



**SHOULD YOU GO TO
LAW SCHOOL OR
BUSINESS SCHOOL?**

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So, you've started thinking about graduate school. You have analytical skills, writing abilities, and strong communications that can help you either thrive in business or take it to the legal field and get a JD. How do you decide whether you should attend law school or business school? It's not an easy decision. To help with your brainstorm, we've included 60 questions below so that you can determine which field is right for you.

LAW SCHOOL:

1. Do you have good academic standing (3.5 GPA or above)?
2. If you don't have a strong GPA, do you have full-time work experience?
3. Have you taken the LSAT?
4. If you have, it is a high LSAT score?
5. Would you be able to handle piles of reading and writing assignments?
6. Have you worked in a position at a legal office? Did you enjoy it?
7. Do you have experience working with people?
8. Has your work experience helped you build your reading and writing skills?
9. Do you have a significant amount of money saved for tuition?
10. Are you interested in legal, justice, economic, or social issues?
11. Is attending law school necessary for your ideal career path?
12. Do you know which areas of law interest you?
13. Are you particularly passionate about legal issues in a certain profession that you've worked in?
14. Is there another career you would be happier pursuing?
15. Are you good at making arguments?
16. Do you have a compelling reason behind pursuing a JD that you can elaborate on in an essay?
17. Would your personal statement help you stand out from the rest of the candidates?
18. Can you write a strong response to the [law school diversity statement](#)?
19. Does the idea of writing the personal statement about your interest in law discourage you from this path?

20. Is going to law school your dream or your parents' dream for you?
21. Have you put careful consideration in becoming a lawyer?
22. Is it just a childhood dream that you might not be prepared for?
23. Are you only considering law school because you don't know what else to pursue?
24. Are you only pursuing this route because a professor suggested it?
25. Have you participated in and enjoyed law-related activities such as a law review or mock trial?
26. Do your extracurriculars only consist of common clubs such as debate and Model UN?
27. Have you gone beyond typical activities to demonstrate your commitment to the field?
28. Do you have a quirky or unusual interest that can help your application stand out?
29. Have you conducted research relevant to the legal field? Did you like it?
30. Have you done any volunteer work in a legal setting? Did you enjoy it?

BUSINESS SCHOOL:

1. How many years have you taken off after college?
2. Have you led any significant projects at work?
3. Are you already thriving at work without a business degree?
4. Are you an entrepreneur, or would like the skill set to become one?
5. If you've started your own business, is it doing well?
6. Are you ready to go back to school?
7. Would you enjoy studying economics, finance, and marketing extensively?
8. How is your GMAT score?
9. Are you happy with your current income?
10. Would an MBA help you switch to another industry you're passionate about?
11. Do you require an MBA for a promotion you've always wanted?
12. What skills do you have that might prove useful in a business setting?

13. Do you only want to pursue an MBA for the money?
14. What are you hoping to accomplish as a result of going to business school?
15. Can you afford to leave the workforce for 3 years?
16. Do you have significant work experience?
17. Have you worked at a consulting firm? Did you enjoy it?
18. Do you have other interests and could do without business school?
19. Is business your one true passion?
20. Do you have an undergraduate business degree?
21. Do you want to expand your job prospects?
22. Would an MBA help you understand the business principles in your field better?
23. Does your ideal ten year plan involve a business-related field?
24. Do you enjoy financial analysis?
25. Could you see yourself as the CEO of an international company some day?
26. Are you ready to spend thousands of dollars on a business degree?
27. Do you want to enhance your professional network?
28. Would your credentials and story help you stand out among a diverse pool of applicants?
29. Are there other avenues for learning what business school can teach you?
30. Do you ultimately see business school as a worthy investment?

After going over the questions, if you've said "yes" to either law school or business school, it's time to think about how to get an edge over the rest of the candidates. Your grades and LSAT score are obviously two very important components for the law school application. Admissions officers will use these numbers to determine whether you can keep up with the academic load during your JD years. If you've decided an MBA might be more suited to you, consider whether you have significant work experience to impress admissions officers at top colleges as well as find time to study and sit for the GMAT or GRE.

Ultimately, if you decide that neither law school nor business school is right for you, it's time to do some more soul searching and consider what you're actually passionate about. But, if you believe that you could definitely thrive in law school or business school, go ahead and start preparing your application. As with any other admissions process, you should aim to make yourself stand out as a candidate with strong skills, stories, and qualifications. Good luck!