

Yes it's all about the Numbers – GPA and LSAT Score

Contributed by M. Beckman, Esq.

The two main figures that determine law school admissions are grade-point averages and LSAT scores. Obviously, the top ranked law schools look for a high ranking on both. Harvard Law School (HLS) reported to the American Bar Association (ABA) that their 75/25 percentile GPAs and LSAT scores for school year 2007/2008 were 3.95/3.75 and 175/170, respectively (this information was obtained from HLS website). For the same school year, of the 6,984 applicants to HLS, HLS gave admission offers to only 12% of them, or 817.

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WORK EXPERIENCE & OTHER IMPORTANT FACTORS

While GPA and LSAT numbers are very important, law school admissions counselors look for candidates who bring a diverse set of experiences and perspectives to classroom discussions, especially in the form of extracurricular activities and diverse college coursework, among other things.

Many law school applicants apply to law school after having worked in their profession for a few years. Real world experience may also give you an edge and help you when it comes to writing your personal statement.

The personal statement is a statement about you which shows the reader your interests and character traits, not necessarily by listing them out in bullet points. For example, if you are one that believes in civic responsibility, talk about the volunteer work you have done, your service to this country or involvement with charities.

Law schools also request a list of references. Therefore, talk to individuals and be sure they will speak positively about you before you list them as a reference.

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For more information see Legalnut's article of LSAT Scores and the Numbers Game ^ ^

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