

Fall 2025 Application Instructions JD and JD-LLM in Taxation Programs

FILING PERIOD and DEADLINE

Thank you for your interest in the JD programs* at Northwestern Law! Our JD application for fall 2025 admission will be available via lsac.org beginning **September 1, 2024**. A complete application consists of several requirements. *You are responsible for ensuring every requirement is submitted by the deadline of **February 15, 2025**.*

Candidates must submit documents via the JD application and through LSAC's Credential Assembly Service (CAS). Please review the instructions within our LSAC application carefully and check the email account you share with us in your application. Because we do not want you to miss important updates, please make certain your email account is set up to receive messages from admissions@law.northwestern.edu. Doing so will prevent the erroneous delivery of any admissions-related messages to your spam, unwanted, promotions, social, or junk folder(s).

*Applicants who are interested in applying for transfer admission to our JD program following completion of the first year at another ABA-accredited law school may begin that process in May 2024. Guidance on the transfer application process, along with the application for fall 2024 JD transfer admission will be posted to our website in Spring 2024.

REQUIRED APPLICATION MATERIALS

Application for Admission

The application for admission should be completed in its entirety and to the best of your ability.

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.

Resume

The resume should include the relevant professional, academic, and leadership experience that together illustrate your law school candidacy.

Standardized Test Score

Applicants may satisfy the Law School's admissions test requirement by submitting either the LSAT, the GRE, or both. Through the CAS process, the Admissions Committee will be able to access LSAT results and will consider those results in its review if an applicant has taken this exam. To submit a GRE score, use school code 2579 through ETS. Additional information surrounding the submission of your test score(s) may be found on our FAQs webpage [here](#).

The Law School Credential Assembly Service (CAS)

The LSAC (CAS) report contains the following application requirements:

- All post-secondary transcript(s).
- Results of the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) and your LSAT Writing Sample as soon as you have a valid score and have completed your Writing Sample; and,
- At least one letter of recommendation.

Application Fee

A nonrefundable application fee of \$75 is required to submit your application.

OPTIONAL APPLICATION MATERIALS

Optional 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, education adversity, special talents, work or community service experience, first generation or immigrant experience, and 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?

Admissions Interview

Interviews provide the Admissions Committee with relevant information about your communication skills, maturity, and motivation. Admissions interviews are optional but strongly recommended.

Our interviews are hosted via an online platform. Within five business days of submitting your application, you will receive instructions for completing your online video interview. The process is simple; you will need an Internet-connected device with a functioning webcam and microphone. We recommend you utilize a computer (rather than a phone or a tablet) to conduct the interview. You will be asked a series of questions that various members of our team and the Northwestern Law community have pre-recorded. The questions are relevant for JD applicants.

Following each previously recorded question, you will have 30 seconds to consider your answer. Immediately thereafter, you will have 60 seconds to respond. The system allows for unlimited practice sessions but once you begin the formal interview questions, you will have only one chance; this allows the Admissions Committee to see your extemporaneous responses.

You will have 14 days from the date you receive the invitation to our interview platform to complete the online video interview. We highly

recommend completing your interview soon after you receive the invitation to minimize any processing delays of your application.

After the 14 days have elapsed, your application will be moved forward in the process, even if you have not completed your online video interview. *Please note: For applications submitted on or after the application deadline of **February 15, 2025**, interviews should be submitted as soon as possible.*

Please visit our [Interviewing FAQ](#), which contains additional information and guidance for completing our online video interview.