LAW SCHOOL APPLICATION CALENDAR FOR STUDENTS INTENDING TO ATTEND LAW SCHOOL IN THE FALL OF 2014

This particular calendar is geared toward students who are beginning their senior year at Bradley and intend to apply for admission to law school for the Fall of 2014. You will find the process of applying to law school much less challenging if you plan in advance and keep accurate records.

December 2012-June 2013

1. If you have not already done so, schedule an advising appointment with Nicole Meyer Director of the Pre-Law Center.
   a. Before doing so, fill out the Pre-Law Information Sheet (provided in separate link on the Applying to Law School tab) and return to the Pre-Law Center, 239, or via e-mail, ndmeyer@fsmail.bradley.edu.
   b. Initial advising appointments typically last at least 30 minutes. Be prepared to discuss any planning or research that you have done up until that point, including a list of law schools that you may already be considering.

2. Research several law schools that interest you, and note their application deadlines. Prepare a list of law schools you are interested in attending. Visit www.LSAC.org for links to law school websites or write to law schools for catalogs and applications. Printed materials for most law schools are also available for viewing in the Pre-Law Center student resource room. Take into consideration major factors such as likelihood of admission, geographic location, financial issues and any special programs offered by particular law schools.

3. The ABA-LSAC Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools is available for viewing in the Pre-Law Center. This is a good objective resource for information on law schools throughout the country, and contains very detailed admissions profiles for many schools. You may order your own copy of this publication online at www.LSAC.org.

4. Visit and register with www.LSAC.org to learn how to register for the Law School Admissions Test. Please remember to check YES to authorize LSAC to release your information to your Pre-Law Advisor. This will help provide accurate statistics to future law school applicants from Bradley University. If you checked no initially, you can edit your account to authorize the release of information.

5. If you have not already done so, register with CAS (Credential Assembly Service).

6. If you have not yet taken the LSAT, and plan to do so in June, register for the LSAT by the date indicated on http://www.lsac.org/LSAT/test-dates-deadlines.asp. Late registration dates and information regarding registering for the LSAT in October, December or February can also be found at http://www.lsac.org/LSAT/test-dates-deadlines.asp. Late registration with an additional fee has a receipt deadline of approximately one week later. If you cannot register online, call the LSAC’s Candidate Service Representative at 215.968.1001.

7. Prepare for the LSAT. Sample practice tests are available in the Pre-Law Center and may be requested from the Director, Nicole Meyer. Sample questions and practice tests are also available in commercial preparation guides, which can be found in the Bradley University Bookstore as well as other book retailers. Additional practice materials may be ordered from www.lsac.org. Many students take a commercial preparation course. You should allow six months time to study for the LSAT.

8. Request applications from law schools.

9. Take note of any upcoming events that are law school related (Professional School Fair, ABA Law School Forum) and make plans to attend.
July 2013 –October 2013

1. Take the LSAT in October if you have not already done so.

2. Order Bradley University transcript from the Registrar. Also order transcripts from all other undergraduate and graduate schools you may have attended. Have transcript(s) sent to CAS using online forms. Refer to www.lsac.org for more information.

3. Continue preparing for the LSAT.

4. Read each law school application carefully and determine what materials and references are required. Some law schools require a dean’s form (college questionnaire or certification). Determine if you must provide a dean’s form for each educational institution attended (undergraduate and graduate) or from your degree-granting undergraduate institution only.

5. Review the CAS Letters of Reference section to learn your options regarding general and/or school specific, targeted letters.

6. Allow your recommenders ample time to complete their evaluations by the required deadlines. Note any specific directions for submitting letters of reference to LSAC.

7. Work on your personal statement/essay. The Director of the Pre-Law Center is available to read drafts and make suggestions.

8. Attend any law school related events both on and off campus. Take advantage of opportunities to get advice from law school representatives and others who can answer questions about the application process in general as well as specific law schools.

October 2013-November 2013

1. Approximately three weeks after you take the LSAT, the CAS will e-mail your LSAT report to you, reflecting your most recent test result as well as the results of any previous tests for which you registered in the last five years.

2. Complete and submit applications as soon as possible after you receive your LSAT score. Many schools start reviewing applications on a rolling basis in early November, so getting your application early can work to your advantage.

3. Check the status of your CAS file online to be sure that all of your academic transcripts have been received and that the CAS summary report on you is complete. Check the biographical and academic information carefully and report and inaccuracies to the CAS immediately.

4. Order CAS reports through your LSAC report as needed. Be sure that each law school receives a CAS report; you will need to order one per school.

5. If for some reason you were unable to take the October LSAT, register for the December exam. If you are considering retaking the LSAT in December, note that the time between the October and December administrations of the test may not permit you to receive your fall scores before December test registration deadlines.
November 2013-December 2013

1. Many law schools send acknowledgements when your file is complete. If you have not received an acknowledgement within nine to ten weeks from the time the application should have been received, inquire about the status, and address any problems.

2. Focus on preparing for final exams.

January 2014

1. Undergraduates should send seventh semester grades to the CAS. If your file is active, CAS will send an updated report to the law schools.

2. Complete a free application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This form is necessary to receive federal financial aid in law school.

February 2014-April 2014

1. Acceptances and rejections will begin to arrive, although some schools with rolling admissions may notify you of your status earlier, depending on when you applied. When you begin to receive these decisions, please keep the Director of the Pre-Law Center, Nicole Meyer, advised.

2. If possible, visit schools you are seriously considering.

3. Once you make a final decision, notify all other law schools that you are withdrawing your application.

4. Pay attention to deposit deadlines. If you find that you are waiting for a response from one school and a non-refundable deposit deadline is approaching from another school, contact the law school with the deadline. Some law schools will extend the deposit deadline for you.

5. If you are on the waitlist at your first choice school, make sure you have placed a deposit to hold your seat at another law school you are considering attending.

6. Order a final transcript from the Registrar’s Office (showing graduation date) to be sent to the law school you will attend.

May 2014-June 2014

1. Please fill out and return survey form e-mailed to you from the Pre-Law Center.

2. Keep the Pre-Law Center updated on your current contact information, so that we can keep you advised of legal career related events and networking opportunities with other alumni and legal professionals.