Application Instructions

The Application Process

Thank you for your interest in the University of Missouri--Kansas City School of Law. We seek a diverse student body to join us. Our students receive excellent legal training as we prepare them to become responsible community leaders in Kansas City and throughout the nation. Students at UMKC can learn in a positive, constructive atmosphere with many opportunities for interaction with faculty and upper-class students. If an environment conducive to learning and professional development is what you are looking for, UMKC is the place for you!

Applicants should have completed a bachelor's degree based on a program of courses with substantial intellectual content. Any course of study leading to an undergraduate degree will be sufficient for admission, as long as the emphasis was an intellectually demanding one that challenged the student to employ critical thinking skills and communicate effectively. Particularly helpful to law school study, however, are courses in history, political science, logic, debate, and language arts. Courses with a strong emphasis on writing are particularly encouraged in light of the crucial role effective writing plays both in law school and law practice.

As an alternative, students who have completed at least 90 acceptable hours of credit in an approved institution may be admitted, as long as they have completed all non-elective course work towards a bachelor’s degree. The student must also have made arrangements with the school that will award the degree to accept law school credits for the remainder of the work required to earn that degree, so that the student will earn the degree before obtaining the JD.

All applicants for admission must take the Law School Admission Test (LSAT). All undergraduate transcripts and two letters of recommendation must be sent to the Credential Assembly Service. The LSAT exam should be taken by February for fall admission. UMKC School of Law classes begin only in the fall.

Decision Factors

The School of Law restricts the number of students admitted each year to achieve a favorable faculty-student ratio providing the best possible legal education for each student enrolled. Because many more people apply to the law school than there are seats available, admission is highly competitive. While substantial weight is given to LSAT score and undergraduate GPA, the law school and its faculty believe that using factors in addition to the LSAT and GPA contribute to an intellectually stimulating and diverse environment. These factors, consistent with the university's values of diversity, inclusiveness, and respect, include racial, ethnic, cultural, gender, age, or other forms of diversity; triumphs over challenges and barriers based on societal discrimination or economic disadvantage; outstanding leadership qualities; serious and sustained commitment to significant public or community service; advanced or specialized educational achievements; accomplishments or qualities indicative of potential for contributing to scholarly and creative initiatives; and potential to provide high-quality legal services to clients.

Personal Statement

A résumé and personal statement must be attached to your application. The personal statement should help the committee get to know you and understand your strengths and motivations; and help it determine your likelihood for law school success and contributions you will make to our community of learners. If there are questions raised by the information in your application, the personal statement is a good place to provide answers or explanations. You may focus on one or more of the following: your motivation for law study; factors that demonstrate the likelihood of your success in law school (including an explanation of undergraduate or LSAT performance, as well as outstanding leadership and achievement); a description of how you have overcome deprivations based on societal discrimination or economic disadvantage; and how you will contribute to the class.

Letters of Recommendation

The University of Missouri--Kansas City requires two letters of recommendation. We prefer that these letters be from college professors who can attest to your ability to enter a competitive professional program. If you have been out of school for some time, letters from a work situation can be helpful.

You must use the Letter of Recommendation service provided by LSAC. This service is included in your Credential Assembly Service (CAS) registration. Follow the directions for submitting letters outlined on the LSAC website at www.LSAC.org.

International Students

If you are not a US Citizen, you must also complete the International Student Application which may be found at
Conversely, if you are registered as a Permanent Resident Alien, please attach a copy of your card to this application.

90 Hour Program

If you have not yet earned an undergraduate degree, you must have a letter from your undergraduate school confirming that it will accept credits earned from the UMKC School of Law to complete the undergraduate degree. See http://www1.law.umkc.edu/academic/Catalog.pdf for details.

Application Fee

A non-refundable $60 application processing fee paid via LSAC must accompany this application. Former degree-seeking UMKC students who attended starting Fall 1975 or later are not required to pay and should e-mail the Admissions Office at law@umkc.edu for an application fee waiver. No other fee waivers can be granted.
Application Type
Applying as:
_____ First-Year Student
_____ 90-Hour Student

Attending:
_____ Part Time
_____ Full Time

Biographical
Prefix: ____________________________  Date of Birth ____________________________
First Name: ________________________  Place of birth: City: ________________________
Middle Name: ________________________ Place of birth: Country ________________________
Last Name: __________________________ Place of birth: State/Province: ________________________
Suffix: _______________________________ Gender: _______________________________
Previous (other) name ________________________ Social security number ________________________
Preferred first name: ____________________ LSAC account number: ________________________

Contact Information
Current Address
Country ______________________________
Street address--line 1 ________________________
Street address--line 2 ________________________
Street address--line 3 ________________________
City _______________________________
State/province __________________________
Zip/postal code ________________________

Current address good until date ____________________
Day phone _________________________________
Evening phone ______________________________
Contact Information continued

Permanent Address

Country ____________________________  Permanent address good until date ________________

Street address--line 1 ____________________
Street address--line 2 ____________________
Street address--line 3 ____________________

City ________________________________
State/province _________________________
Zip/postal code _________________________

Day phone ______________________________
Evening phone __________________________

Other Contact Information

Primary e-mail __________________________
Secondary e-mail ________________________
Mobile phone ____________________________

University of Missouri--Kansas City School of Law can send text messages to my mobile phone

_____ Yes
_____ No

Family

1. Next of Kin/Emergency Contact

First (given) name ________________________
Middle name/initial _______________________
Last (family) name ________________________
Telephone (include area code) ______________

Country ________________________________
Street address--line 1 ____________________
Street address--line 2 ____________________
Street address--line 3 ____________________
City _________________________________
State/province __________________________
Zip/postal code _________________________
Family continued

2. If you have any close relatives who have been students at this university, please provide the following information.

Relative 1

First (given) name _____________________________
Middle name/initial _____________________________
Last (family) name _____________________________
Relationship to applicant _____________________________
School attended _____________________________
Start date (month/year) _____________________________
End date (month/year) _____________________________
Degree awarded _____________________________

Relative 2

First (given) name _____________________________
Middle name/initial _____________________________
Last (family) name _____________________________
Relationship to applicant _____________________________
School attended _____________________________
Start date (month/year) _____________________________
End date (month/year) _____________________________
Degree awarded _____________________________

3. Parent/Guardian - 1

_____ Deceased

First (given) name _____________________________
Middle name/initial _____________________________
Last (family) name _____________________________
Occupation _____________________________
Highest level of education _____________________________

Country _____________________________
Street address--line 1 _____________________________
Street address--line 2 _____________________________
Street address--line 3 _____________________________
City _____________________________
State/province _____________________________
Zip/postal code _____________________________

4. Parent/Guardian - 2

_____ Deceased

First (given) name _____________________________
Middle name/initial _____________________________
Last (family) name _____________________________
Occupation _____________________________
Highest level of education _____________________________

Country _____________________________
Street address--line 1 _____________________________
Street address--line 2 _____________________________
Street address--line 3 _____________________________
City _____________________________
State/province _____________________________
Zip/postal code _____________________________
Family Continued

Are you or your parents employed by the University of Missouri?

____ Yes
____ No

Did one or both of your parents graduate from college?

____ Yes
____ No

State of Residence

In what state do you claim legal residence?

__________________________________________

Do you, your spouse or either of your parents claiming you as a dependent for federal tax purposes, as of the date of this application operate a business in Missouri?

____ Yes
____ No

Do you, your spouse or either of your parents claiming you as a dependent for federal tax purposes, as of the date of this application pay Missouri income tax?

____ Yes
____ No

If you answered yes to question 2 or 3, please specify below:

__________________________________________

__________________________________________

Interest

How did you hear about UMKC School of Law?

__________________________________________

__________________________________________

__________________________________________
**Interest continued**

Have you ever applied to UMKC School of Law before?

____ Yes  
____ No  
If yes, when?  

**Undergraduate Degree**

Will you have earned an undergraduate degree before law school enrollment?

____ Yes  
____ No  
If no, you must have a letter from your undergraduate school confirming that it will accept credits earned from the UMKC School of Law to complete the undergraduate degree. See Application Instructions for details.

**Education**

List ALL educational institutions attended.

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<tr>
<th>Institution name</th>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>GPA</th>
<th>Date degree granted</th>
<th>Rank</th>
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Have you ever attended any law school?

___ Yes
___ No

Did you leave the law school in good standing?

___ Yes
___ No

Has your education in college, university, or professional school been interrupted for one term or more for any reason?

___ Yes
___ No
Education continued

List the academic honors, awards, or other recognitions you have received and explain the reason(s) upon which awards were made.

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

Standardized Testing

LSAT

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TOEFL

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Military

Have you served or are you now serving on full-time, active US military duty?

_____ Yes

_____ No

Date of entrance (month/year) ______________

Date of discharge (month/year) ______________

Rank ________________________________

Expected military reserve or National Guard status during law school

____________________________

Branch ____________________________

Discharge type ______________________
Military continued

Have you ever been separated from any branch of the US armed forces under less than honorable conditions?

____ Yes
____ No

If you have been separated from any branch of the US armed forces under less than honorable conditions, explain the circumstances.

__________________________________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Demographics

1. Citizenship

Citizenship

____ Non-Resident Alien
____ US Citizen
____ US Permanent Resident

Country of citizenship __________________________

Visa number ________________________________

Permanent resident number __________________

Country of citizenship __________________________

Permanent City ________________________________

Permanent city ________________________________

Permanent state/province ______________________

Permanent country ____________________________

2. Ethnicity

Are you Hispanic or Latino

____ Yes
____ No
Demographics continued

What is your race? Select one or more races to indicate what you consider yourself to be.

Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Australian
___ Aboriginal/Torres Strait Isl. Australian

American Indian or Alaska Native
___ American Indian/Alaskan Native

Asian
___ Asian

Black of African American
___ Black/African American

Canadian Aboriginal
___ Canadian Aboriginal

Caucasian/White
___ Caucasian/White

Hispanic/Latino
___ Hispanic/Latino

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
___ Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander

Puerto Rican
___ Puerto Rican

Consent
___ Decline to respond

Character and Fitness

If the answer to any of the following questions is yes, please attach a supplemental statement or electronic attachment accurately describing the incident, its resolution, and the dates. If you are unsure as to whether to make a disclosure, we encourage you to err on the side of disclosure. You should include everything except sealed juvenile adjudications.

Are you currently or have you ever been on academic suspension, academic probation or dismissed from any institution of learning?

___ Yes
___ No

Do you expect any criminal charges to be brought against you?

___ Yes
___ No
Character and Fitness continued

Have disciplinary charges ever been filed against you at any institution of learning or as a member of any profession or organization?

___ Yes
___ No

Have you ever been denied or had revoked a license or permit, the procurement of which required proof of good moral character (such as real estate broker; certified public accountant)?

___ Yes
___ No

Are there any criminal charges pending against you?

___ Yes
___ No

Are there any disciplinary charges that you expect to be brought against you at any institution of learning or as a member of any profession or organization?

___ Yes
___ No

Have you ever been convicted of or pled guilty to a crime other than minor traffic violations?

___ Yes
___ No

Certification

By electronically transmitting this application, I certify that the information provided is true and complete. I will notify the Office of Admissions of any additional information or changes arising at any time prior to my matriculation at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law.

I understand that any misstatement or omission in this application is grounds for denial or revocation of admission and just cause for suspension or dismissal from the Law School and may be reported to bar admission authorities. Your responses will likely be provided to the state bar admissions authorities when you apply for admission to the bar.

___ I acknowledge the above statement

UMKC School of Law finds that, at times, connecting admitted students with alums or other practicing lawyers and judges can be a helpful part of the admissions process. I authorize the release of my e-mail and current mailing address for this purpose.

___ Yes
___ No