



ST. NORBERT COLLEGE/MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL 3-plus-3 PROGRAM TIMELINE

The following timeline offers tips to students who are enrolled in the St. Norbert College/Marquette University School of Law 3+3 Program. While you do not need to follow exactly the process outlined below, you should be aware of the timing of important events necessary to complete your undergraduate program of study and Core Curriculum requirements prior to applying to and matriculating at Marquette Law School.

Please note that students who hope to complete the 3+3 program must complete a major and all Core Curriculum requirements by the conclusion of junior year. Additionally, students may not begin the 1L year at Marquette Law School if they have failed to complete 99 academic credits.

Be sure to contact the Pre-Law Advisor, Professor Charley Jacobs, if you have any questions about the process or the 3+3 Program. (charles.jacobs@snc.edu)

FIRST YEAR

- Meet with your academic advisor and the pre-law advisor in September to review the requirements of the 3+3 Program. If you have not yet chosen a major, you should explore a program that interests you by enrolling in Core Curriculum courses that sound intriguing. There is no “best” major for students interested in attending law school. Students with fine arts, humanities, and science backgrounds are as qualified to go to law school as political science majors. Be sure to find a passion that will serve your vocational and avocational interests if you choose not to attend law school.
- Take advantage of everything St. Norbert College has to offer. Attend lectures, symposia, and events that broaden your worldview—and consider the possibility of studying abroad.
- Explore the reason you want to become a lawyer. Attorneys work long hours, often in high-stress situations, and very few lawyers make exceptional salaries. You may also end law school with large student loans that may leave you with many years of debt. Be sure that you understand what the career involves.
- Build rapport with your professors and supervisors for future recommendation letters.
- During the spring semester, be sure to visit with the pre-law advisor to discuss a plan of action to begin studying for the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) and taking the exam. At this meeting, you should also review progress toward completion of a major and the requirements of the Core Curriculum program. If you have not yet selected a major, you should do so as quickly as possible.

SOPHOMORE YEAR

- If you have not done so during freshman year, select a major that interests you and enroll in courses that will insure that you fulfill all requirements by the conclusion of your junior year. Additionally, your schedule should include a number of Core Curriculum courses to fulfill program requirements.
- Begin preparing for the LSAT. Do not assume that you can prepare for the exam in a few days or a few weeks. The LSAT tests for skills in areas that are often unfamiliar to students who are accustomed to standardized

tests such as the ACT or SAT. The LSAT requires you to understand and apply the tools of analysis and logic to solve complex problems. To do well on the LSAT, you need to study and practice the skills necessary for the test. Although not required, consider enrolling in a commercial preparation course to develop the skills necessary to do well on the exam.

- Consider a for-credit internship in the legal field. St. Norbert has opportunities with the Brown County Courthouse, the Office of the District Attorney in Brown County, the Wisconsin Office of the Public Defender, as well as local law firms.
- Continue to take advantage of lectures, symposia, and events that broaden your worldview and to build rapport with professors and supervisors for future recommendation letters.
- Meet with the pre-law advisor during the spring semester to discuss how to sign up for the LSAT and the process for applying the Marquette Law School. You should also review your progress toward degree completion, including credits completed to date.

SUMMER PRIOR TO JUNIOR YEAR

- Consider completing the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) during the summer when there are typically three administrations of the exam. Although you will be eligible to apply to Marquette even if you wait as late as December to complete the exam, the earlier you record a score, the more flexibility you have to retake the exam (if necessary) or apply for financial aid at Marquette. You may enroll for the exam (which currently costs \$200) at lsac.org.
- If you are certain that you will apply to law school, enroll in the Law School Credential Assembly Service (CAS). The CAS simplifies the admission process for law school applicants by allowing you to submit your application materials through the lsac.org portal. The service requires payment of a one-time fee of \$195 and \$45 for the law school report sent to Marquette University Law School. This cost is in addition to any required application fee to Marquette.
- Speak to at least two faculty members that know you well about writing a letter of recommendation for you to law school. You may also approach a former or current employer if that person can speak directly to your abilities that are important to law schools. You should plan on giving each recommender roughly two months to prepare, write, and send the letter to CAS.
- Begin writing your personal statement and have it reviewed by the Pre-Law Advisor and/or someone who can offer constructive advice about the form and content. The essay should be completed by the end of the summer. Also discuss with the Pre-Law Advisor whether additional essays submitted as addenda to your application will be necessary.

JUNIOR YEAR

- If you did not complete the LSAT in June, it is strongly recommended that you complete the test on the earliest fall date. While you may wait until December, that strategy is unwise. You will not have the opportunity to take the exam a second time and still make the deadlines for fall admission.
- Compile the necessary materials required to apply for admission to Marquette Law School and send them to the CAS. Be sure to contact those who are writing letters for you and inform them about the process of submitting the recommendation to the CAS.
- Apply to Marquette during the fall semester.

MARQUETTE 1L YEAR

- Review your final graduation audit to insure all requirements have been met for graduation.
- Apply for graduation.