

LL.M./J.S.D. Programs

APPLICATION
FALL 2010

Application instructions

An online application, as well as these instructions and all required forms, are also available at www.lawschool.cornell.edu/admissions.

Application materials, including the application fee, application forms, statement of interest, and letters of recommendation, should be assembled together and mailed to Cornell Law School, LL.M./J.S.D. Admissions, Myron Taylor Hall, Ithaca, NY 14853-4901, U.S.A. Please do not send materials by e-mail or fax. Documents must be submitted in their original language. Documents in languages other than English must be accompanied by a certified translation. For information on using our web-based online application, visit www.lawschool.cornell.edu/admissions.

Deadlines

LL.M. applications, including all supporting materials, must be received by February 1. Applications received after this date will be reviewed on a space-available basis only. If you want to be considered for an LL.M. fellowship, your application and all supporting materials must reach us by January 10. J.S.D. applications must be submitted before May 1.

Statement of interest

A detailed (750 words) personal statement of interest is an essential part of the application. The statement should include

a discussion of your purpose in obtaining the degree, and an explanation of your research and study interests and their relation to your previous education and professional goals. Please include your full name on the top of each page of the statement of interest. If you are applying to the J.S.D. program, please include a detailed and footnoted research proposal of no more than 3,000 words.

Transcripts/other academic records

Complete official transcripts of all previous college, university, and graduate/professional school study, including work done at Cornell, must be submitted. To accomplish this, we strongly recommend that you register with the Law School Admission Council's LL.M. Credential Assembly Service (www.LLM.LSAC.org). This service will save you time and money, especially if you intend to apply to more than one U.S. or Canadian graduate law program. You will need to obtain your transcripts and other required academic records only one time in order to make them available in all of your applications. For a registration fee of US\$185, LSAC will collect, authenticate, and distribute your academic records and your TOEFL score (see the section "English proficiency," overleaf, for how to have your TOEFL score report sent to LSAC) to up to five law schools you select. (Additional reports are available for an additional fee.) Once you register for this service, it will be available to you for a period of five years.

Recommendations

Two letters of recommendation must be submitted from faculty members acquainted with your work in the major area of study. If that work occurred more than three years ago, or if such letters are not obtainable because of circumstances beyond your control, recommendations from those familiar with your professional performance are acceptable.

Forms for recommendations are provided with these application materials. You can photocopy the forms if necessary. You should ask each recommender to enclose the recommendation form in an envelope, seal the envelope, sign it across the seal, and return it to you to be submitted, unopened, with the other application materials. (If the recommender prefers, the letter can be sent directly to the Law School; however, applications received with the recommendations are processed more quickly.)

Under U.S. federal legislation, enrolled students have access to letters of recommendation. If you want to waive your right of access, you can do so by signing the appropriate statement on the recommendation form. (If a form is not available, you can waive the right of access by submitting the following written statement to the recommender: "I hereby waive my right of access, under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, to this letter of recommendation in regard to my application for admission

to Cornell Law School. I understand that this letter will be used by the Law School only in its procedures relative to admission and fellowship awards. "This statement must be signed and dated by the applicant and attached to the letter of recommendation. Your decision on whether to waive your right of access will not influence our admission decision, but it might be important to your recommenders. You should discuss the matter with them.)

English proficiency

Proficiency in English is required for admission and your level of proficiency, as demonstrated by all aspects of the application, is a significant factor in our decision-making process. If your native language is not English, you must take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) unless you have received your first degree in law from a college or university in a country where both the language of instruction and the native language is English.

A minimum overall TOEFL score of 550 (paper-based), 213 (computer-based), or 79 (Internet-based) is required to be considered for admission. The official score report must be received prior to the applicable deadline for an application to be considered.

Accepted applicants whose TOEFL scores are between 550 and 600 (paper-based), between 213 and 250 (computer-based, or between 79 and 100 (Internet-based) must take the English placement test given at

Cornell during registration week. If the placement score indicates that you need additional formal training in English, a course will be required during the first semester.

The TOEFL is offered frequently throughout the world. Information on times and places and an application form can be obtained from the Educational Testing Service, Princeton, NJ 08541, U.S.A. (telephone: 609 921-9000 or web: www.ets.org). Our institution code is 2098, department code 03.

To have your TOEFL score report sent to the LSAC LL.M. Credential Assembly Service, you must have ETS send your TOEFL score to LSAC using the institution code number 8395.

Application fee

Payment of the nonrefundable application fee of US\$80 must be submitted with the application. Payment should be made in U.S. dollars in the form of a certified check or money order or by completing the credit-card authorization on the application form.

Financial requirement

Non-U.S. applicants offered admission must submit evidence of full financial support (this can include any fellowship award) for themselves and their dependents for the duration of the program of study. The Law School will inform accepted applicants of financial support certification procedures at the appropriate time in the admission process.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST: LL.M. and J.S.D.

We encourage you to use, if possible, the web-based application at www.lawschool.cornell.edu/admissions.

LL.M. Deadline: February 1, 2010 • J.S.D. Deadline: May 1, 2010

A complete application contains the following items. (Please see the instructions for important additional details.)

- Completed and signed application form
- US\$80 application fee (certified check or money order payable to Cornell University, or credit-card authorization)
- LSAC LL.M. Credential Assembly Service School Report containing all required academic credentials, or official copies of all transcripts
- An official certification of each degree you have earned
- Two recommendation forms and accompanying letters
- An official statement of class rank from the institution at which you earned or will earn your first degree in law. (If such rankings are not provided by your school, provide a statement to this effect along with a detailed explanation of the grading system employed.)
- A personal statement of interest
- If you are applying to the J.S.D. program, please include a detailed and footnoted research proposal of no more than 3,000 words.
- If English is not your native language, an official TOEFL score report from the Educational Testing Service. (This may be submitted to the LSAC LL.M. Credential Assembly Service.) We strongly recommend, but do not require, that you take the Test of Written English (TWE) as well as the TOEFL.

Important note Only complete applications will be reviewed by our committee. The deadline for completed LL.M. applications is February 1. Applications completed after that date will be reviewed on a space-available basis only. LL.M. fellowship applicants must complete their applications by January 10. J.S.D. applications must be received by May 1.