

Law school admissions exam options at a glance

LSAT, GRE, and JD-Next compared on published format, scoring, validity, and cost

JD-Next® is an 8-week online program that culminates in a law school admissions assessment. Use it as a skills-based alternative to the LSAT® or GRE® where accepted, or as an optional addendum that demonstrates readiness for the 1L classroom. JD-Next is not test prep. Each school sets its own exam policy, so confirm accepted exams on its admissions page.

	LSAT	GRE	JD-Next
What it is	Standardized law school admission test administered by the Law School Admission Council (LSAC) ^{1,3}	Standardized graduate and professional school exam administered by ETS ⁵	8-week online program that culminates in a law school admissions assessment ⁷
Content and format	Multiple-choice Logical Reasoning and Reading Comprehension sections, plus an unscored Argumentative Writing essay ²	Verbal Reasoning, Quantitative Reasoning, and Analytical Writing measures ⁵	8-week course focused on legal analysis and skills development, culminating in an assessment exam consisting of multiple-choice questions and one ungraded essay ⁷
Score scale	120 to 180 ³	260 to 340 combined Verbal and Quantitative; Analytical Writing scored separately ⁵	400 to 1,000, with percentile ranking ⁷
Score validity	Valid for five testing years after the year earned (testing years run July to June) ³	Valid for five years from the test date ⁶	Valid for five years ⁷
How law schools use it	Accepted by U.S. law schools ³	Accepted by many law schools; policies vary by school ⁵	Alternative: Accepted in lieu of the LSAT at law schools that accept JD-Next; policies vary. Addendum: Adds to an application that includes another admissions test score. ^{7,8}
Registration fee	\$253 for the August 2026 to June 2027 testing year; includes Argumentative Writing ¹	\$249 (U.S., effective August 1, 2026) ⁴	\$399 Early, \$459 Standard, \$499 Late Registration; includes the 8-week program, course materials, the assessment, and three score reports ⁷
Added application costs	Credential Assembly Service \$219; law school report \$45 per school ¹	Four score recipients included; additional reports \$40 per recipient ^{4,6}	Three score reports included; additional reports \$30 each ⁷

Sources and notes Superscript numbers match the references below.

[1] LSAC, "LSAT & CAS Fees," lsac.org/fees (August 2026 to June 2027 testing year).

[2] LSAC, LSAT format and Argumentative Writing, lsac.org/lsat.

[3] LSAC, "LSAT Scoring," lsac.org/lsat/lsat-scoring.

[4] ETS, "GRE General Test Fees," ets.org/gre/test-takers/general-test/register/fees.html (effective August 1, 2026).

[5] ETS, GRE General Test overview and score scale, ets.org/gre.

[6] ETS, "Sending Your GRE General Test Scores," ets.org/gre/test-takers/general-test/scores/send-scores.html.

[7] JD-Next, jdnnext.org: Admissions Test; Test Format and Scoring; 2026 and 2027 Course Dates and Pricing.

[8] JD-Next, Variance Schools list, jdnnext.org.

Take the next step: enroll or view course dates at www.jdnnext.org

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