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**First-year Admission Categories and Streams**

There are 3 admission categories: General, Mature and Indigenous. There is 1 additional application stream for Black applicants.

General Applicants

The majority of applications are made in the General category. In this category, you must have successfully completed at least 3 years of full-time undergraduate study (or equivalent) of an approved course by the end of May in the year of entry.

Mature Applicants

You must have at least 5 complete years of non-academic experience (that is, experience outside of full-time study) by September of the year of entry to apply as a Mature applicant. With growing numbers of excellent applications in recent years, admission through the Mature category is virtually as competitive as the General category.

Indigenous Applicants

Indigenous people, including those of First Nations (status and non-status), Inuit and Métis heritage, represent unique groups in Canada and are given special consideration when applying to the Faculty of Law. We strongly encourage Indigenous applications.

Current Indigenous students, the Indigenous Students' Association Faculty Advisor, the Manager, Indigenous Initiative Office, and the Assistant Dean, JD Program, are delighted to speak with prospective Indigenous students about life at the law school. Email the JD Admissions Office to arrange an introduction.

Indigenous applicants are requested to outline in their personal statement their interest in, identification with, and connection to their communities.

Black Applicants

In addition to choosing an admission category (General, Mature or Indigenous), Black candidates are encouraged to self-identify and, for first-year or transfer admission, select the U of T Black Student Application Process (BSAP).

This application stream is an important part of our commitment to ensuring that legal education is accessible to talented students from all segments of Canadian society and that the legal profession represents the diverse communities that lawyers serve.

Select BSAP in the School Submissions section of your application.

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**University of Toronto**

Quick Links

* [First-year Admission Categories and Streams](https://www.ouac.on.ca/apply/olsas/en_CA/help/index/currentController/pageHelp/key/prefix%3Ahelp_controller%3Asubmissions_action%3Aquestion_subject%3ApageHelpTRNTO#categories)
* [Previous Year Applied](https://www.ouac.on.ca/apply/olsas/en_CA/help/index/currentController/pageHelp/key/prefix%3Ahelp_controller%3Asubmissions_action%3Aquestion_subject%3ApageHelpTRNTO#previous)
* [Personal Statement](https://www.ouac.on.ca/apply/olsas/en_CA/help/index/currentController/pageHelp/key/prefix%3Ahelp_controller%3Asubmissions_action%3Aquestion_subject%3ApageHelpTRNTO#statement)
* [Optional Essay](https://www.ouac.on.ca/apply/olsas/en_CA/help/index/currentController/pageHelp/key/prefix%3Ahelp_controller%3Asubmissions_action%3Aquestion_subject%3ApageHelpTRNTO#essay)
* [Supporting Document Submission for the Black Student Application Process (BSAP) Stream](https://www.ouac.on.ca/apply/olsas/en_CA/help/index/currentController/pageHelp/key/prefix%3Ahelp_controller%3Asubmissions_action%3Aquestion_subject%3ApageHelpTRNTO#bsap)
* [Supporting Document Submission for Mature and NCA Applicants](https://www.ouac.on.ca/apply/olsas/en_CA/help/index/currentController/pageHelp/key/prefix%3Ahelp_controller%3Asubmissions_action%3Aquestion_subject%3ApageHelpTRNTO#mature-nca)
* [Supporting Document Submission for Transfer and Letter of Permission Applicants](https://www.ouac.on.ca/apply/olsas/en_CA/help/index/currentController/pageHelp/key/prefix%3Ahelp_controller%3Asubmissions_action%3Aquestion_subject%3ApageHelpTRNTO#transfer-lop)

Do not cut and paste your responses into the application from a word processing program (e.g., Microsoft Word).

If you use a word processing program (e.g., Microsoft Word), cut, then paste your text as unformatted text (instead of rich-text format). Then, check your text for characters that may not have rendered properly, such as apostrophes, dashes or hyphens, accents and other symbols and special characters.

[Review which special characters can be used in the OLSAS school submissions](https://www.ouac.on.ca/faq/accepted-characters-school-submissions/).

First-year Admission Categories and Streams

There are 3 admission categories: General, Mature and Indigenous. There is 1 additional admission stream for Black candidates.

General Applicants

The majority of applications are made in the General category. In this category, you must have successfully completed at least 3 years of full-time undergraduate study (or equivalent) of an approved course, leading to a degree at a recognized university, by the end of May in the year of entry.

Mature Applicants

You must have at least 5 complete years (that may not be consecutive) of non-academic experience (experience outside of full-time study) by September of the year of entry to apply as a Mature applicant. With growing numbers of excellent applications in recent years, admission through the Mature category is virtually as competitive as the General category.

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This application stream is an important part of our commitment to ensuring that legal education is accessible to talented students from all segments of Canadian society and that the legal profession represents the diverse communities that lawyers serve.

Select BSAP in the School Submissions section of your application.

Previous Year Applied

**University of Toronto Student Identification Number**

If you have previously applied to any program (law or non-law) at the University of Toronto and know your UofT Student ID Number, you must provide it even if you did not enroll at the university.

If you are unable to provide the UofT Student ID Number, the year you applied will be sufficient.

Personal Statement

First-year Applicants

The Admissions Committee does not conduct interviews. For this reason, you are required to submit a Personal Statement and are encouraged to provide an Optional Essay.

Use these documents to highlight your academic, personal and professional accomplishments, and share with the Committee a more 3-dimensional picture of yourself and your vision for your legal education at the University of Toronto.

The Personal Statement (maximum 5,000 characters) is part of the OLSAS application. The context of the Personal Statement is not prescribed; however, we encourage you to use the Personal Statement to share your story with the Admissions Committee.

You may wish to outline the following in the Personal Statement:

* How your identity, background and experiences will contribute to the diversity of the law school.
* Your choice of undergraduate program and institution.
* The extent to which it has prepared you for studying law.
* As warranted, any anomalies in your academic record, including false starts, fewer than 5 courses over 2 terms and introductory courses taken in third or fourth year of a program.

The Personal Statement is also an opportunity to highlight your non-academic accomplishments and any circumstances that may have contributed to, or detracted from, your academic and non-academic success, such as the response to disadvantage due to adverse personal or socio-economic circumstances or to barriers faced by cultural (including racial and ethnic) or linguistic minorities, and the impact of temporary or permanent disabilities and/or health conditions.

You may want to write to the Committee about the different ways you see yourself contributing to the law school and legal community.

Indigenous Applicants

You are strongly encouraged to outline your interest in, identification with and connection to your community in your Personal Statement.

Transfer and Letter of Permission

You are required to submit a Personal Statement.

If you have any questions, email the JD Admissions Office.

Optional Essay

The Optional Essay (maximum 2,500 characters) is part of the OLSAS application. You should use your essay to provide additional personal information. Submit 1 essay that addresses (if not already addressed in the Personal Statement) one of these topics:

* A meaningful intellectual experience
* A vision of your future goals
* How you overcame obstacles to achievement
* How your identity, background and experiences will contribute to the diversity of the law school

Supporting Document Submission for the Black Student Application Process (BSAP) Stream

First-year and Transfer Applicants

You must submit admission materials as per the core JD admission process including the mandatory Personal Statement. If you wish, you may also submit the Optional Essay.

For BSAP, you must submit the following additional materials by the established application deadlines of November 1, 2025, for first-year admission and May 1, 2026, for transfer admission:

1. Self identification as Black via the OLSAS application in the School Submissions section.
2. The UofT Law BSAP Essay highlighting why you have chosen to apply through this application stream. This essay must be 2,500 characters or less. You submit the essay via the OLSAS application in the School Submissions section. Describe your strengths and accomplishments, vision for your own legal education and tell your story. There is no template to follow to express and describe yourself. Sample topics include describing why you chose the BSAP stream, writing on an issue that you feel is important to the Black community or sharing your motivations and inspirations. Whether you choose to use or reference any of these topics, you should relate what you write about to a legal issue and/or the study/practice of law.

Supporting Document Submission for Mature and NCA Applicants

Use Secure Applicant Messaging (SAM) in the OLSAS application to upload these documents:

* **Mature applicants:** A current resumé.
* **NCA applicants:** A copy of your official NCA assessment, the results of all NCA exams taken and a written note specifying if you intend to take, or not take, any NCA exams before enrolling in the law school.

Supporting Document Submission for Transfer and Letter of Permission Applicants

Your current law school is to submit these documents directly to OLSAS:

* **Transfer applicants:** A letter indicating you are in good standing and have not been subject to any disciplinary actions, including academic and student code of conduct actions.
* **Letter of Permission applicants:** A letter of permission and a letter indicating you are in good standing and have not been subject to any disciplinary actions, including academic and student code of conduct actions.