

1. Biographical Information

* Indicates a required field.

- * 1. Salutation. When we address correspondence to you throughout the admissions season, it is our general practice to use a prefix and your last name. We have provided the most commonly selected choices, but would welcome your designating any prefix you prefer (e.g., Rev., Lieut.). (If you prefer not to choose a prefix, we will address you by your chosen first name in our correspondence.)

Select Item ▼

- * 2. First name

- * 3. Chosen or preferred first name

4. Middle name

- * 5. Last name

6. Former name, if any

- * 7. Date of birth

month day yyyy
Select Month ▼ Select day ▼

- * 8. Place of birth: City

- * 9. Place of birth: Country, State

Country
Select a country ▼
State/province
Select a state, province, or country ▼

10. US Social Security Number

- * 11. US citizenship or residency status

☐ US Citizen
☐ Dual Citizen (i.e., US and another country)
☐ US Permanent Resident
☒ Non-Resident Alien

- * 11a. Country of non-US citizenship

Select a country ▼

11b. Visa type

Select Item ▼

11c. SEVIS ID (visa number)

- * 11. US citizenship or residency status

☐ US Citizen
☐ Dual Citizen (i.e., US and another country)
☒ US Permanent Resident
☐ Non-Resident Alien

- * 11a. Country of non-US citizenship

Select a country ▼

11b. USCIS # (permanent resident number)

We love it when you select an honorific, so we can give you an old-school greeting in correspondence; we're devotees of Miss Manners. But if you prefer none at all, that's an option too! We want to address you however YOU want to be addressed.

Is your given name Andrew, but everyone calls you Andy? Contrariwise, does Andy make you cringe? Do you have a middle name you prefer to your first name? Do you have a nickname we would never guess from your given name, like Bubba or Seven? Or perhaps you've chosen a name that matches your gender identity. Let us know what to call you; we really like to get that right.

Has your legal name ever changed? If so, by what name(s) were you known before?

Please be aware that if you chose not to provide your Social Security number on your application and then later apply for federal financial aid, your FAFSA will not reach us! You should reach out to our Financial Aid folks to discuss. But even if you provide your social security number in the application, please do not include it in email correspondence with our office; instead, please use your LSAC account number for identification, or better yet, the 8-digit UMID number we'll send you shortly after we receive your application. If your name is as unusual as, say, Zearfoss, you probably don't need any identifying number at all—but still, you'd be amazed at the amount of overlap in names within an applicant pool in a given year.

If you have DACA status, you should select "non-resident alien"; name your country of citizenship; and ignore the optional "Visa type" question. If you wish to discuss your DACA status in your application, we would welcome that.

If you have dual citizenship with the United States and another country, please select that option, and then you will have the ability to indicate both countries. (If you are a citizen of two countries, but neither is the United States, do not select the "dual citizen" option!)

2. Phone and Email

* Indicates a required field.

* 1. Email address

* 2. Mobile phone number

3. If you are admitted, we may ask faculty, alumni, or students with shared interests or backgrounds to be in touch with you so they can communicate about the Law School. Select "No" below only if you do NOT wish to be contacted.

☐ No

We often send questions or updates by email. Please provide an email address that will be good throughout the season—or make sure to email us promptly if you need to update your records. And at the risk of sounding exactly like every website in the world that wants to sell you something: PLEASE add law.jd.admissions@umich.edu to your safe-senders list, so we don't end up in your junk email. (Also, we need your assistance with our bank account... oh, never mind.)

While the following may seem like a painfully obvious observation, we've known people to get confused: Please note the "NOT" in this sentence! Also, please note that we will be reaching out only after you are admitted—we otherwise will leave you in peace. In other words, the default mode is that people may contact you if you are admitted, and this question is meant to let you avoid that if you're so inclined. We assure you that the number of contacts will be minimal. And of course, we're always happy to switch a "yes" to a "no" if you get sick of hearing from us. We promise not to weep. Not TOO much, anyway.

3. Address

* Indicates a required field.

Current Mailing Address

* 1. Current address line 1

* 2. Current city

* 3. Current country

4. Current ZIP (postal) code

* 5. Current mailing address good until (date)

month	day	yyyy
Select Month ▼	Select day ▼	<input type="text"/>

Permanent Mailing Address

* 6. Same as current address?

☐ Yes
☒ No

* 6a. Permanent address line 1

* 6b. Permanent city

* 6c. Permanent country

6d. Permanent ZIP (postal) code

* 7. Please identify the metropolitan area where you will principally be residing during the admissions season.

This is the address to which you would like us to mail any packages or correspondence.

If, after completing your application, your current address will change for two months or more, please let us know by email to law.jd.admissions@umich.edu. We regret that we are unable to make address changes for shorter periods.

This should be an address you think will, if all else fails, always be valid for us to send you mail—or your best guess about that! For many, it will just be the same as your current address.

This isn't a question about your mailing address or your permanent home, but about where you are living *right this minute*! We are often wandering around the country in the spring, and if we know where you are, we might be able to meet up with you! Our drop down menu lists the top 200 largest US metro areas (Ann Arbor is #148!) as well as a number of the largest cities internationally. If none of these is correct, just select "other" and fill in the blank.

4. Program

* Indicates a required field.

- * 1. Please indicate whether you are applying under the regular decision or the Early Decision program.

- ☒ Early Decision (deadline November 15)
☐ Regular Decision (deadline February 28)

For Early Decision applicants: I have applied under the binding Early Decision program. I understand that the deadline for applying is November 15. I further understand that I must submit an LSAT score from the October 2025 administration or earlier, and that all my application materials must be received by the Admissions Office by November 15 to ensure that I meet the deadline (with the exception that the Law School Report and LSAT score may not be available until later if I sat for the October 2025 administration).

- * 1a. If the University of Michigan Law School offers me admission under this plan by December 15, I agree to commit to attend the School, as well as to withdraw all applications pending at other law schools and not to initiate any new applications.

☐ Agree

- * 2. Please indicate if you have applied, are enrolled in, or will be applying this year for another University of Michigan graduate or professional degree program, in addition to the JD.

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

- * 2a. Dual degree program

- ☐ Business Administration-JD/MBA
☐ Economics-JD/PhD
☐ Environment & Sustainability-JD/MS
☐ Health Services Administration-JD/MHSA
☐ History-JD/PhD
☐ Information-JD/MSI
☐ International and Regional Studies-JD/MIRS
☐ Public Health-JD/MPH
☐ Public Policy-JD/MPP
☐ Social Work-JD/MSW
☐ Urban & Regional Planning-JD/MURP
☐ World Politics-JD/MA
☒ Other

[Clear answer](#)

- * 2b. Please specify which program


- * 3. Have you applied to the University of Michigan Law School before?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

4. If you have ever registered at a law school, please give the name of the law school, dates of attendance, and your reasons for not completing the degree: (maximum characters 200)

200 characters left

Early decision is a big commitment—we like to think we're

worth it,  but we urge you to think carefully and do loads of research. The literal last thing we want is someone who has committed to attend and is unhappy about it. For more guidance, check out [this episode](#) of the A2Z vlog.

We provide a list of our many established dual-degree programs, but we also facilitate our students' participation in any UM graduate or professional programs. Just select "other" and fill in the specifics.

Please remember that you will need to apply separately to any other program. The admissions processes of individual programs are administered completely independently, so admission to one program does not guarantee admission to another. Also, please bear in mind that different programs operate on different decisional timelines, and you may hear from one program long before you hear from another. Finally, if you are admitted to the Law School and another program, you should contact us ASAP if you wish to begin your JD study in any term other than the one specified in our offer of admission to you.

While we can electronically access applications from previous years, we do not routinely do so; we instead rely on the materials you submit for the current application season.

5. Background

* Indicates a required field.

- * 1. Please provide the location that you identify as your hometown, or with which you feel most closely affiliated.

Hometown:

- * 2. Hometown Country:

Please provide information for up to two parents or guardians.

- * 3. Please add information for a parent or guardian

- ☐ Mother
☐ Father
☐ Guardian

- * 4. Name

- * 5. Is this parent or guardian deceased?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

- * 6. Primary occupation during working years (maximum characters 100)

100 characters left

- * 7. Highest level of education

- ☐ Did not complete high school
☐ High school diploma or equivalent
☐ Some college (no degree)
☐ Associate degree
☐ Bachelor degree
☐ Graduate or professional degree

We are required to report this information to the ABA. You will not see this question if you indicate you are a first-generation college student.

If you were raised by just one parent or guardian, you may choose either “not applicable” or “choose not to answer,” as you prefer. If, however, you have two parental figures in your life, please provide the requested information for both.

- * 8. If applicable, please provide information for a second parent or guardian.

- ☐ Father
☐ Mother
☐ Guardian
☐ Not applicable—sole parent or guardian
☐ Choose not to answer

- * 9. Are you among the first generation of your immediate family to receive a bachelor's degree or the equivalent?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

- * 9a. Will you be a first-generation law student, meaning your parent(s) or legal guardian(s) have not completed a JD degree or its equivalent at a US or Canadian law school?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

[Clear answer](#)

10. If you have a parent, grandparent, or sibling who attended Michigan Law School, please state relationship, name, degree type (JD, LL.M., SJD), and year of graduation (if any). (maximum characters 150)

This question applies only to Law School alumni. If you want us to know that your mom went to medical school at UM or your sister graduated from LSA, you're welcome to do so—just give it to us in an addendum or supplemental essay instead, please.

We're interested in your self-identification. If the idea of “first generation college” speaks to you, check yes—please be assured that we're not interested in quibbling over your mother's estranged brother who might have gone to college, or a parent who received a degree late in life. *You* are the best judge of whether this designation makes sense.

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Geraldine Brooks has a lot to say about the multifaceted meanings of the term “home”—but what we're looking for is something that will populate an Excel cell. Please limit your answer to a single city and state (or province— and country, if not in the U.S.).

If a parent is deceased, we still appreciate knowing information about their education level and occupation. Also: That's awful, and we're sorry. Seriously.

6. Education

- * Indicates a required field.
- * 1. List ALL educational institutions attended.

Add New Institution

6. Education

- * Indicates a required field.

Add New Institution

* Institution type

High School

* Country

Select a country

State/province

Select a state, province, or country

* Institution name

* City

Major category

Select a major category

Major

Select a major

Other Major

* Start date (month/year)

Select month

/

End date (month/year)

Select month

/

Degree

Date degree granted (month/year)

Select month

/

GPA

Rank

Dean Zearfoss is always looking for applicants who attended her high school's rival. JK! JK! Rest assured that Dean Z has the exact same interest in high school rivalries as she does in college rivalries, which is to say, none at all. So rest easy, OSU grads. (In all seriousness, we ask this because we are required to gather high school information under

6. Education

- * Indicates a required field.

Add New Institution

* Institution type

Undergraduate

* Country

Select a country

State/province

Select a state, province, or country

* Institution

Select an institution

Institution name

* City

Major category

Select a major category

Major

Select a major

Other Major

* Start date (month/year)

Select month

/

End date (month/year)

Select month

/

Degree

Date degree granted (month/year)

Select month

/

GPA

Rank

We do not need your GPA or rank here—or your major either! But this is a question that LSAC doesn't let us edit, so you're welcome to leave those lines blank.

7. Testing

☐ This section does not apply to me.

* Indicates a required field.

1. Please indicate any sitting in which you have taken the LSAT and not yet received a score, or for which you plan to take the LSAT in the future.

☐ August 2025

☐ September 2025

☐ October 2025

☐ November 2025

☐ January 2026

☐ February 2026

☐ April 2026

☐ June 2026

Please note that Michigan does not accept the GRE or other tests in lieu of the LSAT, unless you are already enrolled in another University of Michigan graduate program.

Be forewarned that if you plan to take the April or June LSAT test as your first LSAT, the chances are high that you will be applying after we have admitted virtually the entire class. If you plan to have one of these sittings be a do-over, for either admission or scholarship purposes, it may or may not be too late for us to take it into account—it will depend on how competitive the admissions season as a whole has been.

8. Language

☐ This section does not apply to me.

* Indicates a required field.

Indicate any language, other than English, that you speak or write, and state your degree of proficiency in each, using the following rubric:

Basic = elementary level; understanding of simple phrases/sentences

Conversant = can handle a variety of uncomplicated communicative tasks

Proficient = skilled at the language, but not entirely fluent

Fluent = high level of language skills, fluid use of language

Native = primary language

1. Language 1

Select Item ▼

* 1a. Language 1 proficiency

Select Item ▼

1b. Language 2

Select Item ▼

2. If English is not your native language, when did you begin to learn it?

- ☐ By age 5
☐ During elementary school
☐ During high school
☐ After high school

[Clear answer](#)

We could think of no useful guidance for this set of questions, but nature abhors a vacuum. We therefore offer up this quote from Kurt Vonnegut (in Wampeters, Foma & Granfalloon) for your consideration: “[I]t was obvious to me that I had at least one thing in common with Joseph Conrad: English was my second language. Unlike Conrad, I had no first language, so I went to work . . . with pen and pencil and scissors and paste, to make it appear that speaking my native tongue and thinking about important matters came very easily to me.”

9. Residency

* Indicates a required field.

Eligibility for In-State Tuition

In-state status for tuition and admissions purposes is determined by criteria set forth in the University's *Guidelines for Qualifying for In-State Tuition*, which can be found, along with the application for in-state tuition, at www.ro.umich.edu/resreg.php. Questions pertaining to your in-state status should be addressed to the staff of the Residency Classification Office, University of Michigan Office of the Registrar, 5000 LSA Building, 500 South State Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1382, phone number 734-764-1400.

* 1. Do you meet the eligibility criteria for in-state tuition according to the Guidelines for Qualifying for In-State Tuition?

☒ Yes
☐ No

* 1a. If yes, since:

* 1b. If yes, county of residence:

If you answered yes and any of the following circumstances applies, please be aware that you must file an application for in-state tuition and be approved in order to be considered in-state for tuition purposes:

- You currently live outside of Michigan (for any purpose, including, but not limited to, education, volunteer activities, travel, or employment.).
- You have attended a college outside of Michigan.
- You have lived or worked outside of Michigan in the last 3 years.
- You are not a US citizen.
- Your spouse, partner, or parent is in Michigan as a nonresident student, medical resident, fellow, or for military assignment or other temporary employment.
- You are 24 years of age or younger and a parent lives outside of Michigan.
- You are 24 years of age or younger and attended a high school outside the state of Michigan.
- You previously attended any U-M campus (Ann Arbor, Dearborn, or Flint) as a nonresident.

Other circumstances may also require you to file a residency application.

If you have previously been affiliated with the University of Michigan, please let us know:

2. Your username (...@umich.edu)

3. Your 8-digit UMID (located on your M-Card)

Please note: If you are a current or previous UM affiliate (whether a student or employee at any campus, or even just a summer camper), you will have personal and contact information in Wolverine Access. That information overrides any information you provide in this application, and we cannot alter it. Please make sure to visit Wolverine Access to update and correct your records as necessary.

Even if you were just briefly a student or employee, you likely still have a username and UMID. The University has a very long memory and a very large database.

At the risk of being tiresome, we want to emphasize this point: If you have a Wolverine Access record and it is inconsistent with the information you provide in your application, there will unfortunately be a processing delay in order for us to contact you and ask that you make the corrections.

If you answer yes to this question, but some of the exceptions apply to you, the University initially will classify you as a nonresident by default. We will send you an explanatory letter and a form that will allow you to apply for in-state tuition. This initial classification is not a final determination, so don't think you're forever labeled a nonresident. In fact, please be assured that because we've seen this issue many times before, we are, even prior to an official University determination, quite likely to recognize that you qualify for in-state tuition if that is in fact the case. Finally, because the in-state classification process is wholly separate from our admissions process, you can complete your law school application prior to beginning the in-state application process—the two processes will proceed independently of each other. If you identify as in-state and are admitted and choose to enroll, our conditions of offer require that you apply for in-state status by May 15, so that the University has adequate time to make a formal determination prior to the start of your first semester.

10. Conduct

* Indicates a required field.

While answering the two questions below, when in doubt, err on the side of full disclosure, as the failure to fully answer any question may result in exclusion from law school or denial of the opportunity to take a state bar examination. Note that an affirmative answer to either question does not necessarily preclude or even prejudice admission. Your answer will be reviewed on an individual basis in relation to all aspects of your experience, academic achievement, and potential. **(Please be aware:** In addition to a bar examination, there are character, fitness, and other qualifications for admission to the bar in every US jurisdiction. Applicants are encouraged to determine the requirements for any jurisdiction in which they intend to seek admission by contacting the jurisdiction. Addresses for all relevant agencies are available through the National Conference of Bar Examiners at <http://www.ncbex.org/jurisdictions>.) **You must submit a supplementary statement with any affirmative responses; provide complete details, including dates and resolution.**

If, following your completion of this application but prior to matriculation, matters arise that would require you to answer yes to either question, supplement your application with complete details.

- * 1. Have you ever been subject to disciplinary action for academic or other reasons in any of the colleges, universities, graduate or professional schools you have attended, or are such charges pending or expected to be brought against you?

☐ Yes
☐ No

- * 2. Have you ever been convicted of a crime (following a jury or bench trial, a guilty plea, or a nolo contendere plea), or charged with a criminal offense that was later dismissed as a result of a plea bargain or alternative sentencing arrangement, or are such criminal charges pending or expected to be brought against you? Include misdemeanors and criminal infractions, as well as any interaction with a law enforcement agency that resulted in payment of a fine or order of community service. Your answer should include matters that have been expunged. Do not include minor traffic violations or civil infractions or citations for which jail time was not a potential penalty.

☐ Yes
☐ No

We are not unaware of inequities in law enforcement and we have therefore endeavored to frame this question narrowly.

For an extended discussion of what happens when you check "no" but the answer is actually "yes," please take a look at the A2Z blog on our website and search for "[cover-up](#)." If you need a little guidance, please feel free to contact us by phone at 734.764.0537 or by email at law.jd.admissions@umich.edu.

By "details," we mean the facts of what occurred—not just data points like the date and specific charge and so forth, but a narrative. We'd really like to understand the complete story.

Don't be dissuaded from applying because you have to check "yes." Context and explanations matter—a LOT. We look for candor and thoughtfulness in your response. For a longer discussion about how a "yes" answer affects your application review, please check out [episode 6](#) of the A2Z vlog.

11. Identity

The people who will read or make a decision on your application will not see your answer to these questions.

* Indicates a required field.

(Optional) The information requested below is optional and will not be used in the admissions process. It is collected to comply with state and federal reporting requirements, as well as for statistical purposes. Your answer, or decision not to answer, will have no bearing on our admission decision. The structure and substance of the questions in this section match the reporting requirements of the Department of Education and other federal and state agencies. We recognize that the listed categories may be ambiguous or under-inclusive of many racial and ethnic categories, and may not represent your full identity or use the terminology you prefer.

1. Please indicate whether you consider yourself to be Hispanic or Latino: a person of Cuban, Mexican, Chicano, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.

☐ Yes

☐ No

[Clear answer](#)

American Indian or Alaska Native: a person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.

Asian: a person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Black or African American: a person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander: a person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.

White: a person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.

2. Using the descriptions listed above, please select one or more of the following racial categories to describe yourself:

☐ American Indian or Alaska Native

☐ Asian

☐ Black or African American

☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

☐ White

The information requested below is optional. Your answer, or choice not to answer, will have no bearing on our admission decision. We collect this information to facilitate connecting admitted students with current students for recruiting purposes.

3. Please indicate if you identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or queer.

☐ Yes

4. Please indicate if you identify as transgender.

☐ Yes

* 5. Gender

☐ Man

☐ Woman

☐ Gender non-binary

☐ Other

☐ Choose not to answer

If you prefer not to provide this information, please select "choose not to answer."

12. Certification

* Indicates a required field.

1. By submitting this application electronically, I hereby certify that all statements and representations on this application and on all accompanying materials are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I certify that the thoughts and words contained in my personal statement and essays are my own, and that no one assisted in the creation of my personal statement and essays beyond basic proofreading or a general critique of my work. Likewise, I have not used generative artificial intelligence tools as part of my drafting process, unless I answered optional essay prompt 10, in which case I used it for that essay alone. I understand that false statements may result in the revocation of an offer of admission or expulsion or rescinding of my degree.

month day yyyy
Select Month ▼ Select day ▼

Please read this certification carefully, and contact us if you have any questions at all.

Leon Botstein's wise advice notwithstanding, we have added a new essay prompt designed to allow you to put your AI prowess on display, if you are so inclined.

In the words of Leon Botstein, President of Bard College: "It is only in the cultivation of human experience—our capacity to think, to link the mind with the heart in writing, imagining, and creating—that we will remain free in an AI-dominated universe. Our affections, our desire to interact with one another—to dream, alone and with others—cannot be supplanted." AI has many uses, but your goal for your essays should be to put your full humanity on display!

A one-page résumé sometimes lacks detail—about extracurricular activities, outside interests, hours devoted to particular endeavors, etc. We always like to know more, more, MORE. So if you need the elbow room, feel free to expand as needed (while still exercising your editorial sensibilities!).

Experience

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.**

Supported file formats: DOC, HTM, HTML, TXT, WP, WPD, RTF, WPS, WPT, DOCX, PDF
NOTE: Documents should have password and security features removed.

[Cancel]

We really like to know what our applicants are doing, so if you're not currently enrolled in school, please, please be sure to specify how you're spending your days. If you don't tell us, we have two options: either we have to contact you to ask and then wait for you to answer (which impedes our efforts at super-efficient decision making), or we just have to proceed on the assumption that you're doing something slightly sketchy. And we are very imaginative.

Do you build model airplanes? Are you an ace poker player? Can you run a 6-minute mile? We don't/aren't/ can't, so this strikes us as intriguing and impressive, and invite you to communicate whatever you think is appropriate.

You know what they say about all work and no play, right? Part of the full picture of who you are is how you spend your non-work/study time, so please don't omit that information just because you are aiming to give us less to read!

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.

Supported file formats: DOC, HTM, HTML, TXT, WP, WPD, RTF, WPS, WPT, DOCX, PDF

NOTE: Documents should have password and security features removed.

We often get asked, “What should I write about in my personal statement?” Unfortunately, the truthful answer is, “I don’t know.” After all, we don’t know you yet! But we take the personal statement very seriously, so please spend time thinking about what you most want us to know about you—more than any other part of our process, this is where we glean the answer to, “Why do we want to admit you?” For more guidance, check out episodes of the A2Z vlog [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).

Supplemental Essays

This section is optional.

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

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 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

What's a character trait you're glad you possess? Describe a recent experience where you exhibited that trait.

Essay Seven

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 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?

Essay Ten - TO BE ANSWERED USING GENERATIVE AI

How much do you use generative AI tools such as ChatGPT right now? What's your prediction for how much you will use them by the time you graduate from law school? Why?

Supported file formats: DOC, HTM, HTML, TXT, WP, WPD, RTF, WPS, WPT, DOCX, PDF
NOTE: Documents should have password and security features removed.

We like big
fonts and we
cannot lie.

Please, please,
please.
Thank you.

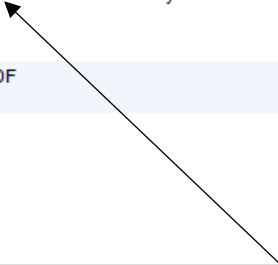
Supplemental essays can be very helpful in our review process. While they are by no means required (certainly, many applicants are admitted without them—hence the “optional” designation!), we often get a completely new and helpful perspective from their more targeted focus. We offer a wide variety of choices in the hope that you will be able to select a topic that “speaks” to you.

Addendum

This section is optional.

If there is any information in your application you wish to clarify (for example, particular grades; a history of standardized testing that under-predicts your academic performance; gaps in employment) you may submit that information here. You may submit as many addenda as you need.

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Sometimes applicants just need a few more sentences to provide context or to tie everything together, and there's no obvious place elsewhere. Here's where to put those last little tidbits.