

III. Policies for Admissions and Transfer, Visiting, and Non Degree Students

B. Applications for Admission and Transfer Student Policies

1. General policy.

The UND School of Law seeks to admit students who have clear potential to become well-rounded legal professionals with the necessary skill set to serve as effective, innovative, and ethical leaders. In making admissions decisions, the School of Law is guided, first and foremost, by the requirement that every admitted student must appear capable of satisfactorily completing the program of legal education and being admitted to the bar. Admissions decisions are further guided by the School of Law's general mission, curricular mission, and diversity mission.

2. Application submission process.

Applications are processed by the School of Law's Director of Admissions in the Office of Student Life. The School of Law participates in the Law School Admission Council's Credential Assembly Service. Specific instructions for completing and submitting an application are available from the Office of Student Life and on the School of Law's web site.

While applications are accepted October 1 through July 15, applications completed after April 1 are considered late and may be denied on the basis of the number of applicants already admitted. Applicants are strongly encouraged to complete their applications before April 1 of the spring prior to anticipated registration. Applications that have not been completed by August 1 will be closed without decision. Applications must be accompanied by a nonrefundable application fee.

Each applicant is required to completely and honestly answer all questions and provide all requested information. All admitted students must also ensure that the School of Law has official transcripts on file by October 15 of the student's first year at the School of Law. For students other than those admitted under the University of North Dakota's Accelerated Bachelor's/J.D. program, the transcripts must show the conferral of a bachelor's degree. Should an applicant later disclose information that should have been disclosed on the initial application or should a student fail to ensure the School of Law has official transcripts on file, the School of Law reserves the right to review the original decision to offer admission to the applicant and to withdraw or rescind such offer of admission after review. The School of Law may administratively withdraw a student from all coursework at the School of Law once an offer of admission is withdrawn or rescinded.

A determination of character, fitness, and other qualifications for admission to the bar is required in every U.S. jurisdiction. Applicants are encouraged to determine the requirements for any jurisdiction in which they intend to seek licensure. Law schools are required to provide bar examiners in every state with an assessment of a student's character and fitness for the practice of law. This requirement can include information provided on the application, including prior criminal proceedings or other disciplinary

actions. Applicants should fully disclose all information requested on the application, particularly as related to character and fitness to practice law.

All admitted students must pay a nonrefundable acceptance deposit to reserve a place in the School of Law's entering class. Admitted students who register at the School of Law will have the deposit credited toward tuition and fees.

Students in the University of North Dakota's Accelerated Bachelor's/J.D. ("3+3") degree programs must submit an application for admission to law school in accordance with this policy and any additional procedures established by the Director of Admissions.

3. Application review process.

The School of Law's Admissions Committee evaluates completed applications. While substantial consideration is given to traditional measures of academic ability, namely grades and Law School Admission Test (LSAT) scores, the Admissions Committee reviews all relevant information in an application to determine an applicant's capabilities and potential.

The Admissions Committee reviews completed applications on a rolling basis. The School of Law notifies applicants of the admissions decisions as quickly as feasible.

The Admissions Committee's review of late applications completed after April 1 will include consideration of how many applicants already have been admitted. Applicants are cautioned that completing their application after April 1 may impede their chances of admission.

4. Reconsideration of denial of admission.

The Admissions Committee ordinarily will not reconsider its decision to deny admission to an applicant, unless the applicant offers new, relevant information, such as a subsequent LSAT score or additional grades.

An applicant who has been denied admission may submit a request for reconsideration accompanied by new, relevant information and an explanation of why the information is relevant to the applicant's capabilities and potential. Such requests should be submitted to the Director of Admissions. The Admissions Committee has sole discretion and authority to determine whether to grant a request to reconsider its decision to deny admission to an applicant.

The School of Law considers the decision of the Admissions Committee to deny admission to an applicant as the final decision of the School of Law.

Applicants who have been denied admission in a prior year are permitted to apply for admission in subsequent years.

5. Transfer and visiting student applications.

Applications from students who wish to transfer from other law schools are considered according to individual merit as well as the number of students currently enrolled at the School of Law. Transfer student applications for registration in the fall semester are processed in accordance with the timelines set out in Section II above; applications for registration in the spring semester are accepted through Nov. 1.

The School of Law accepts transfer student applications from applicants who have taken law school courses as a J.D. degree student at ABA- or state-accredited law schools. The School of Law will consider transfer student applications from students at or graduates of law schools outside the U.S. on a case-by-case basis.

Transfer student applications are reviewed administratively, with final decision made by the Dean of the School of Law. In addition to the general admissions policy considerations set out above, each transfer student application also is reviewed to assess the applicant's performance in law school, the number of credits to be granted based on the law school courses completed by the applicant, and the feasibility of the applicant's ability to complete the School of Law's academic program requirements.

Except in extraordinary circumstances, transfer students generally must complete a majority of their credit hours from the School of Law to receive a J.D. from the School of Law.

Students in good academic standing at another ABA-accredited law school who wish to enroll at the School of Law for one or two terms as a visiting student shall complete the same application procedures as a transfer student. Such applications will be reviewed administratively. Visiting student applications are considered according to individual merit as well as the number of students currently enrolled at the School of Law.

Although applications from students who have been academically dismissed from other law schools will be considered, the School of Law does not ordinarily offer admission to these applicants. Such applicants must provide information from which the School of Law can determine that the prior academic dismissal does not indicate a lack of capacity to complete the program of legal education and be admitted to the bar. For every such applicant admitted, the School of Law must place a statement of the considerations that led to the decision in the admitted applicant's file.

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