering the legal profession?
- How do you see yourself contributing to or advancing the public good as a lawyer, scholar, or advocate?

4 minutes, or 500 words maximum

For the optional statement, “Interest in the Legal Profession,” applicants are invited to complete this statement in an alternative modality: video submission. *This is not an interview.* It is another opportunity to share insight into your potential for study at Berkeley Law, and it gives you an additional tool (video recording) for the communication and presentation of that information. You may also choose to complete this statement in written format.

Optional video statements, as with all statements, are unscored and intended only to augment your application. While we will consider the information shared and will use it within our holistic review of your application, *no value will be assigned to whether you choose the written or video format.*

Candidates will submit this statement via a free, third-party platform called Kira. You will receive a custom link to the Kira platform after submitting your Berkeley Law application on LSAC. The Kira platform will allow you to respond to the prompt *either* via video recording or in writing and provides comprehensive support and trouble-shooting. Please only submit your response through the Kira platform; *written or video “Interest in the Legal Profession” statements sent separately will not be considered.*

## UCLA School of Law

### **Resume**

Please provide a current résumé.

### **Personal Statement**

Please upload a separate essay not to exceed two double-spaced typed pages, and no less than 11-point font. In this essay, you may discuss any matters relevant to your ability to succeed in law school and the practice of law and any attributes, experiences, challenges or interests that would enable you to make a distinctive contribution to the law school and/or the legal profession.

### **Programmatic Contribution (Optional)**

If you believe you can make a distinctive contribution to a specific UCLA School of Law Specialization, Academic Program, Joint Degree, Law Review/Journal, Institute or research in a particular subject area (as described on the website: [www.law.ucla.edu](http://www.law.ucla.edu)), please identify one such specific area and explain your prior academic training, work, or extracurricular activities that enable you to make that distinctive contribution.

### **Challenges Addendum (Optional)**

Please share any information about adversity or challenge that you would like us to consider about your personal life experiences. This may include socio-economic challenges; educational challenges; health issues; disability; immigration status; surviving abuse; or complex family circumstances like an incarcerated parent, homelessness, living in foster care, or others. This is not an inclusive list, but simply an opportunity, if you wish, to share any additional aspects of your background that may give us a deeper sense of your strengths and who you are.

## **University of Chicago Law School**

### **Resume**

Please submit a résumé describing your educational history, extracurricular and community activities, academic honors and experiences, and any full- or part-time work experience. Indicate the number of hours per week spent on each activity or job and please include approximate dates for each activity. Make sure your résumé is current at the time of submitting your application. If your education or work has been interrupted for more than a normal vacation period, please describe your activities during that time in your résumé or in a separate addendum.

### **Personal Statement**

Please use the personal statement to introduce yourself to the Admissions Committee and to help the Committee get to know you on a personal level. It should demonstrate your potential contribution to the Law School community beyond simply academics and should demonstrate your ability to communicate your thoughts effectively. The Admissions Committee generally finds that a statement that focuses on a unique personal attribute or experience is usually the most informative (as opposed to a restatement of your qualifications or résumé).

While there is no page or word limit on the personal statement, please note that the Admissions Committee values an applicant's ability to communicate thoughts in a clear and concise manner. The Admissions Committee typically finds that 2-4 pages is a sufficient length for most personal statements.

## Columbia University School of Law

### **Resume**

Please upload a résumé of up to two pages detailing significant full- or part-time employment positions held. This may include internships, summer employment, and community service. In addition, the résumé should include a summary of written scholarships, presentations, awards and honors, and extracurricular activities.

### **Personal Statement**

Candidates to Columbia Law School are required to submit a personal statement supplementing required application materials. We are curious about your interests, goals, and aspirations and how the J.D. program at Columbia can help you achieve these. You are encouraged to think about the contributions you hope to make to both the Columbia community and the legal profession while considering your personal, intellectual, and professional experiences and any relevant information that you may not have conveyed through your other application materials. Please note that the personal statement should be double-spaced and approximately two pages in length. This statement should be attached electronically.

### **Supplemental Statements**

Optional Supplementary Statements. Please note that these questions are completely optional and if an applicant chooses not to submit a response to any of these questions, it will not have an impact on their admissions decision. Applicants should choose no more than one supplemental statement, which should be no longer than 500 words double spaced. Kindly note that supplemental statement may be shorter than 500 words.

1. A hallmark of the Columbia experience is being able to learn and thrive in an equitable and inclusive community with a wide range of perspectives. Tell us about an aspect of your own perspective, viewpoint or lived experience that is important to you, and describe how it has shaped the way you would learn from and contribute to Columbia's diverse and collaborative community.
2. We recognize that many applicants have faced adversity in myriad ways and to varying extents throughout their lives. Tell us about an example of adversity or a challenging circumstance in your own life and describe how you overcame it and how that experience has shaped your life and your own perspective.
3. Columbia Law School aims to prepare its students to be advocates as well as effective leaders. Tell us about an example of leadership in your own life whether in an educational, professional, or personal setting and how those leadership skills and qualities would contribute to your legal education and the profession.
4. Columbia Law School's mandatory pro bono program requires that every student devote at least 40 hours to public interest law service during their time in law school. Tell us about your own commitment to public service and describe how volunteer work, advocacy, community service, pro bono work, and/or extra-

curricular activities have shaped who you are today and how you want to continue serving the public good during law school.

5. Tell us why you are applying to Columbia Law School and how the Law School's programs, faculty, curricular and extra-curricular offerings, location, and/or community would be a good fit for your legal education given your own academic, professional, or personal goals.

## Cornell University Law School

### Resume

In a resume, provide the following (required):

- Education
- Work experience, including full-time, part-time, summer
- Scholastic honors you have received
- Extracurricular and community activities while in college and/or since graduation

### Personal Statement

RESPOND TO AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING PROMPTS (required). YOU MAY RESPOND TO AS MANY AS YOU WISH, BUT DO NOT EXCEED A TOTAL OF FIVE (5) PAGES.

1. We aim to train excellent lawyers. GPAs and test scores have some predictive power, but they don't tell the whole story. Please describe any significant challenges you have overcome, including but not limited to economic hardship, discrimination, trauma, or disability, and/or significant accomplishments of which you are proud.
2. In the aftermath of the U.S. Civil War, Ezra Cornell wrote, "I would found an institution where any person can find instruction in any study." For over 150 years, Cornell University has remained deeply committed to Ezra's vision. Explain how your life experiences will help inform your contributions to a law school learning community devoted to "...any person...any study." We encourage you to think broadly about what you will contribute to a law school class and eventually to the legal profession, including but not necessarily to expertise you have, experiences you can share, and how communities of which you have been part have shaped your perspective.
3. From its founding, Cornell Law School has not only focused on producing excellent lawyers, but "lawyers in the best sense." A law school education teaches you a craft, and prepares you for a great career, but law is also a calling, and a lawyer in the best sense is one who will, in some way, serve justice. If your career goals include representing under-served populations or otherwise vulnerable individuals or groups, please tell us about those goals and how you hope to pursue them.
4. Is there anything else you wish the Admissions Committee to know about you beyond what you have revealed in other parts of your application? You can describe a formative experience, or your motivation to go to law school, or a story that reveals your character, personality, or strengths, or whatever else you think is relevant.



**Why Cornell (Required)**

Why do you think Cornell Law School is right for you? You may address whatever has influenced your decision to apply including: the reputation of Cornell Law School, either generally or with respect to an area of you interest; available concentrations, clinics, or classes; individuals who have influenced your decision to apply; prior experiences with or connections to Cornell, our location, or anything else that is significant to you. Please limit you explanation to one (1) page.

## Duke University School of Law

### **Resume (Required)**

Your resume should include your significant work experience, educational history, college and community activities, honors and awards you have received, any prior Duke affiliation, and dates for all items listed. Your resume does not need to be limited to one page.

### **Personal Statement (Required)**

The personal statement is your opportunity to introduce yourself to the admissions committee and should include (1) what you think have been your most significant personal experiences beyond what may be reflected in your academic transcripts and on your resume, and (2) your personal and career ambitions. Please use 2-3 pages, double-spaced, for your personal statement.

### **Short Answer Essay(s) (Required)**

Our admissions process is guided by the view that a law school class that includes actively engaged students who possess a variety of skills, personal qualities, and life experiences helps to advance the Law School's mission, improves the learning process, and enriches the educational experience for all. Please write one or two short essays from the list below. Be sure to label the essay(s) you are answering and use only one attachment even if you submit two short answers. Please limit your answer(s) to approximately 250-500 words per essay.

- a. What does the rule of law mean to you, and what special background or experience do you have that may help you contribute to its advancement or that underscores its importance to you personally?
- b. The promise of equal justice is fundamental to our legal system. Why is equal justice important to you personally, and what personal experiences or knowledge do you have that may help you become an effective advocate for equal justice under law?
- c. Exposure to a diversity of perspectives and experiences can enhance one's ability to deliver effective professional services. Please describe any opportunities you have had to serve clients or your community, either through work or on a volunteer basis, and how your own exposure to different perspectives and experiences helped you.
- d. Lawyers are members of a learned profession, and are often called to serve the public in a variety of ways. Please describe your interest in public service and any experience that you have had to prepare you for a life of service in the public interest.

- e. Please describe your interest in learning the law in an open, rigorous, and collaborative environment. Why is a commitment to the free expression of ideas so important in the learning process?
- f. What does ethical leadership mean to you? Please provide examples of how you have prepared yourself to become an ethical leader.

### **Optional Essay**

You may submit an essay providing additional information about why you have chosen to apply to law school in general and Duke in particular. We are interested in the factors that have prompted your interest in a legal career and the ways in which you think Duke can further that interest. Please use 1-2 pages, double-spaced, for this optional essay.

## Georgetown University Law Center

### **Resume**

Please attach your résumé describing schools attended, dates of attendance, and degree(s) awarded; work experience; extracurricular/community activities, including nature and length of involvement; and scholastic honors, including academic awards, scholarships, or fellowships.

### **Personal Statement**

You may write your personal statement on any subject of importance that you feel will assist the Admissions Committee in their decision. Please double-space.

### **Optional Statement**

At Georgetown Law, we have always taken great pride in having an admissions process that focuses on the individual – We do this one at a time. If you would like to share any additional personal perspectives, reflections, or experiences – whether positive, challenging, a combination of both, or something else entirely – that have contributed to who you are as a person and as a future legal scholar and lawyer, we invite you to do so here.

### **Optional Response**

In the Office of Admissions, we take great pride in dispelling the myth that the admissions process is strictly a numbers game. While numbers are important, the Admissions Committee would like to give you the opportunity to express yourself, and us the opportunity to get to know you, in another way. Please feel free to choose **ONE** of the following optional responses.

When we say optional, we really do mean optional. The Committee will in **NO** way hold it against you if you choose not to answer any of these questions.

250 words maximum

1. What's the best (or worst) piece of advice you ever received?
2. If you could "uninvent" one thing, what would it be?
3. Tell us about a moment in your life that you regret?
4. Describe your perfect day.
5. Share a top ten list with us.

### **Optional Video**

(Optional): Prepare a one-minute video that says something about you. Upload it to an easily accessible website and provide us the URL. (If you are using YouTube, we strongly suggest that you make your video unlisted so it will not appear in any of YouTube's public spaces.) What you do or say is entirely up to you. Please note that we are unable to watch videos that come in any form other than a URL link.

## University of Georgia School of Law

### **Resume**

Submit a resume detailing your education, employment, skills, honors, awards, leadership positions, and accomplishments. *Upload document as an attachment to the application form.*

### **Personal Statement**

Provide a personal statement as an electronic attachment. You may write about anything you deem relevant to your application for admission to the University of Georgia School of Law. Transfer and visiting applicants should state the reason(s) for desiring to attend the University of Georgia School of Law.

### **Diversity Statement (Optional)**

The School of Law believes the overall educational environment of the law school may be enhanced by life experiences that significantly add to the academic, cultural, geographic, or socioeconomic diversity of the student population. You are invited to explain how your own life experiences would significantly add to the diversity of the student population and enhance the educational climate of the law school. This may also include discussion of your status as a first-generation college graduate or veteran.  
(OPTIONAL)

### **Supplemental Statement (Optional)**

Law is a field of study that offers students a wide range of career options. If you have an idea of what you would like to do with your law degree after graduation, please feel free to share with the Office of Admissions. Likewise, please share if you have a specific area of legal interest including any specific desire to participate in experiential learning programs or clinics offered at the School of Law. It is not required that an incoming student have a clear career path in mind but this information will assist the School of Law in matching students with alumni/alumnae in our mentor program.

## **Harvard Law School**

### **Resume**

We require a resume as part of the application. Please limit your resume to one or two pages. Please visit the HLS J.D. Admissions [website](#) for samples.

### **Statement of Purpose**

Every applicant must submit a Statement of Purpose responding to the prompt below. The Statement of Purpose must be one to two pages in length, using double-spacing, one-inch margins, and a font size that is comfortable to read (no smaller than 11 point). *We expect every applicant to use at least one full page for the Statement of Purpose.*

What motivates you to pursue law? How does attending law school align with your ambitions, goals, and vision for your future?

### **Statement of Perspective**

Every applicant must submit a Statement of Perspective, responding to the prompt below. Each Statement of Perspective must be one to two pages in length, using double-spacing, one-inch margins, and a font size that is comfortable to read (no smaller than 11 point). *We expect every applicant to use at least one full page for the Statement of Perspective.*

The Admissions Committee makes every effort to understand who you are as an individual and potential Harvard Law School student and graduate. Please share how your experiences, background, and/or interests have shaped you and will shape your engagement in the HLS community and the legal profession.

## University of Michigan Law School

### Resume

Please provide a résumé showing: (A) full-time or significant part-time employment, paid or unpaid, beginning with your most recent, including the name and location of your employer, your job title, and the dates you held the position, along with any other contextual information (for example, the nature of your employer's work or your particular duties) you think will be useful; (B) significant extracurricular/non-work-related activities; (C) academic and non-academic honors and awards received, including fellowships, prizes, and memberships in honor societies; and (D) hobbies or special areas of interest or academic pursuits. **If you are not presently enrolled in an educational institution**, we would find it particularly helpful to know what you are doing now; whether you are working, volunteering, traveling, seeking employment, or anything else, **please be sure to specify your current and planned activities prior to enrolling in law school.**

### Personal Statement

As you prepare to write your personal statement, please keep the following in mind. First, we do not have a fixed checklist of particular attributes we seek in our students, and you will have the best insights into what is most important for us to know. Second, there is no set convention for communicating the information you choose to share. A successful essay might involve writing directly about expansive themes such as your goals or philosophy or background or identity, or very differently, might be a vignette that reveals something significant about you. Your personal statement gives us an opportunity to get a sense of your voice, perspective, and experiences, as well as your writing ability, and there is no particular formula to follow. Applicants have in the past elaborated on their significant life experiences; meaningful intellectual interests and extracurricular activities; factors inspiring them to obtain a legal education or to pursue particular career goals; significant obstacles met and overcome; special talents or skills; issues of identity, such as gender, sex, race, or ethnicity; particular political, philosophical, or religious beliefs; socioeconomic challenges; atypical backgrounds, educational paths, employment histories, or prior careers; or experiences and perspectives relating to discrimination, disadvantage, or disability. Any of these subjects, and many more, could be an appropriate basis for communicating authentic and genuine information about yourself that will aid us in reaching a thoughtful decision. In other words: Think broadly about what you might wish to convey and how you might best convey it.

While we do not impose a page or word limit for the personal statement, we value clear and concise writing; most personal statements are between two and four pages. For ease of reading, please use double-spacing and at least an 11-point font.

### Supplemental Essays

Supplemental essays allow you an opportunity to provide us with relevant information that you were not able to include elsewhere in your application materials. If you think writing on any of the topics below would help us get a better sense of who you are, we encourage you to consider submitting your responses to one or two (but no more) of the following topics. Each essay should be between one and two pages. For ease of reading, please use double-spacing and at least an 11-point font. **Please be sure to include the number of the prompt you are addressing at the top of your essay.**

### **Essay One**

Say more about your interest in the University of Michigan Law School. Why might Michigan be a good fit for you culturally, academically, or professionally?

### **Essay Two**

Describe a challenge, failure, or setback you have faced and overcome, whether long-term and systemic (e.g., socioeconomic, health, or complex family circumstances) or short-term and discrete (e.g., a workplace scenario or a particularly demanding course). How did you confront it? What, if anything, might you do differently?

### **Essay Three**

How has the world you came from positively shaped who you are today?

### **Essay Four**

Describe a quality or skill you have and discuss how you expect it will help you in your legal career.

### **Essay Five**

Tell us about a time in the recent past when you changed your mind about something significant.

### **Essay Six**

We seek students who are encouraging, kind, and collaborative, even when it is not convenient or easy. Describe a recent experience where you exhibited these characteristics.

### **Essay Seven**

One of the goals of our admissions process is to enroll students who will enrich the quality and breadth of the intellectual life of our law school community, as well as to expand and diversify the identities of people in the legal profession. How might your experiences and perspectives contribute to our admissions goals?

### **Essay Eight**



Think of someone who knows you, but doesn't know you well (i.e., not a family member or a close friend). How would they describe you? Would their description be accurate? Why or why not?

### **Essay Nine**

If you could have dinner with any prominent person, living or dead, who would it be and why? What would you discuss?

## University of Minnesota Law School

### **Resume**

Please attach a detailed résumé containing the following:

- a. Work history during college and since college graduation.
- b. Extracurricular activities and community service, including the extent of your involvement.
- c. Other relevant information, including academic honors and prizes, hobbies, and other special interests, abilities, or accomplishments.

### **Personal Statement**

A personal statement is required and should be two pages, double-spaced. Through this statement, applicants have the opportunity to introduce themselves to the Admissions Committee and articulate significant achievements, professional goals, and reasons for pursuing a law degree. It is also helpful to the Admissions Committee to discuss your interest in the University of Minnesota Law School specifically.

Strong writing skills are paramount to being a successful attorney. Therefore, the personal statement (as well as any other essays included in the application) may be used to evaluate writing skills, judgment, passions, and analytical abilities.

### **Supplemental Statements (Optional)**

Applicants may attach additional statements to highlight or discuss any of the following: Unique backgrounds and lived experiences; demonstrated commitment to racial justice/equity; obstacles or adversity overcome; absences or breaks in academic history; or other matters that may be of importance to the Admissions Committee. Each additional statement should be no more than one-page, double spaced.

## New York University School of Law

### **Resume**

Please attach your resume in this section.

### **Personal Statement**

While the Committee on Admissions does not use interviews as part of the regular selection process, we would like to give you the opportunity to include more information about yourself than the application form conveys. Because people and their interests vary, we leave the content and length of your statement to your discretion. You may wish to bring to our attention additional information that provides an understanding of your qualifications, goals, and potential to contribute to the NYU Law community. Please clearly label your personal statement.

### **Optional Additional Information**

New York University School of Law seeks to enroll a student body from a broad spectrum of society. The Committee on Admissions encourages you to provide any information that may be helpful to us in reaching a thoughtful decision on your application. While the choice as to whether and what information to submit to the Committee is entirely yours, any information you provide will be used to give the Committee a more complete understanding of your academic, professional, and personal background; to help the Committee reach an informed decision on your application; and to aid the Committee in selecting a student body with a range of experiences.

This is an opportunity to share with the Committee information about how your background will enable you to contribute to the NYU Law community. Information that has been helpful in the past includes but is not limited to meaningful leadership experience; significant community involvement; personal/family history of educational or socioeconomic disadvantage or unusual circumstances which may have affected academic performance and how you excelled despite those circumstances; and skills you have developed to overcome adversity. This list is not all-inclusive, but we offer it for you to think about as you consider whether such information might be relevant in your case, and to assure you that it is quite appropriate.

## University of North Carolina School of Law

### **Resume**

The resume may be up to three pages.

### **Personal Statement**

This is your opportunity to share why you want to join the legal profession, and why you are interested in Carolina Law. Please refer to the application for specific information regarding the personal statement requirement and the topics to be addressed. The personal statement should be double-spaced and in no less than 10-point type. The maximum number of pages for answering each required topic is three (3) pages and two (2) pages for the optional topic. Each topic should be addressed in its own word document.

#### **Topics to be addressed in personal statement:**

##### **Topic One (Required)**

The legal profession plays a vital role in the pursuit of justice and in sustaining the institutions of society, including governments, private corporations and organizations, nonprofit organizations, families, and individuals. Please write a statement discussing why you want to become a member of the legal profession and why you think you are prepared for the ethical, professional, and time demands of the profession.

##### **Topic Two (Required)**

What is your reason for choosing the University of North Carolina School of Law? How does the institution meet your educational and/or your professional goals? Please include how your academic background, personal qualities, and life experiences inform your pursuit of a legal education at Carolina Law and how you will contribute to the breadth of perspectives in the law classroom and broader law school community.

##### **Topic Three (Optional)**

The School of Law is committed to a full evaluation of your credentials. Please set forth any circumstances you believe may have negatively affected your cumulative undergraduate grade-point average, your performance on the Law School Admission Test (LSAT), and/or your participation in service or extracurricular activities.

## **Northwestern Pritzker School of Law**

### **Resume**

Please submit a copy of your current résumé. The résumé should be electronically attached.

### **Personal Statement**

The personal statement is your opportunity to introduce yourself to the Admissions Committee and distinguish yourself from other applicants. You may discuss, among other topics, your personal or professional goals, or personal, academic, or career history. Please do not send revisions to your personal statement after you have submitted your application. Please type your name and LSAC account number on the top of each page. The statement should be electronically attached.

### **Optional Supplemental Essays**

Responding to the following questions is entirely optional and should not be viewed as required. You may include responses to as many of the four optional essays as you wish or none at all. These are intended to give you an opportunity to provide additional information that you were unable to include in other portions of the application. Please limit your response to each essay that you complete to 1-2 pages, double-spaced, and at least an 11-point font.

1. Describe your interest in attending Northwestern Pritzker School of Law.
2. Describe any experiences in your life or unique qualities you think would benefit Northwestern Pritzker School of Law and/or your classmates. (Relevant information may include but is not limited to financial hardship, educational adversity, special talents, work or community service experience, first generation or immigrant experience, an unusual rural or urban upbringing, foreign residence, military background, or unique family and/or personal circumstance.)
3. What does public service mean to you and how do you see yourself engaging in public service or pro-bono work to meet the needs of the underserved?
4. Did you face any particular challenges we should know about when considering your academic history or test scores?

## **Notre Dame Law School**

### **Resume**

An applicant's resume should highlight their educational, professional, leadership, and service experiences. The applicant may also wish to highlight honors, awards, or special skills. An applicant may note full-time vs. part-time or hours per week and weeks per year when applicable. There is no page limit for the resume but one-to-two pages is typical.

For further information regarding formatting preferences of the Admissions Committee, please consult the [Frequently Asked Questions page](#).

### **Personal Statement**

The Admissions Committee gives considerable emphasis in its evaluation to the personal statement. The statement should provide the Admissions Committee with insights about the applicant and the applicant's interest in pursuing both a legal education and career.

The most effective personal statements also typically provide further insight into the writer's personality, background, professional interests, or matters that are not fully present in other parts of the application. An applicant may consider answering the following question: In what ways have your culture, upbringing, or experiences inspired and motivated you and your pursuit of a legal education?

The personal statement must be the applicant's original work in their own words. It should be no more than two double-spaced pages. The personal statement must be included with the application at the time of submission. The personal statement's header must include the student's name, LSAC account number, and be titled "NDLS Personal Statement."

For further information regarding formatting preferences of the Admissions Committee, please consult the Frequently Asked Questions page [here](#).

### **Optional Essays**

#### **"Why Notre Dame Law School?" Statement**

Applicants are highly encouraged to submit this statement and use it to express why they wish to attend Notre Dame Law School specifically. If Notre Dame is the (or a) top choice for the applicant, it can be noted in this essay.

Consistent with the Catholic mission of the University, Notre Dame Law School views the law as a vocation - a means by which we as lawyers can be of service to God and to humankind. Our Catholic faith also moves us to be open and welcoming to people of all viewpoints and all religious traditions. Please provide a response to one or both of the following:

1. How can the unique legal education at NDLS (both in program and in mission) assist in your professional and personal formation?
2. How do your actions and community involvement demonstrate your commitment to the values Notre Dame Law School promotes, e.g., law as a vocation, excellence with purpose, inclusion and belonging, and integration of reason and faith?

The "Why Notre Dame Law School?" statement must be the applicant's own work in their own words. It should be no more than two double-spaced pages. If an applicant plans on providing this statement, it must be included with their application at the time of submission. The statement's header must include the applicant's name, LSAC account number, and be titled "Why NDLS Statement."

For further information regarding formatting preferences of the Admissions Committee, please consult the Frequently Asked Questions page [here](#).

### **"Different Kind of Lawyer" Statement**

The mission of Notre Dame Law School is to educate a "Different Kind of Lawyer" - one who sees the law as more than just a profession, but as a service to others. Students are encouraged to explore not only the moral and ethical dimensions of the law but also their unique roles in furthering the cause of justice.

Following the murder of George Floyd, Dean G. Marcus Cole wrote an [open letter](#) to the Notre Dame Law Community in June 2020 in which he stated the following:

One thing that each and every one of us can do is to end the cycle of hate by ending the separation that leads to it... Each of us needs to get to know people who differ from us. We must all make a conscious decision and effort to expand our circles.

Considering the mission of Notre Dame Law School, Dean Cole's open letter, and his call to action, please provide a response to one or both of the following:

1. What experiences, hardships, or adversity have you faced that have shaped your perspective on law and justice?
2. How has your own "circle," culture, and community inspired you, your morals and ethics?

The "Different Kind of Lawyer" statement must be the applicant's own work in their own words. It should be no more than two double-spaced pages. If an applicant plans on providing this statement, it must be included with their application at the time of submission. The statement's header must include the applicant's name, LSAC account number, and be titled "DKL Statement."

For further information regarding formatting preferences of the Admissions Committee, please consult the Frequently Asked Questions page [here](#).

## University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School

### **Resume or CV**

Please submit a résumé or CV as an electronic attachment with your application. In addition to your professional experiences, please include any academic and/or non-academic honors you have received as well as any extracurricular and/or community activities in college and since graduation. Please account for all time periods.

### **Personal Statement**

The Admissions Committee requires that every applicant submit an original example of written expression. The purpose of this personal statement is to provide you with as flexible an opportunity as possible to submit information that you deem important to your candidacy. You may wish to describe your experiences and interests - intellectual, personal or professional - and how you will uniquely contribute to the Penn Carey Law community and/or the legal profession. Please limit your statement to two pages, double spaced and label it as "Personal Statement" with your name and LSAC account number on each page.

### **Optional Essays**

If you wish, you may write an additional essay on any of the following topics. These optional essays allow you an opportunity to provide the admissions committee with additional relevant information that you were not able to include in your personal statement. Please include the essay with your application by electronically attaching it to your application before submission through LSAC. You may answer more than one essay topic if you choose. Include your name and LSAC account number on each page. Please limit any optional essay to one page, double spaced and title it appropriately.

- These are the core strengths that make Penn Carey Law the best place to receive a rigorous, collaborative, and engaging legal education: genuine integration with associated disciplines; transformative, forward-looking faculty scholarship; highly-regarded experiential learning through clinics and our pro bono pledge; innovative, hands-on global engagement; and a manifest commitment to professional development and collegiality. These qualities define Penn Carey Law. What defines you? How do your goals and values match Penn Carey Law's core strengths?
- Penn Carey Law is committed to achieving an expansive and inclusive law school community that brings a diverse range of ideas, experiences, and perspectives to our classrooms. Tell us how your lived experience informs who you are today.
- Describe a significant challenge you have faced and the steps you have taken to overcome this challenge.
- What strength or quality do you have that most people might not see or recognize?



- What don't we see in your application file that you would like to share with the Admissions Committee?
- If you do not think that your academic record or standardized test scores accurately reflect your ability to succeed in law school, please tell us why.

## University of Southern California, Gould School of Law

### **Resume**

You are required to submit a résumé that illustrates your work history, volunteer commitments, extracurricular activities, and any awards and/or honors. Your résumé should be no more than two pages, and all sections should be listed chronologically (most recent first).

### **Personal Statement**

The personal statement is your primary opportunity to discuss who you are beyond the application basics. We are particularly interested in how your background (academic or otherwise) has led to your decision to study law. This is not the place to repeat items on your résumé.

The personal statement should be two to three pages, double-spaced and in at least 12-point font. The Admissions Committee values essays that are clear, concise and compelling. The personal statement is a writing sample, and you should pay particular attention to the details of your composition. The statement must be attached electronically.

### **Diversity of Background and/or Experience Statement (Optional)**

The USC Gould student body is an exceptional group of individuals working collaboratively, empathetically, and with cultural competency, to best serve the various communities they will represent as lawyers. USC Gould aims to generate lawyers that demonstrate an ongoing commitment to leadership, public service, and serving those in need. Please describe how your contributions to the USC Gould student body may be unique by highlighting anything related to your life experiences or personal background that will help us get to know you better. Some examples of this include, but are not limited to the following:

- How your upbringing, culture, or other aspects of your life experience have influenced your goals and/or leadership development;
- How your experience with discrimination, economic disadvantage, family or personal adversity, or other hardships demonstrates your ability to lead, or serve the public or those in need;
- How living in a foreign country, rural or isolated community, or speaking a language other than English at home has better equipped you to attend and flourish in law school;
- Any unusual career goals, employment history, or educational background (including graduate study);
- Demonstrate unusual courage, determination, or inspiration that stems from overcoming hardship, including violence, illness, or natural disaster;

- Any unusual extracurricular achievement (including school or community service).

## **Stanford Law School**

### **Resume**

Stanford requires a one-to-two page resume describing your academic, extracurricular and professional activities. The resume must be submitted electronically with your electronic application. Please do not include a photo. If you have already submitted your resume and have included a photo, note that we have redacted that photo. No further action is required on your part and that original submission will not impact our review process.

### **Personal Statement**

Please describe what aspects of your life experiences, interests, and character would help you make a distinctive contribution to Stanford Law School. The personal statement must be submitted electronically with your electronic application. Your statement should be approximately two pages in length.

### **Optional Essay**

At Stanford Law School, we value the ability to communicate constructively across differences – even when the stakes are high or the differences significant. Please discuss a time when you encountered a viewpoint that contrasted with your own and explain how you responded. Would you do anything different if the same thing happened today? Your essay should be approximately one to two pages in length.

### **Optional Short Essays**

From a list of four essay questions, you may provide up to two responses of 100 to 250 words each.

## University of Texas School of Law

### **Resume**

Please provide a résumé detailing any significant vocational, avocational, extracurricular, or community activities; graduate work or degree; honors and awards; any service in the Armed Forces; job descriptions and major areas of responsibility, along with location (city and state) and dates of employment; publications, or other information that you believe the Admissions Committee should consider in evaluating your application. Your résumé may not exceed three (3) pages.

### **Personal Statement**

The personal statement is an opportunity to share with the Admissions Committee your background, interests and experiences. Your personal statement demonstrates to the Admissions Committee not only how you write—a skill fundamental to success in the legal profession—but also how you think and how you have reflected upon and derived meaning from your life experiences. Although there is no specific topic or question for the personal statement, your narrative should at some point address your decision to pursue a legal education.

Your personal statement may not exceed two (2) double-spaced pages with a minimum 11-point font size and 1-inch margins.

### **Optional Essays**

Applicants may submit one or more of the following optional statements to provide to the Admissions Committee additional insight when reviewing their application. Each optional statement may not exceed one (1) double-spaced page with a minimum 11-point font size and 1-inch margins.

- Please address any information that you believe your application would be incomplete without and that sheds more light on your unique potential to succeed in the J.D. program and contribute to the University community and the field or profession.
- Civil dialogue and reasoned debate over contested ideas are core values both for the practice of law and in legal education. In light of this, Texas Law is interested in learning about experiences you may have had engaging with ideas with which you disagreed, and how such experiences have impacted you.

## Vanderbilt Law School

### Required Statements

All applicants must submit two statements, each limited to two pages and submitted as attachments to the application form. Additional optional statements are welcome. Full instructions are provided in the application materials.

- *Personal Statement:* Please present yourself as a prospective law student by writing a personal statement. You may write about any topic that you feel will help readers of your application get a sense of you as a person and as a prospective law student, such as your motivation to pursue law; your personal and professional goals and interests; or your thoughts on engaging the intellectual, experiential, and professional resources and opportunities that law school and the legal profession offer.
- *Lived Experience Statement:* The quality and vibrancy of the educational environment at Vanderbilt Law arise from enrolling a student body with a broad mix of individual backgrounds, experiences, skills, knowledge, and interests. Please tell us about any aspects of your background and experiences that you believe would contribute to the educational environment.

## University of Virginia School of Law

### **Resume**

Attach a current and professional resume.

### **Personal Statement**

Please tell us how your background, perspective, or life experience(s) have led you to pursue law school and/or how they have influenced what you hope to achieve through your legal education. (suggested page limit: two pages double-spaced in 12pt font)

### **Optional Addenda**

#### **Why UVA Law (optional)**

We recognize that some applicants have personal reasons for applying to UVA Law. Such reasons might include, but are not limited to, being a child of someone who graduated from or works for UVA Law, being a descendant of ancestors who labored at UVA, prior participation in other UVA programs, specific interest in our academic offerings, and/or a personal connection to the Charlottesville area. If these reasons are not already addressed elsewhere in your application, you are welcome to include that information here. Please note this question is optional. (suggested page limit: two pages double-spaced in 12pt font)

**Should you wish to address other topics, please upload them here.** If multiple topics are addressed, please upload them as separate, descriptively labeled documents.

You will not be penalized if you do not submit optional addenda. Please use your best judgment as to whether optional addenda are relevant to your situation. You should not submit published written work, research projects, theses, or other documents unrelated to the application. They will not be considered.

## **Washington University School of Law**

### **Resume**

A résumé is not required during application submission and may be sent as an email attachment directly to the Washington University School of Law Admissions Office at [applylaw@wustl.edu](mailto:applylaw@wustl.edu).

### **Personal Statement**

A personal statement, approximately one to three pages in length, is not required during application submission. If your personal statement is not attached here, you may send it as an email attachment directly to the Washington University School of Law Admissions Office at [applylaw@wustl.edu](mailto:applylaw@wustl.edu). Successful applicants have written about significant experiences and sources of personal motivation.



## Yale Law School

### **Resume**

Please submit a résumé. You must answer the College and Post-college Activities questions separately from this included résumé. Generally, résumés should be 1-2 pages in length.

### **Personal Statement**

Please submit a personal statement that helps us learn about the personal, professional, and/or academic qualities you would bring to the Law School community and the legal profession. Applicants often submit the personal statement they have prepared for other law school applications.

Personal statements should be approximately two double-spaced pages and include your name, LSAC number, and "Personal Statement" in the header.

### **250-Word Essay**

The Law School is a vibrant intellectual community where students are expected to engage academically with faculty and fellow students. In no more than 250 words, write about an idea or issue from your academic, extracurricular, or professional work that is of particular interest to you. The idea or issue you choose does not have to be law-related; this is an opportunity for readers to learn more about how you would engage intellectually in the Law School community.

The 250-word essay should be double-spaced and include your name, LSAC number, and "250-Word Essay" in the header.

### **Optional Essay**

You may choose to submit an essay in response to one of the four questions below, each related to a value that is central to the Law School community. This is an opportunity to provide readers with relevant information that may not be found elsewhere in your application. If you choose to answer one of these questions, your essay should focus on your relevant personal, professional, and/or academic experiences and not on specific reasons why you wish to attend Yale Law School.

The optional essay should be approximately one double-spaced page and include your name, LSAC number, and "Optional Essay X" in the header (X should be the number of the question you select, e.g., Optional Essay 3).

- **Option 1:** The Law School has a strong tradition of public service and encourages its students to contribute to the community in a wide variety of ways. Describe a community that has been particularly meaningful to you. Discuss what you have gained from being a part of this community and what you have contributed to this community.
- **Option 2:** The Law School encourages its students and alumni to be leaders, innovators, and change makers across many different sectors. Describe one of your most important accomplishments and explain why it is important to you.

Discuss how you demonstrated leadership, helped innovate, and/or drove change as part of that accomplishment.

- **Option 3:** The Law School values determination and resilience and recognizes that these traits are critical to success at the Law School and in the legal profession. Describe a significant challenge, disappointment, or setback that you have faced. Discuss how you approached this experience and what you learned from it.
- **Option 4:** In order to succeed at the Law School and in the legal profession you must be able to have discussions across difference and be open to changing your mind. Describe a time when you changed your mind on an important topic after discussing it with a person with whom you disagreed or learning additional information. Discuss what you learned from this experience.

### College Activities (Optional)

Please answer a, b, and c separately from the included résumé. While you may choose to do this in a variety of formats, we ask that you do so in a structured manner such as a list or chart. Please note that we anticipate significant duplication between this section and your résumé; the purpose of this section is to present your activities in a manner and order that is helpful to our review of your application. This section should be brief, and, in general, applicants should be able to provide this information in no more than 1-2 pages.

(a) It is helpful for us to understand what you did during those terms when you were not in school during your undergraduate education (including summers and any other term(s) when you were not in school). This should include, for example, paid or unpaid employment or internships and study abroad. Please list these activities in order of relative importance to you. For each activity, please:

- provide a brief description;
- state the approximate start and end date;
- estimate the hours per week you committed; and
- note whether it was paid or unpaid.

(b) Please list those activities you participated in during the terms while you were also taking classes as part of your undergraduate education. This should include, for example, extracurricular activities and paid or unpaid employment or internships. Please list these in order of relative importance to you. For each activity, please:

- provide a brief description;
- state the approximate start and end date;
- estimate the hours per week you committed; and
- note whether it was paid or unpaid.

(c) Please list and very briefly describe any other activities during your undergraduate education (in or out of school) that you consider relevant if not otherwise described above. This may include, for example, a significant thesis or capstone project; or significant personal or familial responsibilities.

### **Post-College Activities (Optional)**

If it has been more than three months since you attended college, describe what you have been doing in that time. You may respond in a narrative format if you have only one or two activities. If you have more than a few activities, we ask that you format your response in a structured manner such as a list or chart. You should include graduate or professional education, paid or unpaid employment, as well as any other activities that you consider relevant. Please answer this question separately from any information provided in your résumé. Please note that we anticipate significant duplication between this section and your résumé; the purpose of this section is to present your post-college activities in a manner and order that is helpful to our review of your application. This section should be brief, and, in general, applicants should be able to provide this information in no more than one page, unless they have extensive post-graduate or professional experience.

For each activity (aside from additional education), please:

- provide a brief description;
- state the approximate start and end date;
- estimate your time commitment; and
- note whether it was paid or unpaid.

**Missing**

**Wake Forest University School of Law**