

LSAT 101

A blurred background image of a desk setup. On the desk, there is a laptop, a black pen lying horizontally, and a pair of black-rimmed glasses resting on a book or document. The background is out of focus, showing what appears to be a window with a view of greenery.

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Agenda

- Test Facts & Format
- Application Timeline
- How to Prep
- Resources



Test Facts

Where to register: www.lsac.org

Test Cost: \$248

Changing a Test Date:

Free until the registration deadline; Get some money back if you change it within 10 more days, no money back if you change it later than that

Retaking:

Up to five times within 5 years; up to 7 times total.

Scores Valid for 5 years

Score Preview:

Option available to see your score and have 6 days to decide whether to cancel for \$45 (\$85 if you purchase it after taking your exam but before scores are released)

Where to Test

At Home



OR

At a Prometric Center



Mac/PC Laptop or Desktop

(with camera and microphone)

Windows, TV screens must be covered.

Room must not have floor to ceiling windows

Loaner laptops can be checked out from
UW Libraries

In cubicles, on a desktop computer

Prometric in Madison

1721 Thierer Rd (near East Towne Mall)

***Proctoring & Internet Connection
may be more stable here***

Changes to the test in recent years

- NO MORE PAPER TESTS *
- NO MORE LOGIC GAMES

*unless you have an accommodation the
requires this



What's a Logic Game?

Questions 12–16

A town has exactly two public parks—Graystone Park and Landing Park—which are to be planted with North American trees. There are exactly four varieties of trees available—maples, oaks, sycamores, and tamaracks. The planting of the trees must be in accord with the following:

Each of the parks is planted with exactly three of the varieties. At least one of the parks is planted with both maples and sycamores.

Any park that is planted with oaks will also be planted with tamaracks.

Graystone Park is planted with maples.

RETIRED

12. Which one of the following could be a complete and accurate list of the varieties of trees planted in each of the parks?

- (A) Graystone Park: maples, oaks, sycamores
Landing Park: maples, oaks, sycamores
- (B) Graystone Park: maples, oaks, tamaracks
Landing Park: maples, oaks, tamaracks
- (C) Graystone Park: maples, sycamores, tamaracks
Landing Park: maples, oaks, sycamores
- (D) Graystone Park: maples, sycamores, tamaracks
Landing Park: maples, oaks, tamaracks
- (E) Graystone Park: oaks, sycamores, tamaracks

What's Logical Reasoning?

2 scored sections

The supernova event of 1987 is interesting in that there is still no evidence of the neutron star that current theory says should have remained after a supernova of that size.

This is in spite of the fact that many of the most sensitive instruments ever developed have searched for the tell-tale pulse of radiation that neutron stars emit. Thus, current theory is wrong in claiming that supernovas of a certain size always produce neutron stars.

Which one of the following, if true, most strengthens the argument?

- A. Most supernova remnants that astronomers have detected have a neutron star nearby.
- B. Sensitive astronomical instruments have detected neutron stars much farther away than the location of the 1987 supernova.
- C. The supernova of 1987 was the first that scientists were able to observe in progress.
- D. Several important features of the 1987 supernova are correctly predicted by the current theory.
- E. Some neutron stars are known to have come into existence by a cause other than a supernova explosion.

What's Reading Comprehension?

African American painter Sam Gilliam (b. 1933) is internationally recognized as one of the foremost painters associated with the Washington Color School, a group of Color Field style painters practicing in Washington, D.C. during the 1950s and 1960s. The Color Field style was an important development in abstract art that emerged after the rise of abstract expressionism. It evolved from complex and minimally representational abstractions in the 1950s to totally nonrepresentational, simplified works of bright colors in the 1960s.

Gilliam's participation in the Color Field movement was motivated in part by his reaction to the art of his African American contemporaries, much of which was strictly representational and was intended to convey explicit political statements. Gilliam found their approach to be aesthetically conservative: the message was unmistakable, he felt, and there was little room for the expression of subtlety or ambiguity or, more importantly, the exploration of new artistic territory through experimentation and innovation. For example, one of his contemporaries worked with collage, assembling disparate bits of images from popular magazines into loosely structured compositions that depicted the period's political issues—themes such as urban life, the rural South, and African American music. Though such art was quite popular with the general public, Gilliam was impatient with its straightforward, literal approach to representation. In its place he sought an artistic form that was more expressive than a painted figure or a political slogan, more evocative of the complexity of human experience in general, and of the African American experience in particular. In this he represented a view that was then rare among African American artists.

1. In the passage, the author is primarily concerned with
 - describing the motivation behind and nature of an artist's work
 - describing the political themes that permeate an artist's work
 - describing the evolution of an artist's style over a period of time
 - demonstrating that a certain artist's views were rare among African American artists
 - demonstrating that a certain artist was able to transcend his technical limitations

1 scored section

Experimental Section

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1 unscored section

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Logical Reasoning

OR

Reading Comp.

LSAT Timing

Current LSAT

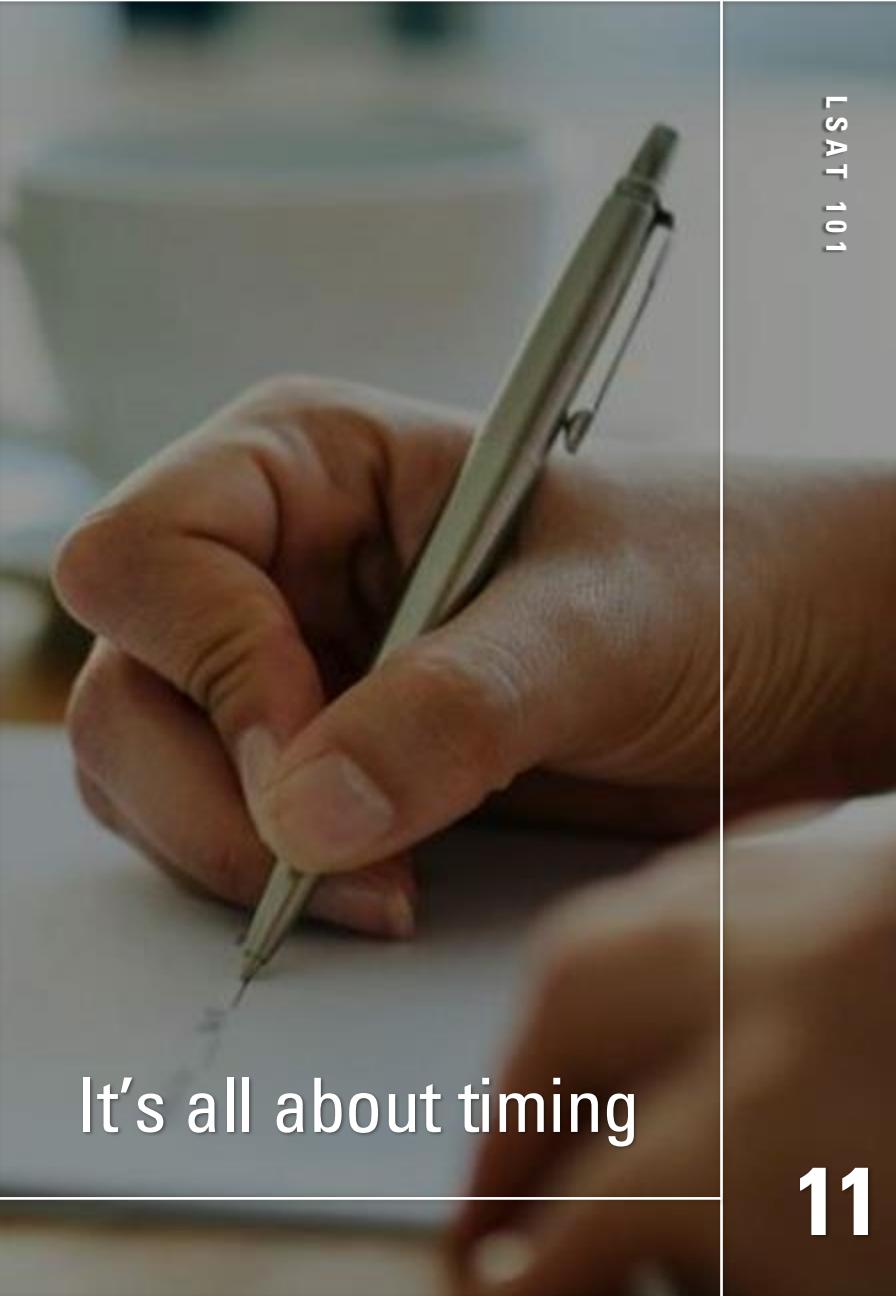
1 Reading Comprehension (RC) Section	26-28 questions	35 min
2 Logical Reasoning (LR) Sections	24-26 questions	35 min 35 min
1 Experimental Section (Unscored RC or LR)	(see above)	35 min
1 Argumentative Writing Section (Not scored but provided to Law Schools)	1 essay	50 min (15 mins prewriting/ 35 minutes writing)

There will also be one 10-minute break between sections 2 and 3.

Which LSAT date should I take?



It's all about timing



LSAT Test Dates

Administration	Primary test dates	LSAT Argumentative Writing opens	Registration deadline *	Scheduling opens **	Score release
January 2026	1/7/2026 1/8/2026 1/9/2026 1/10/2026	12/30/2025	11/28/2025	12/18/2025	1/28/2026
February 2026	2/6/2026 2/7/2026	1/29/2026	12/23/2025	1/20/2026	2/25/2026
April 2026	4/9/2026 4/10/2026 4/11/2026	4/1/2026	2/26/2026	3/24/2026	4/29/2026
June 2026	6/3/2026 6/4/2026 6/5/2026 6/6/2026	5/26/2026	4/21/2026	5/19/2026	6/24/2026

Test Date Timing



Blue = LSAT available this month
Gray = No LSAT expected that month

LSAT Study Strategy

How do I prep?

The LSAT is a skills-based exam you must TRAIN for

- You should NOT take the official test just to see how you would do
- **Attempting to cram for the LSAT in a month or two will NOT produce a score that best represents you**
- Mental / Emotional state has a big impact on performance, so you need to be practicing good self care while preparing

How Long Should I Study?

10-15 hours/week for 3-6 months

180 hours on average

What to use? Books? Courses?



Different people prefer different LSAT prep resources.

We have seen applicants be successful with different study modalities.

What do you know about yourself as a learner?

LSAC LawHub
lawhub.org**Official Free Test Prep**

Online at your own pace

Good start, usually not enough

CPLA LSAT Workshop:
Kick off self prep or jump start prep before a full course

Online Self Paced Courses
(ex. 7Sage, LSAT Demon, LSAT Lab, Magoosh)

Live In Person or Live Online

Classes (ex. Blueprint, Powerscore, Kaplan, Testmasters, Princeton Review, LSAT Demon, 7 Sage)

Tutoring

Online or In Person

FREE

\$100

\$199+
(or Monthly \$69+)

\$700+

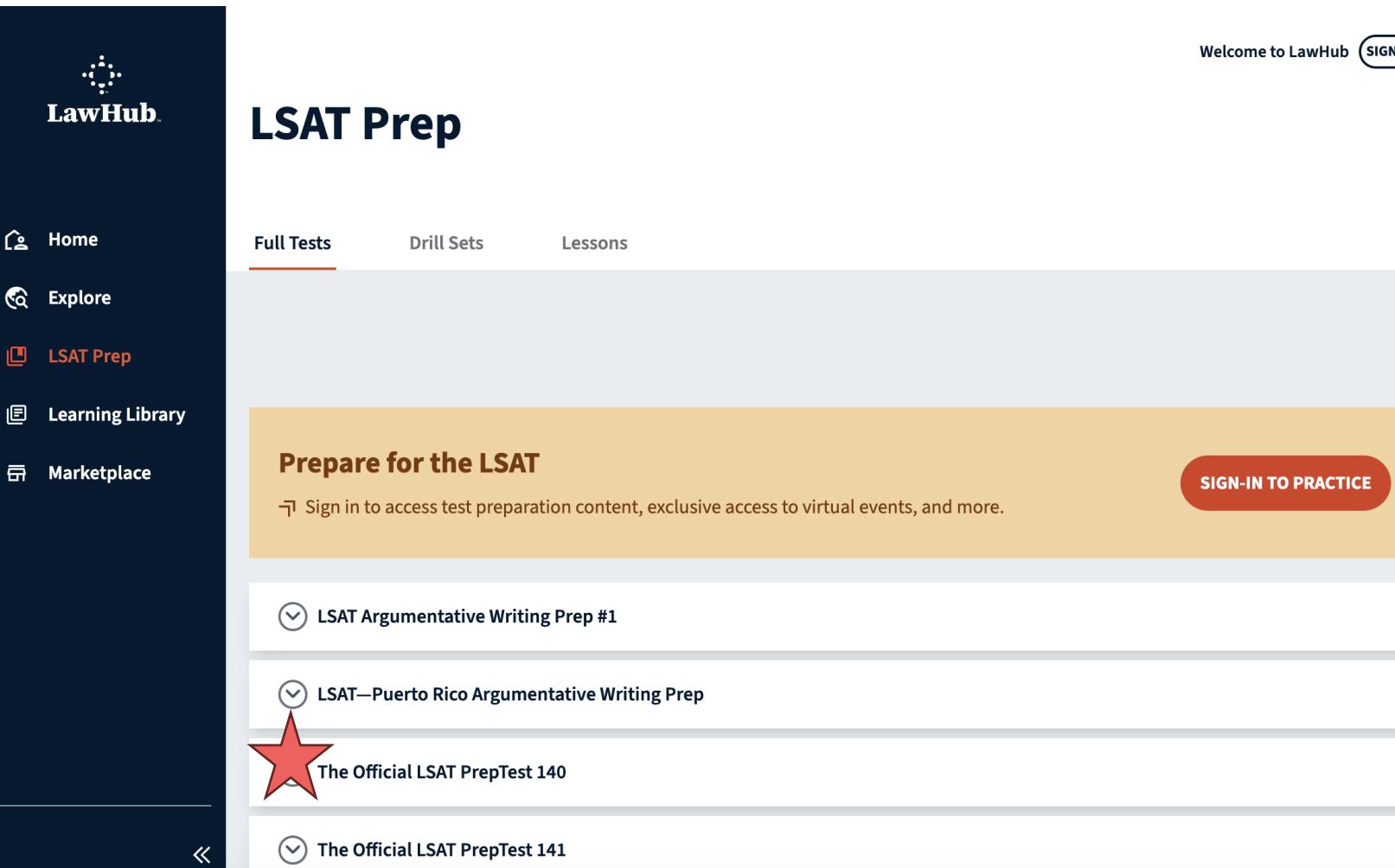
\$1000+

\$100-\$200/hr is common for tutoring
May find cheaper tutors on Wzyant

LSAT Prep Course Options

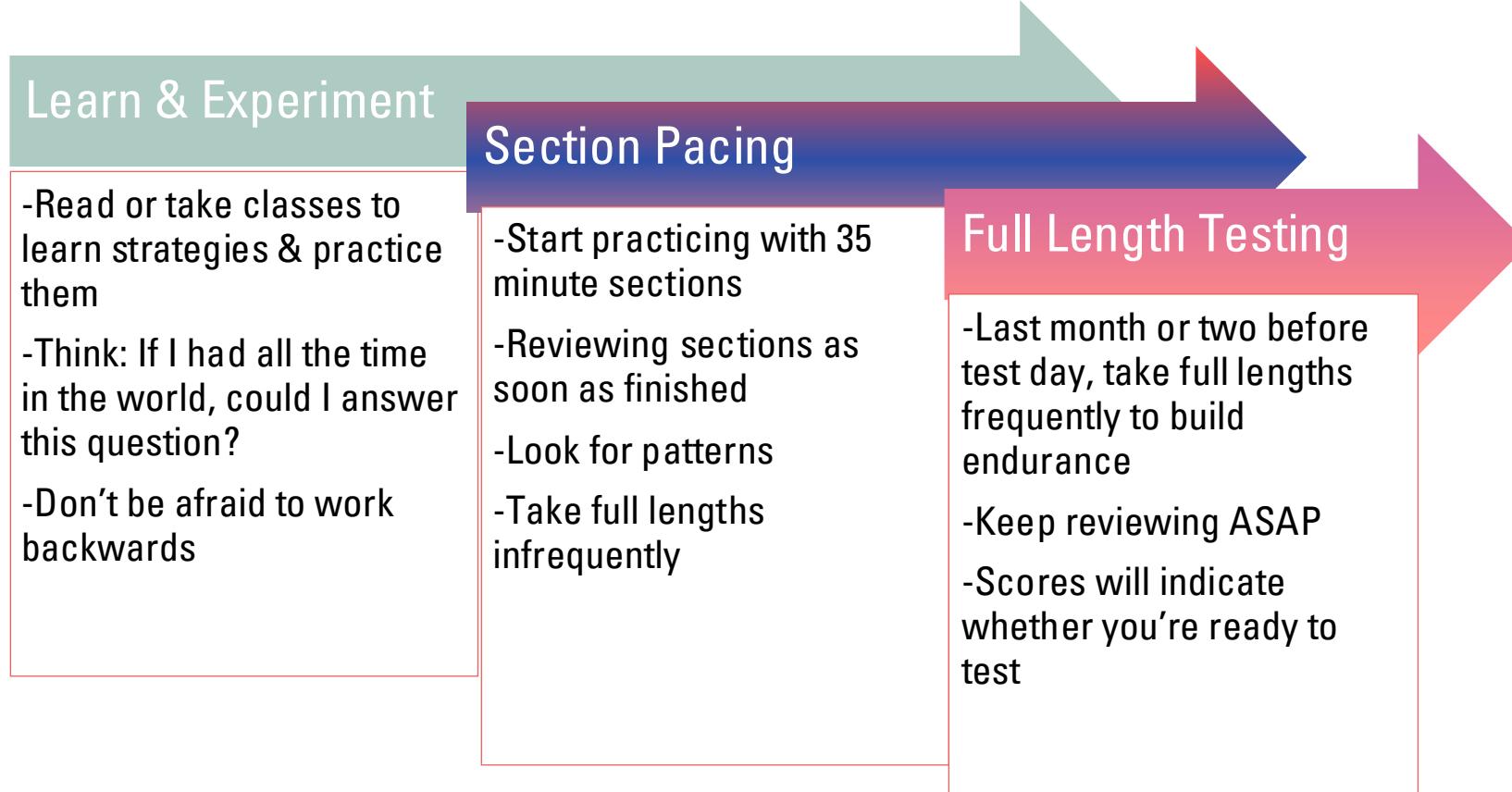
How do I start?

Very first step: Take a full length LSAT cold
using Lawhub, a prep book, or a test prep company



The screenshot shows the LawHub LSAT Prep section. The left sidebar has a dark blue background with the LawHub logo at the top. Below it are five menu items: Home, Explore, LSAT Prep (which is highlighted in orange), Learning Library, and Marketplace. The main content area has a white background. At the top, there are three navigation tabs: Full Tests (which is underlined in red), Drill Sets, and Lessons. To the right of these tabs is a "Welcome to LawHub" message and a "SIGN-IN" button. Below this is a large orange banner with the text "Prepare for the LSAT" and a "SIGN-IN TO PRACTICE" button. Underneath the banner, there are four test prep options, each with a downward arrow icon: "LSAT Argumentative Writing Prep #1", "LSAT—Puerto Rico Argumentative Writing Prep", "The Official LSAT PrepTest 140" (which is marked with a red star), and "The Official LSAT PrepTest 141".

How do I structure self studying?



Typical duration of LSAT study: 10-15 hours/week for 3-6 months

Resources



Financial Support,
Free Practice Materials



Applications can be expensive

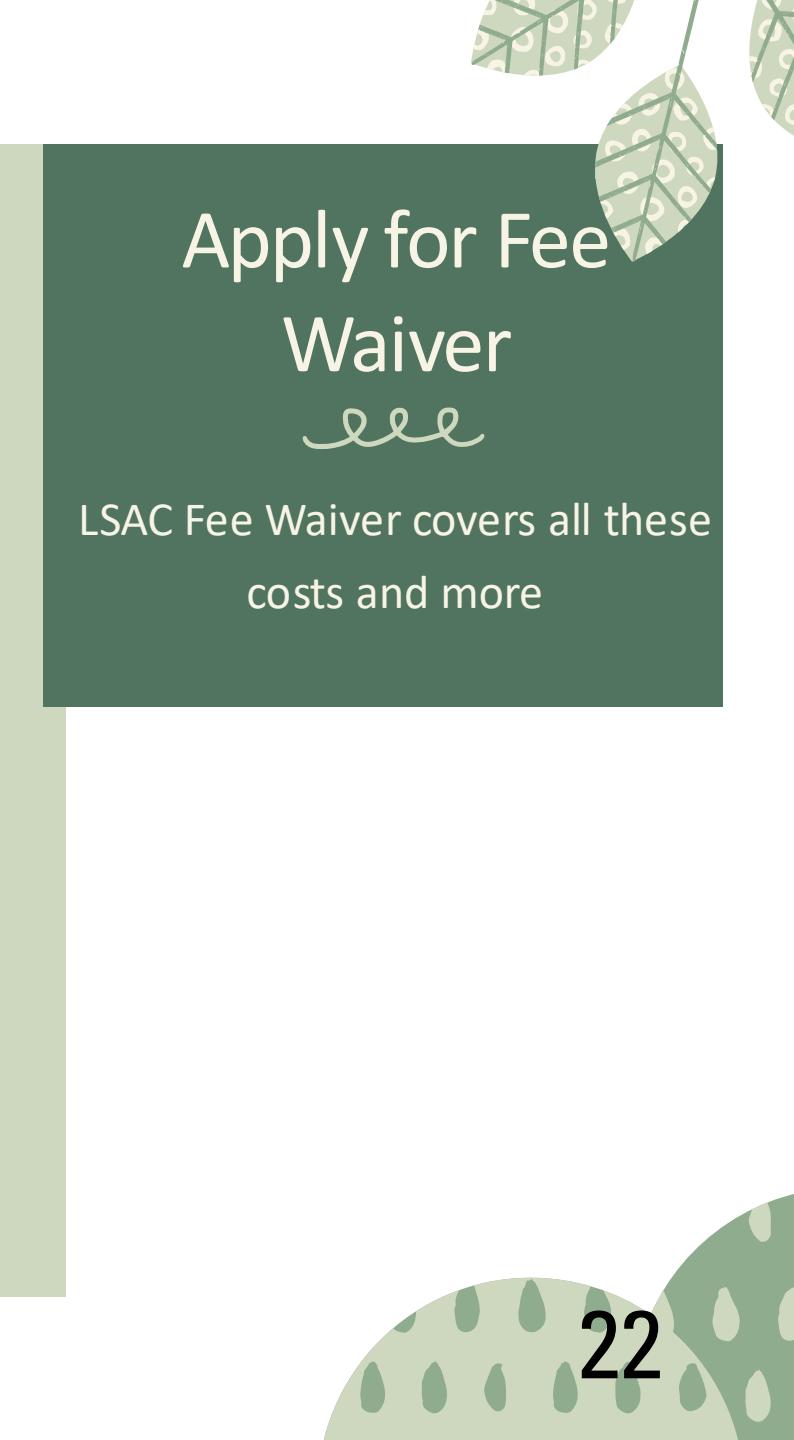
\$248 LSAT registration fee

\$45 or \$85 LSAT Score Preview

\$120/yr Practice Tests (LawHub Advantage)

\$215 CAS Account to Apply to Schools

\$45/ea Send your score to schools



Apply for Fee Waiver

LSAC Fee Waiver covers all these
costs and more

LSAC Fee Waiver

Test takers who qualify for the LSAC fee waiver get:

- Free LSAT administration & LSAT writing
- Free Score Preview
- Free CAS (Credential Assembly Service account to apply to law schools)
- Sending scores (CAS Reports) to a certain number of schools for free
- Free access to all the previously released exams from the LSAC
- **Free/\$1 LSAT courses (online with all digital practice tests)**

Contact company with proof of waiver ex. 7 Sage

[List of companies and whether they offer a fee waiver here](#)

Official Practice Tests

LSAC

lawhub.lsac.org

Create a free account to access this resource

Free: 4 Preptests (140, 141, 157, 158)

OR

\$120/year: LawHub Advantage all other released exams

Must purchase this when taking a commercial course

Campus Resources

- **CPLA LSAT Workshop** \$100 (Free scholarships for those with financial need)
 - Offered fall, spring, and summer
- **Pre Law Student Orgs**
 - Form study groups
 - May offer prep discounts
- **Campus Libraries**
 - Laptop Checkout from UW Libraries
 - Prep Books most likely will be for the old LSAT
 - College Library rooms **2191B, 2191C, 2191D** can be reserved for testing (**not** 2191A)
- **Advising:** CPLA advisors can help UW-Madison students and alumni with
 - Choosing a Test Date
 - Deciding if you are ready to test or should postpone
 - Deciding to retest



Center for Pre-Law Advising

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Find us on socials



@uwpelawcenter

Questions?

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