Suggested Timeline for Prospective Students

| Freshman year | • Do well in academic course work. You need to keep your undergraduate grade point average as high as possible.  
• Seek advice/counsel from an academic advisor.  
• Talk to lawyers and law students about their experiences.  
• Contact your college's undergraduate pre-law society. |
| Sophomore year | • Continue strong academic preparation.  
• Become involved in a pre-law society or associate with others interested in law.  
• Enroll in LAW 498.  
• Research traditional and non-traditional legal careers to learn more about the legal profession.  
• Contact a law school admissions representative to express your interest in law school. |
| Junior year | **Fall**  
• Continue strong academic preparation.  
• Research the different ways to study for the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) to see which is best for you.  
• Enroll in PHIL 310 in preparation for the LSAT.  
| **Spring** | • Register for the June LSAT (lsac.org).  
• Register for the Law School Admission Council's Credential Assembly Service (CAS) when you register for the LSAT.  
• Solicit at least two faculty members to write letters of recommendation for early next fall.  
• Purchase additional LSAT preparation materials, if necessary.  
| **Summer** | • Keep your undergraduate grade point average as high as possible.  
• Take the LSAT in June.  
• Request college transcripts to be sent to LSAC. |
| Senior year | **Fall**  
• Continue strong academic preparation.  
• Take the LSAT in September/October or December, if necessary.  
• Register for the Credential Assembly Service if you have not already done so.  
• Submit faculty or professional recommendations through LSAC.  
• Law schools may require you to write a personal statement. Draft your personal statement. Edit well. This may be the only chance you have to show your personal qualities outside the numerical data law schools consider.  
• Submit law school applications (October, if possible).  
• Follow up with law school admissions offices to ensure that your file is complete.  
• Visit law schools to which you have applied or are planning to apply.  
| **Spring** | • Complete FAFSA for the next academic year.  
• February is the last opportunity to take or retake the LSAT for acceptance to many law schools.  
• Hear from law schools about admission decisions.  
• Visit law schools where you have been admitted or put on a waiting list. |
| After graduation | • Attend law school or, if you are denied, talk to an advisor about alternatives or ways to strengthen credentials for next year. |

For more information, contact the SIU School of Law Office of Admissions at lawadmit@siu.edu or 618/453-8858.

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