



**OSGOODE HALL LAW SCHOOL
APPLICATION SUPPLEMENTAL FOR FIRST YEAR APPLICANTS
ADMISSION 2012**

NAME	OLSAS REF#	DATE
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Please staple this page to the front of your submission.

York Student Identification Number

If you have previously applied to Osgoode Hall Law School or another program at York University please provide the year of application and the York Student ID Number (optional).

First Year Admission Categories

General

The Committee on Admission will consider academic and LSAT results, significant achievements, and the ways in which barriers created by social inequality can stand between students with a demonstrated capacity and a legal education.

Aboriginal

Osgoode Hall Law School is concerned that members of the First Nation, and people of Inuit and Metis heritage do not have substantial representation in the legal profession and, accordingly, strongly encourage applications from these groups.

The Admissions Committee's decision to admit a candidate ultimately depends on its judgment of the candidate's ability to successfully complete law school. Applicants are required to show some connection to their Aboriginal community as part of the application.

Osgoode Hall Law School endorses the Program of Legal Studies for Native People at the University of Saskatchewan, which provides a "head-start" program during the summer preceding the first year of the LL.B. program.

At times the Committee may determine they have insufficient evidence to definitively decide whether an offer of admission can be made. In such a case, admission to Osgoode Hall Law School may be made conditional upon successful completion of this program. Applicants who are made a "non-conditional" offer are not required by Osgoode to complete the summer program at Saskatchewan as a condition of entry into first year. For more information about the Program of Studies for Native People, interested applicants are encouraged to write to The Native Law Centre at the University of Saskatchewan.

An Aboriginal Canadian applicant, who wishes to be considered under this policy rather than under general admission criteria, must apply through the Aboriginal category.

NOTE: Published minimum standards do not assure admission.

**First Year Program
Application**

Decisions are made on the basis of information present in the file at the time of review. Applicants are solely responsible for submitting a complete application.

1. You must provide an LSAT score and transcripts for all post-secondary programs of study attended.
2. If you have completed a university degree outside North America, or attended a private, non-accredited, university, you must submit a WES Evaluation (comprehensive course-by-course evaluation) with the transcript. Evaluation reports must include, a list of all subjects completed at the postsecondary level, a Canadian semester credit and grade equivalent for each course, a Canadian grade point average (GPA) based on a 4.0 Scale, and degree equivalency in terms of Canadian education. For more information please contact the Admissions Office directly.
3. You must complete the application Supplemental Information and Personal Statement portions of the application.
4. You must provide at least 2 current letters of reference (*can be academic, non-academic, or a combination of academic and non-academic*).
5. Aspects of your application will need to be verified. In your autobiographical sketch, you provided the names and contact information for the activities listed. In addition to these verifiers, you should provide, as necessary, medical documentation, proof of economic difficulties or of performance considerations. Letters from individuals with a precise knowledge of your circumstances as discussed in the personal statement are acceptable.
6. If you are applying through the Aboriginal category you should show connection to your Aboriginal community. Letters from individuals with a precise knowledge of your involvement in the community are acceptable.

The Supplemental Information and Personal Statement

Before answering question 1 (Part A), you should consider whether any of the considerations identified in Part B of the Personal Statement apply to you. These include,

- a) Equity
- b) Work or Life Experience
- c) Performance Considerations
- d) Diversity

In Part B you will be given the opportunity to elaborate on one or more of these considerations in a statement that is limited to 2,500 characters.

The purpose of the supplemental information and personal statement is to provide information to the Admissions Committee that will help it make an informed and thoughtful decision on your application.

I. Supplemental Information

If you are a mature student or you are citing a disability or English is not your first language, you must complete the supplemental information below in order for your application to be complete.

Are you a Mature Student?

- 26 years old (or older)
- Five years (or more) of non-academic experience (i.e., work experience)
- Less than two full years of university study or no university study

Note:

1. All three criteria must be satisfied.
2. When counting years of non-academic experience, include the years between completing secondary school and starting a full-time postsecondary program.
3. Age (26) and years of non-academic experience (5) are as of September 1, 2011.

Citing a Disability

Applicants citing a disability must provide corroborative documentation of the diagnosis and type of accommodation granted or required (documentation should be current).

Language Proficiency

Proof of language proficiency must be provided if one of the following criteria does not apply:

- Your first language is English; **or**
- You completed at least one year of full-time study at an accredited postsecondary institution in a country (or institution) where English is the official language of instruction.

All applicants must complete the Supplemental Information.

If applying to the first-year program and you received accommodation, please provide a letter stating the type of accommodation received.

II. Personal Statement Part A – Question 1

Discuss any significant personal, academic work experiences or career/life achievements that you feel are relevant to your application.

Some of the topics you may wish to include:

- a) Community leadership and involvement
- b) Academic leadership and involvement
- c) Advanced academic work
- d) Athletic activities

Personal Statement Part A – Question 2

Discuss your interest in legal education and how you see yourself using your law degree in the future.

III. Personal Statement Part B

Part B of the personal statement is optional and should only be answered if one or more of the considerations below apply to you. In order to answer this part you must first select the considerations that apply to you. You will then be given the opportunity to elaborate on these considerations in a statement that is limited to 2,500 characters. You may wish to expand upon your answers in Part A, or address new topics. All information that you provide will remain strictly confidential.

Considerations (select applicable considerations relevant to your application)

a) Equity

Equity factors relate to systemic barriers faced by candidates to equal access to educational opportunities.

Most often, barriers giving rise to equity concerns will take the form of substantial discrimination on grounds recognized in the Ontario Human Rights Code or Osgoode's Equality Resolution (race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, religion, political orientation, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, family status or disability).

Economic disadvantage is also an equity factor because it gives rise to systemic barriers to equal access to educational opportunities.

Examples of Candidate's Experiences:

- Growing up in family circumstances (related to, e.g., family size, level of parental education, quality of support or other factors) not conducive to educational achievement
- Growing up in a low-income community or household
- Living with physical, psychological, sensory or learning disabilities; overcoming substance abuse issues
- Required by economic circumstances to work substantial hours in paid employment while a full-time student
- Facing discrimination or other barriers to higher education because of your status as a recent immigrant to Canada
- Required by family and/or economic circumstances to undertake personal care-giving or other unpaid responsibilities

b) Work or Life Experience

For some applicants, work or life experience, rather than academic achievement, is the best indicator of their suitability and capacity for legal education. Candidates who, for example:

- did not pursue any post-secondary education, or
- have been out of an academic environment for many years, may wish to highlight the ways in which their experiences demonstrate that they possess the skills necessary to succeed in law school.

Examples of Candidate's Experiences :

- Achieving leadership roles at work
- Managing the demands of full-time parenting
- Overcoming personal adversities
- Demonstrated commitment to life-long learning
- Significant contributions to work or community, whether paid or unpaid

c) Performance Considerations

Performance considerations include circumstances or non-academic commitments that have negatively affected a portion of your academic performance.

Examples of Candidate's Experiences :

- Significant involvement in student government or high-level sports
- Significant health issues
- Illness or disruption or lack of accommodation for a disability that impeded LSAT performance
- Illness/death of a parent

d) Diversity

Diversity factors relate to Osgoode's aspiration to admit an entering class that is enriched by contributions from perspectives and experiences that fully reflect the diversity of the Canadian population.

Diversity factors include, and extend beyond, equity factors to include factors that may not be related to systemic barriers to equal access to education.

Particular attention will be paid to exceptional personal characteristics or experiences that are under-represented in the Osgoode student body, or in the legal profession.

Examples of Candidate's Experiences :

- Place of residence (e.g., where one lived as a child)
- Languages understood or spoken
- Cultural background
- Religious or conscientious beliefs
- Age
- Other special skills, talents or experiences that have produced a distinct intellectual perspective



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NAME OLSAS REF# DATE

York Student Identification Number
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PREVIOUS YEAR APPLIED YORK STUDENT NUMBER (if applicable)

All applicants must complete the Supplemental Information below and the Personal Statement. The Personal Statement consists of two parts, A and B. Part A must be completed by all applicants. Part B is optional.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Complete all applicable questions. If none of the questions apply to you, please check the space below.

None of the following apply to me

If you are a mature student or citing a disability or English is not your first language, you must complete the supplemental information below for your application to be complete.

Mature Students

Definition:

- (a) By September 1, 2012, you are at least 26 years of age, you will have completed at least 5 full years of non-academic / work experience (when counting non-academic years include only the time between finishing high school and starting post-secondary and the time following your completion of full-time post-secondary study.
Or,
(b) You are at least 26 years of age, you have completed less than 2 years of university or no university study; you will have completed a minimum of 5 years full-time non-academic / work experience by September 1, 2012.

Are you a Mature Student? Yes No

If your post-secondary education was delayed, please indicate the number of years between graduating high school and starting Post Secondary study. Years

Citing a Disability

Note: We require current corroborative documentation of the diagnosis and type of accommodation granted or required.

Briefly describe the nature of your disability?

In what year of academic study were you diagnosed? 1 2 3 4 Not applicable

Did you receive accommodation Yes No

If yes, specify the year(s) accommodation was granted (circle all that apply)

1 2 3 4 Not applicable

Did you seek accommodation for the LSAT?

Yes No

Were you granted accommodation on the LSAT?

Yes No

Language Proficiency

Proof of language proficiency must be provided if one of the following criteria does not apply:

- Your first language is English
- You completed at least one year of full-time study at an accredited post-secondary institution in a country (or institution) where English is the official language of instruction.

1. Have you written a language proficiency test: Yes No

2. If English is not your first language, indicate the total number of years you attended at an institution where English is the official language of instruction.

Name of Institution _____

Number of years attended _____



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PERSONAL STATEMENT

PART A

Part A of the personal statement requires you respond to two questions. You must respond to both questions (for more information on the questions, please refer to the instructions).

1. Discuss any significant personal, academic work experiences or career/life achievements that you feel are relevant to your application (limit for response is 2000 characters).

Some of the topics you may wish to include:

- a) Community leadership and involvement
- b) Academic leadership and involvement
- c) Advanced academic work
- d) Athletic activities

2. Discuss why you are interested in pursuing a legal education and how you see yourself using your law degree in the future (limit for response is 2000 characters)

Part B

Part B is a discussion of the considerations listed below. Before you proceed with a response you must select the considerations that will contribute to your discussion in Part B. The limit for Part B is 2,500 characters.

Considerations

Check the considerations that will be discussed in Part B of your Personal Statement (Please refer to the instructions for detailed information about each consideration before you begin).

- ___ Equity
- ___ Work or Life Experience
- ___ Performance Considerations
- ___ Diversity
- ___ Not Applicable

Elaborate on the considerations you have selected. All information that you provide will remain strictly confidential. The limit for the response is 2,500 characters.