

AGGIE LAW DIRECT – THE J.D. ALTERNATIVE ADMISSIONS PROGRAM

(Exclusively for Texas A&M University – College Station Undergraduates)

Program Overview

Aggie Law Direct – the J.D. alternative admissions program – allows a limited number of Texas A&M University – College Station undergraduates to enter the School of Law without taking the otherwise required Law School Admission Test (LSAT) or the Graduate Record Examination (GRE).

The American Bar Association (ABA) Standards and Rules of Procedure for Approval of Law Schools authorize the Aggie Law Direct program and establish the minimum eligibility requirements. The School of Law anticipates the qualifications of the applicant pool will increase over time and therefore reserves the right to modify the requirements to reflect those growths.

The Aggie Law Direct program is highly competitive, and meeting the minimum eligibility requirements does not guarantee admission. Applicants that do not receive an admission offer through the Aggie Law Direct program may request reconsideration after submitting an LSAT or GRE score.

Program Eligibility

- Aggie Law Direct applicants must either be currently enrolled in an undergraduate program at Texas A&M University – College Station at the time of admittance to the School of Law or have graduated no earlier than twelve months before the date of enrollment at the School of Law.
- Aggie Law Direct applicants must report an SAT or ACT composite score at or above the 85th percentile. The test administration date must be within five years of the date of enrollment at the School of Law.
- Aggie Law Direct applicants must have a Law School Admission Council (LSAC) cumulative undergraduate GPA (CUGPA) of 3.75 or above through six semesters of academic coursework.

Application Process Checklist

➤ **Meet with a TAMU pre-law advisor (see contact information below)**

Texas A&M University – College Station is a national leader in preparing students for law school. The most successful students create a plan of action and take every advantage to enhance their profiles. The Professional School Advising Office will serve as your ally every step of the way, from helping you decide whether law school is right for you through the application process. It is never too early to speak with your pre-law advisor to gain valuable insight regarding the law school admission process. Scheduling a meeting during the fall semester of your Junior year allows you to create your admissions game plan.

➤ **Express your interest in the Aggie Law Direct program and get answers to your questions**

Texas A&M Law releases its admission application for the fall cohort on September 1 annually. Many law school prospects will spend the summer between their Junior and Senior years of college gathering or creating the necessary documents for their law school applications. If you are not eligible for the Aggie Law Direct program, your preparation may include a summer administration of the LSAT or GRE.

Those interested in the Aggie Law Direct program should complete the information form located on this web page. The best time to do so is during the Spring semester of your Junior year of college after receiving your fall semester grades. Upon receipt, the School of Law personnel will review your academic record to assess your preliminary eligibility. If appropriate, a meeting with an admissions advisor is scheduled to discuss completing the process.

All communications should include your legal name, contact information, and TAMU UIN.

➤ **Create your Law School Admission Council (LSAC) account**

Applicants must apply for admission through LSAC. The process begins with the creation of a secure account at LSAC.org.

➤ **Register for the LSAC Credential Assembly Service (CAS)**

LSAC serves as a central clearinghouse for applicants applying to law school. The CAS streamlines the process by collecting documents (letters of recommendation) and summarizing your academic record (transcripts). The School of Law receives this comprehensive report as part of your admission application.

➤ **Complete and sign the Texas A&M University School of Law electronic application**

Use your LSAC account and CAS registration to access and complete the electronic application. Take care to upload your personal statement, current resume, character and fitness addendum (if necessary), and any other supporting documents you believe will assist the committee in evaluating your application.

➤ **Arrange for the electronic submission of your official SAT or ACT score report to the School of Law Admissions Office**

SAT – Applicants must submit an official SAT score report directly to the Admissions Office using [Designation Institution Code 7817](#).

ACT – Applicants must submit an official ACT score report directly to the Admissions Office using [School Code 2855](#).

The School of Law will not process your application without your SAT or ACT score report.

➤ **Tracking your application status**

Aggie Law Direct applicants can track the status of their application through their established LSAC account.

Pre-Law Advisor Contact Information

Texas A&M University – College Station

Brie Garcia | Senior Career Coordinator & Pre-Law Advisor
Career Center | Professional School Advising | 209 John. J. Koldus Bldg
Online: [Pre-Law Advising](#)
Phone: 979.847.8938
Email: bmgarcia02@tamu.edu

Aggie Law Direct Program Contact Information

Texas A&M University School of Law

Office of Admissions
1515 Commerce St. | Fort Worth, TX | 76102
Phone: 817.212.4040
Email: law-admissions@law.tamu.edu

Frequently Asked Questions

Why is there a limit on the number of applicants admitted through the Aggie Law Direct program, and how is that number determined?

The number of admitted applicants is determined by the entering class size of the previous year. The American Bar Association (ABA) permits us to enroll no more than 10% of the prior year's entering class size.

Am I eligible for Aggie Law Direct if I received, or will receive, a bachelor's degree from one of the other Texas A&M System Schools?

No. Under the ABA Standards, this program is restricted to undergraduates receiving their first bachelor's degree from Texas A&M University – College Station. Applicants must either be in attendance at the time of admittance to the School of Law or have graduated no earlier than twelve months before the date of enrollment at the School of Law.

When can I submit my admission application?

The School of Law admits a new entering class each fall semester. The admission application is released each year on September 1. The general application deadlines apply to those seeking admission through the Aggie Law Direct program.

The School of Law employs a "rolling admission" process, and the number of students enrolled through the Aggie Law Direct program is limited. Therefore, applicants are encouraged to apply early to ensure full consideration for admission. Aggie Law Direct applicants receive a high-priority designation. The evaluation of their applications is expedited to allow for an alternate plan of action if an admission offer is not extended.

What constitutes six semesters of coursework?

The "six semesters of coursework" requirement ensures an applicant completes enough college-level coursework to reasonably assess their likelihood of success in law school. Seventy-five percent of coursework, approximately 90 semester credit hours for most bachelor's degrees, should be complete at the submission of the application. The 90 semester credit hours may include transfer credit, high school dual degree credit, and AP/CLEP credit.

The School of Law reserves the right to request additional information to verify the accuracy of submitted materials or to evaluate the applicant's aptitude for legal study.

How is the required GPA calculated?

Law school applicants have two reported GPAs. The first is the degree-granting institution GPA. In this case, the GPA consists of graded coursework completed at Texas A&M University – College Station. The second is your cumulative undergraduate GPA (CUGPA) calculated by the Law School Admissions Council (LSAC). The School of Law evaluates all applicants based on the LSAC CUGPA.

The LSAC CUGPA includes any college-level coursework taken before the conferral of your first bachelor's degree, including graded coursework from high school dual credit courses and coursework transferred from other institutions. Additionally, if you have retaken a class or received a grade replacement, the original course grade and the replacement course grade will count in calculating your LSAC CUGPA.

The applicant's LSAC CUGPA must meet or exceed the stated minimum requirement when submitting the application. If the applicant has coursework in progress, then any admission offer is conditional. The applicant must submit a final transcript reflecting the conferral of a bachelor's degree, and the newly- calculated LSAC CUGPA must remain at or above the stated minimum requirement. Failure to maintain the required LSAC CUGPA will result in the revocation of the admission offer.

Are applicants required to maintain the minimum 3.75 cumulative undergraduate GPA each semester of enrollment?

No. Applicants must report a minimum LSAC CUGPA of 3.75 at the time of application. Applicants with coursework in progress must maintain the required LSAC CUGPA through the completion of their degree program.

What if I have taken the LSAT or GRE? Am I still eligible for the Aggie Law Direct program?

No. Individuals with a reportable LSAT or GRE score are not eligible for Aggie Law Direct.

What if I take the LSAT or GRE after being admitted through the Aggie Law Direct program?

Aggie Law Direct applicants are required to disclose all LSAT and GRE scores. If an Aggie Law Direct applicant elects to take one of these examinations, they are no longer eligible for the program. Any prior admission or scholarship offers are rescinded, and the applicant will be re-evaluated with the general applicant pool.

How will SAT and ACT scores be evaluated for the Aggie Law Direct Program?

The School of Law considers the composite SAT or ACT score from a single test date. "Superscores" will not be accepted. For purposes of this program, SAT and ACT scores will be deemed expired and therefore invalid five years from the test administration date. The Aggie Law Direct program requires a valid score at enrollment in the School of Law. For example, if the fall 2023 entering class matriculates

on August 14, 2023, then SAT or ACT administrations before August 14, 2018, are deemed expired and invalid.

What SAT or ACT score do I need to satisfy the 85th percentile requirement?

Historically, test-takers with a composite score of approximately 1290 on the SAT and 27 on the ACT reported a ranking at or above the 85th percentile. The SAT or ACT composite score percentile rankings could vary yearly. Applicants are in the best position to verify their composite test score and percentile rank before submitting their admission application by contacting the testing agency and requesting access to their score report.

My SAT or ACT score is below the 85th percentile. Can you make an exception or allow me to retake the examination?

No. The composite score must be at or above the 85th percentile for the administration of the exam taken. The ABA Standards do not permit an exception. Prospective Texas A&M Law students falling short of this requirement must seek admission by taking either the LSAT or GRE. It is not permissible to retake the SAT or ACT to qualify for the Aggie Law Direct program.