



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

College of Law

LAW.USASK.CA



# Juris Doctor (JD)

2024-2025 Admissions

BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS



# WHY USASK LAW

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As the oldest law school in Western Canada, we have a tradition of excellence in teaching, research and innovation.

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- USask Law offers Juris Doctor (JD) and Master of Laws (LLM) degrees.
- Our faculty are leaders in Indigenous law, criminal law, transnational commercial law, and environment and sustainable resources law.
- We offer a strong clinical program and a highly regarded mooted program.



**Pursue your legal education  
in a welcoming,  
student-focused college.**

BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS





# YOUR STUDENT EXPERIENCE

## Clinical Law experience

The college collaborates closely with CLASSIC (Community Legal Services for Saskatoon Inner City Inc.), a community-based legal clinic that provides free legal assistance to low-income clients. Participating in the clinical law program at CLASSIC gives you a chance to gain practical experience while providing you with new insights into the social reality of law.

## Access to Justice

Access to Justice is a three-credit seminar class that provides students the opportunity to observe and interact with lawyers during a placement at one of many participating courts and tribunals in Saskatchewan and Manitoba. The college also boasts CREATE Justice, a newly established centre for research, evaluation, and action on the topic of access to justice.

## Saskatchewan Law Review

The Saskatchewan Law Review is a journal published at the College of Law and provides a range of opportunities for legal scholars and experts interested in publishing their work. As a student, you can submit work for review or serve on the editorial board.

## Mooting

Mooting is an important part of the college's academic and professional program. As a component of the first-year Legal Research and Writing course, all first-year students will experience and participate in a moot. Mooting offers a forum for the development and presentation of legal arguments in the context of an appeal case, as well as a vehicle for the exercise of legal research and writing skills.



## Exchange programs

Study at some of the top law schools in the world in Belgium, the Czech Republic, Finland, Norway, Sweden, or the United Kingdom. In recent years, our students have also gone to Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Hungary. Studying law abroad allows you to learn about other legal systems and to gain international experience as well as broaden your personal and professional perspectives.



## Career support

The career office provides a variety of services and hosts a myriad of events to ensure you find the career that is right for you. These include on-campus interviews (OCIs) with some out-of-province law firms (specifically for recruiting first-year and second-year summer positions) and professional development seminars to enhance your professional skills and assist you in your career planning.

# ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Two full years (60 credit units) of academic work at a recognized university or equivalent (There are no recommended pre-law programs or classes; we accept students from all accredited university undergraduate programs.)
- Law School Admission Test (LSAT) score
- Personal statement (max. 500 words)
- Proof of proficiency in English, if English is not your first language

# ADMISSION DECISIONS

Admission to the College of Law is at the discretion of our Admissions Committee and is determined based on merit, considering your academic record, your LSAT score, and any other circumstances the committee deems relevant. Additionally, the Admissions Committee gives a slight preference to applicants with a Saskatchewan connection or residents of the Yukon, Northwest and Nunavut Territories, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland and Labrador (provinces or territories with no law college).

## 2023-2024 ENTRY STATISTICS

**128** STUDENTS

**157** AVERAGE LSAT  
SCORE

**84%** UNDERGRADUATE  
ADMISSION AVERAGE

# APPLICATION CATEGORIES

## General Category

To be eligible, an applicant must have:

1. an undergraduate university degree from a recognized institution, or;
2. successfully completed a minimum of two years (60 credit units) of academic work at a recognized university, or the equivalent of such work.

All applicants for admission to the College of Law are required to write the Law School Admission Test (LSAT). The Law School Admission Council has information about dates and procedures.



Law School  
Admission  
Council

## Discretionary Category

In choosing applicants, the College of Law considers it important for the student body to reflect a variety of backgrounds and experiences. The college recognizes that relying exclusively on the standard admission criteria would unfairly prejudice the prospects of applicants whose academic record, for reasons beyond their control, does not reflect their ability to successfully pursue a law degree. Accordingly, discretionary consideration will be given to applicants with educational disadvantages.

Examples of educational disadvantages include:

- first language other than English
- barriers resulting from ethnic or racial background
- employment or family obligations preventing earlier application
- disability or other condition that hinders access to, or effective use of, educational opportunities
- significant interruption of post-secondary education

### Assessment of applicants in the Discretionary Category

Applicants in the Discretionary Category will be admitted based on the Admission Committee's assessment of their potential to succeed in the program. There is no formal quota for successful applicants in this category but the number of such admissions is necessarily limited.

**The deadline to submit supporting documentation for applicants in the Discretionary Category is February 1, 2025.**

## **Additional documentation required in Discretionary Category**

Those applying in the Discretionary Category must complete all steps in the application procedure for the General Category and provide additional documentation that includes:

- a statement identifying and explaining the nature of their educational disadvantage or interruption of studies
- any relevant supporting documentation, such as medical reports (full medical records or reports are not required; what is most useful to the committee is to have a concise statement from a medical or other relevant professional describing the effect that a condition has had or may have on academic performance)
- details of any relevant occupational experience or community involvement
- two to three supporting letters of reference from persons unrelated to the applicant who can comment on the applicant's aptitude and potential for law studies (These reference letters must come directly from the individual supplying the reference through your online account. It is strongly recommended that at least one of these be an academic reference.)
- proof of proficiency in English, if English is not your first language

## **Indigenous Category**

USask is committed to equity, diversity and inclusion and is proud to support academic opportunities for Indigenous students. We continue to grow our partnerships with Indigenous communities provincially, nationally, and internationally and value the unique perspectives that Indigenous students provide in strengthening these relationships.

Applicants who assert Indigenous membership/citizenship will be asked to complete the verification process of Indigenous membership/citizenship with documentation. Verification of Indigenous membership/citizenship at the University of Saskatchewan is led and determined by the deiybwewin | taapwaywin | tapwewin: Indigenous Truth policy and the deiybwewin | taapwaywin | tapwewin Standing Committee in accordance with the processes developed to enact the policy.



Please visit the deybwewin | taapwaywin | tapwewin: Indigenous Truth page to proceed through the verification system. If you have any questions or require additional information about deybwewin | taapwaywin | tapwewin please contact: [indigenoustruthpolicy@usask.ca](mailto:indigenoustruthpolicy@usask.ca)



**Indigenous  
Truth Policy**

**Additional documentation required in the Indigenous Category:**

Applicants must complete all steps as set out in the General Category and provide additional documentation that includes:

- two supporting letters of reference from people unrelated to the applicant who can comment on the applicant's aptitude and potential for law studies (These reference letters must be provided directly from the writer through the applicant's online account. It is strongly suggested that at least one of these be an academic reference.)

**The deadline to submit supporting documentation for applicants in the Indigenous Category is February 1, 2025.**

## **PART-TIME PROGRAM**

Applicants are generally expected to study law on a full-time basis, however, part-time status may be granted on a discretionary basis in certain circumstances. Applications for part-time status are assessed on a case-by-case basis.

The part-time program is available to assist applicants who have family commitments, disabilities, health needs, occupational obligations or financial needs that prevent full-time study. It is also available to applicants who have not been in an academic institution for a significant number of years. The part-time program is not available to persons who wish to test their interest in law or who would prefer a light course load. The part-time program requires a commitment to at least one-half of the workload of full-time law students. Part-time students are required to attend classes at the regularly scheduled times and, therefore, must be able to attend classes during the day.

## PART-TIME PROGRAM *cont'd*

Applicants who wish to be admitted on a part-time basis must submit a written statement giving reasons why they feel they are unable to pursue full-time studies. Applicants admitted as part-time students must complete the first year of the three-year JD program before they can change their status to full-time.

# APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Applications are accepted between October 15 and February 1 for admission in the upcoming year. However, applicants are encouraged to submit and complete their applications as early as possible after October 15, as offers are made on a rolling basis commencing in December.

Please note that applications cannot be evaluated until all documentation, a Law School Admission Council (LSAC) account number (which is used to retrieve your LSAT score), and all transcripts have been received.

Each applicant will be advised by email whether their application is accepted, denied, or waitlisted. If an application for admission is incomplete, it will not be considered.

**Deadline to submit applications and supporting documentation (except final April transcripts) in all categories is February 1, 2025.**

# STEPS TO APPLY

## 1. Write the Law School Admission Test (LSAT)

All applicants are required to take the Law School Admission Test (LSAT). The LSAT is designed to measure certain mental abilities important in the study of law and accordingly, to aid law schools in assessing the academic promise of applicants.

The Admissions Committee considers your highest LSAT score over the past five years. For example, LSAT scores prior to June 2020 will not be accepted for applicants applying for September 2025 entry. Your LSAT score will be retrieved by Admissions staff once FINAL LSAT is indicated on your application.

The LSAT is offered several times throughout the year. The January administration is the last score accepted for September entry, but applicants are strongly encouraged to write the test earlier if possible. Applications are assessed on a rolling basis, and some offers of admission and decisions about scholarships will be made before January LSAT scores are available.

More information on the LSAT, including registration, fees, testing dates and testing centre locations, can be found on the Law School Admission Council's website. (Use the QR code on page 6 to visit the site.)

## 2. Write a personal statement

Your personal statement provides us with further information about you that will be used when reviewing your application. Include information on special academic interests and achievements, your work experience (including volunteer work), special skills, personal attributes and any other significant life experiences (e.g., family-related, travel, etc.). The personal statement must be composed entirely by you and should not exceed 500 words.

## 3. Complete the online application

Online applications will **open October 15, 2024**, for September 2025 entry. Supporting documentation for September 2025 entry can be submitted beginning October 15, 2024. **Deadline to submit supporting documentation in all categories is February 1, 2025.**

The application deadline is February 1, 2025, for September 2025 entry. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that their file is complete. You can do this by checking your Supplemental Item List after your application is submitted.



**Apply**

## 4. Pay the application fee

Pay the application fee of \$125 CAD online by credit card. Your application will not be processed until this fee is received.

## STEPS TO APPLY *cont'd*

### 5. Send us your transcripts

**USask applicants:** Students who have completed all of their university studies at the University of Saskatchewan do not need to submit transcripts. Transcripts must be submitted for any part of an applicant's studies taken elsewhere.

**Applicants who have studied elsewhere:** For applicants who are currently taking classes, we require both mid-term (December) and final (April) transcripts. Please arrange to have each university attended email your transcripts to **law.admissions@usask.ca**. If your university does not provide transcripts by email, please arrange to have them mail the transcripts to: College of Law, University of Saskatchewan, 15 Campus Drive, Saskatoon, SK S7N 5A6. **The deadline for submission of mid-term (December) transcripts is February 1 of the year you will be starting first-year law.**

Without transcripts, your documentation will be considered incomplete and your application will not be considered.

**The deadline for submission of final transcripts is June 1 of the year you will be starting first-year law.**





# SECOND DEGREE PROGRAMS

The University of Saskatchewan offers several options for a combined JD degree through its Second Degree Programs. In all cases, the JD program is taken as the second part of the combined degree. Students choosing to pursue a combined JD degree are not guaranteed a place in the College of Law and, when they become eligible to enter the college, compete for placement with all other applicants.

## **Bachelor of Commerce / Juris Doctor**

The combined BComm/JD program allows students to obtain both commerce and law degrees in six years rather than the seven years needed to complete the degrees separately. Students initially apply to the Edwards School of Business and spend three years completing the core and major classes. Once a student has gained admission to the College of Law, they complete the regular three-year JD program. Students receive their BComm after successful completion of two years in Law. For information on this program, please contact the Edwards School of Business.

## **Bachelor of Business Administration / Juris Doctor**

The University of Regina and the College of Law jointly offer a Combined Degree Program of Business Administration and Law, leading to a BBA/JD in six years. Please contact Student Recruitment and Advising at the Paul J. Hill School of Business at the University of Regina for more information.

## **Juris Doctor / Master of Business Administration**

Applicants for the JD/MBA program must have a four-year bachelor-level degree as well as a current LSAT score. Applicants will be given an opportunity to apply during first-year Law. Please contact the Edwards School of Business at USask or the College of Law for more information.

## **Bachelor of Arts/Juris Doctor or Bachelor of Science/Juris Doctor**

The combined BA/JD or BSc/JD program can be completed in five years, including spring and summer sessions. Up to 18 credit units in the JD program may be counted as senior electives in the College of Arts and Science. Grades from all the eligible Law courses attempted will be used in the calculation of the Arts and Science average. Contact the College of Arts and Science at USask for more information.

# CERTIFICATE IN COMMON-LAW FRENCH

This program is offered in partnership with the Law Faculty of the University of Ottawa. All courses taken toward this option must be approved for credit by the Associate Dean, Academic at USask Law. Students who choose this option will complete a total of 90 credit units, as they would in the regular JD program; however, 30 of the total 90 credit units will be in French.

To be eligible to complete this option, students must submit a letter of intent written in French. Decisions will be made by the Associate Dean, Academic in the College of Law.



**French  
Common  
Law  
Option**

## TRANSFER STUDENTS

### Transfers from Canadian universities

First-year law students wishing to transfer from common law JD programs at other Canadian universities to the USask College of Law must satisfy certain academic requirements. Official transcripts of pre-law and law school marks must be submitted to the college directly from the issuing institutions. A completed online application form and a \$125 non-refundable application fee must also be submitted. **All transfer students must have a current LSAT score.**

Approval of all transfers to the USask College of Law will depend on the quality of legal studies previously demonstrated and the number of spaces available. Preference will normally be given to Saskatchewan residents. The deadline for receipt of requests to transfer is February 1 and required documentation must be completed by June 30.

### Letters of permission (visiting students)

Students wishing to complete one year or one term at USask Law towards a degree from another Canadian law school may apply as a Letter of Permission (Visiting) Student. The Dean or Associate Dean of that law school must provide USask Law with a letter granting permission for the student to earn credits at USask Law.

Official transcripts of pre-law and law school marks must be submitted to USask Law directly from the issuing institutions. A completed application form, a \$125 non-refundable application fee and a current LSAT score are also required.

## Transfers from non-Canadian universities

Individuals with law degrees from non-Canadian law schools who are interested in becoming members of a law society in Canada must have their credentials assessed by the National Committee on Accreditation (NCA).

USask Law does **not** offer courses to students who are seeking to meet the requirements of the NCA. For more information on having your credentials assessed, please contact the NCA directly.



National  
Committee on  
Accreditation

## Questions about transferring?

Students wishing to transfer to the University of Saskatchewan College of Law should contact the college’s admissions officer: email [law.admissions@usask.ca](mailto:law.admissions@usask.ca) or call 306-966-5892.

# TUITION

Tuition will vary based on the number of classes you take in a year. Below is an **estimate** for your first year of studies if you enroll in a full course load.

	Canadian students	International students
Tuition	\$17,606	\$85,214
Student fees	\$1,121	\$1,121
Books	\$2,500	\$2,500
Total	\$21,227	\$88,835

The totals above are in 2024-2025 Canadian dollar rates. Student fees are used to fund specific student benefits, including health, vision, and dental coverage, a bus pass, recreational programs and fitness centre access.

# FUNDING YOUR DEGREE

## Entrance scholarships

All first-year applicants are automatically considered for most entrance scholarships upon acceptance. It is not necessary to submit applications for entrance awards. A preliminary screening of pre-law records of all students registered in first year results in several students being invited to provide additional information. Winners of the awards are informed in September.

## Student awards

The College of Law offers various student awards including numerous entrance scholarships, upper-year scholarships, course prizes, and graduate student scholarships.

## Bursaries

JD students are invited to apply several times during each academic year for bursaries (which are based on financial need) and additional scholarships (which are based on the merit of the application). There are many diverse funding opportunities for entering and continuing students in the College of Law.

## Emergency funding

The University of Saskatchewan has an Emergency Loans Office. The College of Law also operates an emergency funding program for its students. Students in need are encouraged to contact the college's Associate Dean, Academic: [ada.law@usask.ca](mailto:ada.law@usask.ca)





# HOUSING

## USask residences

USask residences can be your home away from home and provide you with an unparalleled living environment. Along with the convenience of living close to classes and university facilities, you will be living in a safe, study-oriented setting where you can access continuous academic and personal support.

## Off-campus housing

Housing in Saskatoon is very affordable compared to other Canadian cities and Saskatoon has excellent bus service, with routes travelling to campus from throughout the city. A U-Pass (bus pass) is included in your student fees.



## Living in Saskatoon

This is a place of opportunity, diversity and innovation. As a student here and after you graduate, you will come to appreciate why so many have chosen to call this place home.

With a rising population of more than 270,000, Saskatoon offers many of the amenities of a large urban centre along with the friendliness and accessibility of smaller cities.

There is plenty to do in Saskatoon every season, with live music events, festivals and cultural experiences offered year-round. With its vibrant mix of many cultures, Saskatoon's blossoming culinary and local shopping scenes also stand out.

More about  
housing



# CONTACTS

## Law Admissions office

University of Saskatchewan  
College of Law, 15 Campus Drive  
Saskatoon SK S7N 5A6

**Phone:** 306-966-5892

**Email:** law.admissions@usask.ca

**Web:** law.usask.ca

## Indigenous Law Centre (ILC)

University of Saskatchewan, College of Law  
Room 160, 15 Campus Drive  
Saskatoon SK S7N 5A6

**Phone:** 306-966-6189

**Email:** ilc.general@usask.ca

**Web:** indigenouslaw.usask.ca

## Law School Admission Council (LSAC)

622 Penn Street  
Box 2000, Newtown PA 18940 USA

**Phone:** 215-968-1001 / 1-800-336-3982

**Email:** lsacinfo@lsac.org

**Web:** lsac.org

## National Committee on Accreditation

c/o Federation of Law Societies of Canada  
Constitution Square  
1700 - 340 Albert Street  
Ottawa ON K1R 7Y6

**Phone:** 613-236-1700

**Email:** nca@flsc.ca

**Web:** nca.legal



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## **First-Year Welcoming Ceremony September 2024**



**BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS**



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