Leadership Experience Admission Deferral (LEAD) Fellowship Program Application

The Columbia Law School Leadership Experience Admission Deferral (LEAD) Fellowship Program is a special deferred admissions program pursuant to which qualified applicants are admitted to Columbia Law School following their junior or senior year of college with the understanding that they will defer matriculation for two years after graduating from college.

It is further understood that during this two-year gap period, applicants admitted via the LEAD Fellowship Program will engage in, in addition to any employment opportunities or graduate studies they may be pursuing, an undertaking or activity consistent with the LEAD project plan they are required to submit in connection with their application to the Law School.

Successful applicants are eligible to receive a funding grant to enable them to advance their LEAD undertaking.
Please note that applications to Columbia Law School must be submitted electronically through LSAC.org. Paper applications will not be accepted. Accordingly, all applicants are required to register with LSAC (i.e., the Law School Admissions Council) and to enroll in LSAC’s Credential Assembly Service (CAS).

To avoid any confusion or delay in the processing of your application, please ensure that you: (1) consistently use your proper name; (2) keep us informed of any mailing address, telephone number, or email address changes during the application process; and (3) write your LSAC account number on all correspondence with the Office of Admissions.

Required Admission Test

All applicants are required to take, and receive a score for, the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) or the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) by May 1, 2018.

The LSAT and the GRE are administered in many locations throughout the world. Your application will not be considered without the results of the LSAT or GRE. For additional information about the LSAT, contact LSAC at 215.968.1001 or visit www.LSAC.org. For additional information about the GRE, contact Educational Testing Services (ETS) at 866-473-4373 or visit www.ETS.org. Candidates applying for admission to the 2018 LEAD Fellowship Program must submit any and all LSAT and GRE scores earned on or after May 1, 2013. You must submit any and all LSAT test scores even if you also plan to submit one or more GRE test scores.

Finally, candidates who submit scores from more than one LSAT and/or GRE are strongly encouraged to provide a brief addendum that explains their testing history.

Credential Assembly Service (CAS)

All applicants are required to be currently enrolled in LSAC’s Credential Assembly Service (CAS) for the processing of transcripts and other application materials, even if they (a) took the LSAT in a prior year or (b) took the GRE in lieu of the LSAT. For more information about the CAS, please call 215.968.1001 or visit www.LSAC.org.

Transcripts

U.S. Transcripts
Applicants must request that the Registrar of each college attended send an official transcript to the CAS for processing. If you have participated in summer sessions or studied abroad, you must send these transcripts directly to the CAS, unless such courses and corresponding grades are also included on the other college transcripts being forwarded to the CAS. Please forward updates of your transcripts to the Office of Admissions as soon as they become available. In particular, candidates must arrange to have their 2018 spring semester grades sent to the Office of Admissions as soon as they become available. Unofficial transcript copies that include spring 2018 grades may be submitted to admissions@law.columbia.edu.

International Transcripts
Applicants who have completed over one year of post-secondary work outside the United States and Canada are required to submit such transcripts to the CAS for processing. Such transcripts must be submitted in their original language with an official English translation, if the original language is not English. Please forward updates of your transcripts to the Office of Admissions as soon as they become available. In particular, candidates enrolled in a degree-granting program at the time the application is submitted must also forward their spring transcripts as soon as they become available.

Candidates who studied abroad for less than one academic year are strongly encouraged to submit official copies of their transcripts if the grades do not appear on the home institution's transcript. If candidates run into difficulty having these transcripts sent from institutions abroad, then an unofficial copy of the transcript (PDF format preferred) may be uploaded in the “Addendum” section of the application. In most instances, the Admissions Committee prefers to consider a candidate's performance in study abroad courses, and requesting transcripts can often slow down the review process.

Letters of Recommendation

Requirements
Columbia requires two letters of recommendation to complete your application. We require applicants to submit two academic letters from faculty who can provide insight about their candidacy. Academic letters must come from individuals who have taught applicants in the classroom or have evaluated applicants in a significant academic capacity (e.g., an independent study project or thesis advisor). Additionally, candidates may submit one additional letter that is non-academic in nature.

Kindly note that your application will be deemed complete after we have received two letters unless we are notified otherwise in question 9.2.

Suggested Content
Recommenders should address matters of significance that speak to leadership skills, as well as the ability of the applicant to thrive in an intellectually stimulating academic environment. For example, recommenders may address the strength of the applicant’s overall intelligence, analytical skills, independence of thought, problem-solving skills, effectiveness of oral and written communication, motivation, self-confidence, concern for others, emotional maturity, personal initiative, judgment, leadership ability, and organizational skills.

Submission of Letters of Recommendation
Columbia Law School strongly prefers that letters of recommendation be sent through the LSAC Letter of Recommendation Service. LSAC sends Columbia letters of recommendation once a week; therefore, your letters of recommendation will essentially be forwarded to us as they become available. Please do not send duplicate letters directly to Columbia Law School.

If absolutely necessary, recommenders may themselves send letters of recommendation directly to Columbia Law School in a sealed envelope with their signature across the envelope seal. We do not accept letters of recommendation via fax or email.
Supporting Documents

Applicants must submit electronically through LSAC the following documents:

- **Application Form:** Applicants are required to complete and submit the application for admission.
- **Personal Statement:** Applicants must submit a personal essay or statement. It must be electronically submitted at the time of the initial application. We kindly ask that applicants double space the personal statement.
- **Project Plan:** Applicants must submit a project plan describing the applicant’s intended LEAD undertaking and detailing how the applicant intends to pursue and realize the objectives of that undertaking, including, specifically how the applicant intends to apply his or her LEAD funding grant. The project plan should also indicate any employment opportunities or graduate education the applicants intends to concurrently pursue during his or her gap period.
- **Résumé:** Applicants must submit a résumé, detailing significant full- or part-time employment positions they have held. This may include internships, summer employment, and community service. In addition, the résumé should include a summary of written scholarship, presentations, principal extracurricular activities, and any honors or awards received. It must be electronically submitted at the time of the initial application. Applicants may submit résumés longer than one page in length but should exercise discretion when determining résumé length.
- **Optional Supplemental Statements:** Applicants, if they wish, may submit brief supplemental statements that will provide useful information to the Admissions Committee in evaluating the application. The Committee especially welcomes addenda that would add to the Columbia Law School community.
- **Dean’s Letter, if applicable:** If you answered yes to question 8.1 and/or 8.2, please have the dean or administrative officer in charge of student records forward a detailed explanation of the incident in hard copy form (e-mailed or faxed copies cannot be accepted) to the Office of Admissions. Should you receive an offer of admission and ultimately matriculate at Columbia Law School, you are also required to complete the Dean’s Certification Form, which will be made available to you by the Office of Admissions at a later date.
- **Application Fee:** The application fee of $85 is waived for applicants who are Columbia University undergraduates.

Candidate Interviews

Some candidates may receive an invitation to participate in an interview with a member of the Admissions Committee. We understand that many of our applicants will want to interview, and we appreciate your enthusiasm, but interviews are by invitation only.

JD Program Information

Please refer to the Columbia Law School Admissions website for a full description and exploration of the JD program. You may also access an electronic copy of the Viewbook or contact the Office of Admissions to request a copy.

Admission to the JD Program

The Admissions program at Columbia Law School is designed to identify and select individuals with diverse backgrounds and interests. We aim to compose a student body that shares a discernible commitment to excellence, has demonstrated unusual promise for distinguished performance at the Law School, and possesses potential for high service to the legal profession and the community.

Notice to All Applicants

An application is considered complete when all required application materials have been received by Columbia, including receipt of the candidate’s LSAC Law School Report. In taking steps to ensure that his or her application to Columbia is completed before the appropriate deadline, an applicant should factor into his or her planning the few weeks that it will take the Law School Admission Council to produce the LSAC Law School Report.

Submission of Additional Materials

Applicants are expected to be diligent in providing all necessary information for review of their candidacy prior to the completion of their applications. Once an application is complete, please do not submit additional materials unless they convey essential information, as there is no guarantee such materials will be placed in your application prior to the evaluation and may potentially slow down the review of your candidacy. Applicants may submit address changes through our online upload portal (www.law.columbia.edu/admissions/jd/apply/document-upload). Notification of events that are responsive to questions 8.1-8.6 must be emailed to admissions@law.columbia.edu.

Checking on the Status of Applications

Applicants are expected to monitor the completion and submission of all application requirements and are encouraged to do so by utilizing our online status checker. In the event that the status check mechanism appears to be unduly delayed, applicants may submit written requests of such status checks by email (admissions@law.columbia.edu) to the Office of Admissions.

Please note that once an applicant receives an “Application Complete” designation, no further updates are communicated via the status checker.
Selection Criteria

Evaluation of an applicant for admission to Columbia Law School includes a determination of the candidate's intellectual and academic qualifications, aptitude for legal study as measured by the LSAT or GRE, and assessment of whether or not the candidate has demonstrated personal qualities considered requisite to scholastic success, professional distinction, and public service. In addition, the Admissions Committee examines the applicant's personal statement and letters of recommendation, as well as the course selection, special honors and awards, fellowship opportunities, publications, extracurricular involvement, community service, political activity, professional contributions, and other work experience.

Preparation for Law School

Columbia Law School concurs with the approach and perspective set forth in the provisions of the American Bar Association Section of Legal Education and Admission to the Bar relating to pre-law preparation. In particular, we subscribe to the view that "[t]here is no single path that will prepare you for a legal education. Students who are successful in law school, and who become accomplished professionals, come from many walks of life and educational backgrounds.... Students are admitted to law school from almost every academic discipline.... A [Columbia] legal education will build upon and further refine the skills, values, and knowledge that you already possess."

Selectivity

Competition for admission to Columbia Law School is exceptionally keen. In recent years, approximately 6,000 applicants have applied for nearly 380 spaces in each year's entering class. And, in any given year, the majority of applicants to Columbia are highly qualified academically. In addition, admissibility to Columbia is difficult to predict because, as previously described, personal accomplishments, leadership qualities, professional achievements, and other nonquantifiable factors that serve to enrich the student body, affect an applicant's chance of admission. Thus, although Columbia is among a handful of the most highly selective law schools in the country (as measured by grade point averages and LSAT statistics), it is not possible to predict with precision the probability of admission using those numerical indices alone.

Committee Decisions

Candidates should understand that all Admissions Committee decisions may be communicated to the applicant only in writing. Under no circumstances may an applicant be informed of the outcome of his or her application by telephone. This policy is designed to protect the confidentiality entrusted to our Office of Admissions by each candidate.

Columbia Law School reserves the right to withdraw an offer of admission if an applicant: (1) shows a significant decline in academic performance or fails to graduate (a) in the case of applicants who are currently in their senior year, in May, 2018 or (b) in the case of applicants who are currently in their junior year, in May, 2019; (2) misrepresents any matter in dealing with the Office of Admissions, Financial Aid Office, or any other representative of Columbia Law School; (3) behaves in a manner that indicates a serious lack of judgment, sincerity, or integrity; (4) reserves a place in our entering class and simultaneously commits to enroll at another law school or submits a deposit to another law school; or (5) fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the LEAD Program Contract signed and submitted by the applicant at the time the applicant accepts his or her offer of admission to the Law School as a Lead Program Fellow. Columbia Law School further reserves the right to make the continuing validity of an offer of admission contingent upon an applicant providing further information or authorizing the release of information from other parties in connection with any matter relevant to the foregoing.

Dean's Certification

A Dean's Certification Form (as distinct from the Dean's letter referred to in the application) or an equivalent certification of good standing will be required from all students after admission and prior to matriculation at Columbia Law School.

This Form will be mandatory from each educational institution where you are currently enrolled in a degree program; from which you have already earned a degree; and at which you were matriculated toward a degree (regardless of whether a degree was conferred). Please note that it is not necessary that the dean or other administrator responsible for such certification know you personally. He or she may complete the Dean's Certification Form (or equivalent certification) on the basis of official records. Please note that for the Dean's Certification to be deemed complete, all questions on the form must be answered.

Accepting an Offer of Admission

An admitted student who wishes to accept Columbia Law School's offer of admission as a Lead Fellow may secure his or her seat by submitting (a) a signed copy of the LEAD Program Contract and (b) a $600 seat deposit, by the date specified in the admitted student's admission decision letter. The deposit may be paid either electronically through the Admitted Student Website (the easiest and strongly preferred method) or manually by check.

Deferred Admission

The LEAD Fellowship Program is a deferred admission program pursuant to which all successful LEAD applicants are required to defer their matriculation at the Law School until the completion of a two-year mandatory gap period that will be deemed to have commenced on or around August 15 of the year in which the applicant graduated from college. Under no circumstances may the LEAD gap period meaningfully exceed two years and, accordingly, LEAD Fellows are not eligible to apply for further deferrals or otherwise extend the two-year deferral period.
Tuition

Because successful LEAD applicants are required to defer matriculation for, in the case of applicants who apply at the end of their senior year, two years and, in the case of applicants who apply at the end of their junior year, three years, following their graduation from college, it is not possible to state or predict with certainty what tuition and fees will be for the year in which they matriculate. For planning purposes only, applicants are advised to consider current rates and to anticipate that their actual costs will be higher.

The following information for the current academic year (2017-2018) can provide you with a guideline for tuition, fees, and related expenses. Please keep in mind that an increase to these charges is anticipated. Tuition for 2017-2018 is $65,252. There are additional mandatory fees for health services, student activities, and University facilities, which were $2,417 for 2017-2018. Insurance for hospital care and standard medical coverage ($2,991 in 2017-2018) is also required unless students can show proof of comparable coverage. To help ensure that international students have access to the highest quality of care on- and off-campus, Columbia University requires all international students to enroll in the Columbia Student Health Insurance Plan. For details regarding this requirement, please visit the Health Services website.

The total student budget for the nine-month 2017-2018 academic year, including tuition, fees, room, board, books, and personal expenses was $93,740 for a single student. Expenses are adjusted annually.

Financial Aid

Admission decisions at Columbia Law School are made without regard to an applicant’s financial need. Therefore, students seeking consideration for Law School grants must apply at the time of application to the first-year class of the J.D. program, and grant decisions are made only after a student has been offered admission. As such, the Law School does not accept grant applications from students in their second or third years. Award letters to recipients of institutional grants will include information about the financial aid package for each of the student's three years of study at Columbia Law School. If you are interested in grant assistance, you must submit your financial aid application by the May 1 application deadline so that a determination regarding financial aid, if applicable, can be conveyed along with the application decision on or around July 15.

The Law School awards grant assistance primarily on the basis of demonstrated financial need. Each year a substantial portion of the entering class receives a Law School grant, which is in the form of a partial tuition waiver. However, by far the largest form of financial aid for all law students is educational loans, with most students borrowing to finance a part, or all, of their educational expenses. To assist JD graduates pursuing public interest and public service careers manage what might be a significant educational loan burden, the Law School provides continuing financial support through its Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP).

U.S. citizens and eligible non-citizens may be eligible for Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans. Currently, the annual limit is $20,500 for this program. In addition, the Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan program as well as several private educational loan programs are available to provide financing for law students. Since these programs require applicants to be creditworthy, you are strongly advised to obtain a copy of your credit report to determine if there are any problems that might make you ineligible for such loans. If you have an adverse credit history, and are unable to correct it, you may not have access to important sources of loan funds. If this is the case, you will need to have others borrow on your behalf or find other means to finance your education. Law School funds will not be available to replace unavailable credit-based loans.

International students (not U.S. citizens and not those holding a U.S. permanent resident visa) are eligible to apply for Law School grants and for loans from private educational loan programs. They are not eligible for federally guaranteed assistance programs. In addition, they typically need to provide a U.S. cosigner in order to apply for private educational loan programs. Please visit our website for additional loan information. Since there are no fully funded fellowships for law students in Columbia’s JD degree program, international students needing to finance their education may need to arrange for cosigners for each of the three years of law school.

How to Apply for Financial Aid

The following is a summary of application procedures for the various types of financial aid. For detailed information on financial aid policies and procedures, costs, budgets, and various loan programs, please review the financial aid website. Before completing any financial aid forms, it is important first to decide which types of aid you are seeking: (1) loans and Columbia Law School grants or (2) loans only.

Deciding the type of aid will determine which forms you will need to submit, and when. If you are uncertain about whether you should apply for a Law School grant, please refer to the section entitled “Eligibility for a Scholarship Grant” within the section “How to Apply for Financial Aid” on the financial aid website.

(1) Grants

Submit the following by May 1 to ensure timely consideration for a Law School grant. Do not wait to receive an offer of admission before filing the FAFSA and CSS Profile Applications.

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to the federal processor (U.S. Students)
- CSS Profile application to The College Board
- Columbia Law School Financial Aid Questionnaire to the FAO
- 2016 Federal income tax forms to the FAO for student, spouse, and parents
**(2) Loans Only**
Submit the following by no later than mid-May of the year in which you will be matriculating to ensure timely processing:

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to the federal processor (U.S. Students)
- Columbia Law School Financial Aid Questionnaire to the Financial Aid Office (FAO)
- Loan application(s) to the FAO (admitted students only)

**Financial Aid Forms**

- **FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid):** Completed by all U.S. citizens and eligible non-citizens applying for financial aid and submitted to the federal processor to establish eligibility for federal student aid. Apply online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

- **CSS Profile Application:** Required of all applicants who are seeking consideration for Columbia Law School grants. Financial information must be submitted for the applicant, both of the applicant's parents, and, if applicable, the applicant's spouse. Apply online at https://student.collegeboard.org/css-financial-aid-profile. For questions, call 844.202.0524.

- **Columbia Law School Financial Aid Questionnaire:** Prospective students applying for ANY type of financial aid must send the completed form to the Financial Aid Office.

- **2016 Federal income tax forms:** Students applying for a Law School grant must submit to the Financial Aid Office complete copies of federal income tax forms for the applicant, both of the applicant's parents, and, if applicable, the applicant's spouse. If 2016 returns are not available by May 1, 2018, admitted students should submit complete 2015 returns by May 1 for a preliminary award decision, and complete 2016 tax returns by the end of May for grant confirmation.

- **Loan Application(s):** Admitted students intending to enroll at the Law School should submit complete loan applications to the Financial Aid Office, preferably by mid-May in order to ensure timely processing and the availability of loan funds at the start of the school year in August.

**Housing**
Housing accommodations for Columbia Law students are excellent in terms of availability, quality, variety, convenience and, relative to other New York City law schools, expense. All admitted first-year law students who apply for housing by May 15, of the year in which they intend to matriculate, are guaranteed some type of University housing for all three years of law school. All Law School student housing are apartments owned and managed by the University, and most are located within blocks of the Law School. Rents are significantly lower than New York City market rates, because our housing is heavily subsidized by the University.

Detailed descriptions of the University housing programs are provided to prospective law students at the time of admission. General housing information is also available at the Columbia University Apartment Housing (UAH) website (facilities.columbia.edu/housing).

**The Loan Repayment Assistance Program**
Columbia Law School’s Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP) supports Columbia JD graduates who pursue public interest and public service careers by providing them with financial assistance to service the educational debt they assumed while at the Law School. In addition to the traditional LRAP, participants may elect to participate in both the Columbia Law School LRAP and the Federal Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Program. Finally, several fellowships for public interest have been established, and fellowship recipients may receive assistance for all loan payments on their Law School debt. A full description of our LRAP can be found on the financial aid website, or may be requested from the Financial Aid Office.
Biographical

Prefix _____________________________ Date of birth _____________________________
First name _____________________________ Place of birth: City _____________________________
Middle name _____________________________ Place of birth: Country _____________________________
Last name _____________________________ Place of birth: State/Province _____________________________
Suffix _____________________________ Gender Social security number (last 4 digits) ____________
Previous (other) name _____________________________ LSAC account number ____________________________
Preferred first name _____________________________

Demographics

Citizenship

Citizenship: ☐ Non-Resident Alien ☐ US Citizen ☐ US Permanent Resident

Country of citizenship _____________________________ Permanent city _____________________________
Visa type _____________________________ Permanent state/province _____________________________
Visa/SEVIS number _____________________________ Permanent country _____________________________
Permanent resident number _____________________________ Native language _____________________________

Race/Ethnicity

The information below is optional. Please respond to questions 3.2 and 3.3 for Department of Education record-keeping and reporting requirements. ☐ I acknowledge this statement.

Are you Hispanic or Latino (person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

What is your race? Select one or more of the following five categories:

☐ American Indian or Alaska Native ☐ Black or African American ☐ White
☐ Asian ☐ Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

Additional information: This section will allow you to tell us more about your background as identified above. Self-identification is voluntary. Please check the most appropriate box.

☐ American Indian/Alaska Native ☐ Black/African American ☐ White
☐ Mexican American/Chicano/a ☐ Asian/Pacific Islander ☐ Puerto Rican
☐ Other ☐ South Asian ☐ South East Asian
☐ Other Hispanic ☐ Unknown ☐ Middle Eastern

If you checked any of the following: American Indian/Alaska Native, Other Hispanic, or Other, please specify your affiliation: _____________________________
Contact Information

Current Address

Country _____________________________
Street address–line 1 _____________________________
Street address–line 2 _____________________________
Street address–line 3 _____________________________
City _____________________________
State/province _____________________________
Zip/postal code _____________________________
Current mailing address good until date:_______________
Day phone _____________________________
Evening phone _____________________________

Permanent Address

Country _____________________________
Street address–line 1 _____________________________
Street address–line 2 _____________________________
Street address–line 3 _____________________________
City _____________________________
State/province _____________________________
Zip/postal code _____________________________
Current permanent address good until date:___________
Day phone _____________________________
Evening phone _____________________________

Other Contact Information

Primary e-mail address _____________________________
Secondary e-mail address _____________________________
Mobile phone _____________________________
Columbia University School of Law can send text messages to my mobile phone: □ Yes □ No

Education

List ALL educational institutions attended.

Institution type: □ High School □ Undergraduate □ Graduate

Institution name: ______________________________________________________________________________

Major: ______________________________________________________________________________

Country _____________________________ Start date _____________________________
State/Province _____________________________ End date _____________________________
City _____________________________ Degree _____________________________
GPA _____________________________ Date degree granted _____________________________
Rank _____________________________
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Education continued

Please confirm that you have *not* attended any law school. This statement applies to me:  □ Yes  □ No

If you have attended, please explain.

________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________

Has your education in college, university, or professional school been interrupted for one term or more for any reason?  □ Yes  □ No

If your education was interrupted, please explain.

________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________

LSAT/GRE

All candidates to the LEAD Program must submit all LSAT and/or GRE scores from exams administered within the last five years. LSAT scores will be provided by LSAC via the CAS Report, and GRE scores must be submitted through ETS. Should your number of exam administrations exceed the space available, please upload an addendum that details your testing history.

□ I will submit all LSAT and/or GRE scores

LSAT Test Date: Month:___________ Year: ________ LSAT Score:__________
LSAT Test Date: Month:___________ Year: ________ LSAT Score:__________
LSAT Test Date: Month:___________ Year: ________ LSAT Score:__________

GRE Test Date: Month:___________ Year: ________
GRE Verbal Reasoning Score: __________
GRE Quantitative Reasoning Score: __________
GRE Analytical Writing Score: __________
GRE Test Date: Month:___________ Year: ________
GRE Verbal Reasoning Score: __________
GRE Quantitative Reasoning Score: __________
GRE Analytical Writing Score: __________
GRE Test Date: Month:___________ Year: ________
GRE Verbal Reasoning Score: __________
GRE Quantitative Reasoning Score: __________
GRE Analytical Writing Score: __________
CLS Program Information

Have you previously applied to this law school? □ Yes □ No

Were you offered admission? If “yes,” you must provide an explanation regarding your decision not to matriculate in the “Attachments” section of the application. □ Yes □ No

________________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________

Have you applied or are you applying to another deferred admit program during the 2017-2018 application cycle? If “yes, please identify the program(s). □ Yes □ No

________________________________________________________________________________________________

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________________________________________________________________________________________________

Do you intend to apply for a need-based financial aid grant? If you answer “Yes,” you must complete the FAFSA (www.fafsa.ed.gov) and the C.S.S. Profile Application to the College Board (student.collegeboard.org/css-financial-aid-profile). The recommended deadline is May 1, 2018. □ Yes □ No

________________________________________________________________________________________________

If you wish to identify as LGBTQIA, please check the box below. Please note that if you check the box below, you may be contacted by OutLaws or QTPOC. □ I wish to identify as LGBTQIA.

If neither of your parents completed a 4-year undergraduate degree (or its equivalent), please check the box below: □ The statement above applies to me.
**CLS Program Information continued**

**Gap Year Pursuits:** It is understood and anticipated that LEAD Fellows may, in addition to pursuing their LEAD undertaking, concurrently engage in employment opportunities or graduate studies during their two-year mandatory gap period. In the space below, please indicate how you intend to spend your two-year mandatory gap period when not pursuing your LEAD undertaking.

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Optional: In the space below, feel free to share any “fun facts” about yourself (hobbies, interests, special talents, and accomplishments, etc.) that the Admissions Committee may not be able to glean otherwise from your application. Please note that whether you choose to answer the question or not, there will be no impact on your admissions decision.

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In the space below, please list any languages with which you are familiar and the corresponding level of fluency (intermediate, professional, fluent, native, etc.).

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Character & Fitness

If you answer “Yes” to questions 8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, or 8.6 in the “Character and Fitness” section, you must attach a detailed, complete, and truthful written explanation in the “Attachments” section of the application. Please answer honestly, irrespective of any advice you may have received to the contrary. Should you have questions about whether or not to report an infraction, you are strongly encouraged to contact the Office of Admissions for clarification.

Have you ever been on academic probation or subjected to disciplinary action for scholastic or other reasons by any college, university, graduate school, or professional school you have attended? This should include matters that have been expunged. In addition to attaching a written explanation in the “Attachments” section of the application, kindly have the Dean or administrative officer in charge of student records forward a detailed explanation of the incident.

☐ Yes  ☐ No

Are there any disciplinary charges pending or expected to be brought against you? In addition to attaching a written explanation in the “Attachments” section of the application, kindly have the Dean or administrative officer in charge of student records forward a detailed explanation of the incident.

☐ Yes  ☐ No

Have you ever, either as an adult or a juvenile, been cited, arrested, charged with, indicted, convicted or tried for, or pleaded guilty to, the commission of any felony or misdemeanor or the violation of any law, except minor parking violations, or been the subject of any juvenile delinquency or youthful offender proceeding? This should include matters that may have been expunged from the records or subject to a diversionary program. Please note that you should have available and be prepared to submit or exhibit copies of police and court records regarding any matter you disclose in reply to this question. If you answered “Yes,” you must attach a detailed, complete, and truthful explanation, including a statement of the charge(s), the disposition thereof and the underlying facts. Please answer honestly, irrespective of any advice you may have received to the contrary.

☐ Yes  ☐ No

Are there any criminal charges pending or expected to be brought against you?

☐ Yes  ☐ No

Have you ever been subject to disciplinary action by a professional organization?

☐ Yes  ☐ No

Will you be enrolled in an undergraduate program on or after August 1, 2018?

☐ Yes  ☐ No

In addition to a bar examination, there are character, fitness, and other qualifications for admission to the bar in every U.S. jurisdiction. Applicants are encouraged to determine the requirements for any jurisdiction in which they intend to seek admission by contacting the jurisdiction. Addresses for all relevant agencies are available through the National Conference of Bar Examiners.

I acknowledge the above statement.  ☐ Yes
Letters of Recommendation

Do you intend to provide more than two letters of recommendation?

☐ Yes  ☐ No

If you answered “Yes,” please indicate if you would like us to delay the completion of your file until all letters of recommendation are received by our office. If you answered “No,” we will complete your application upon receipt of the first two letters of recommendation.

☐ Yes  ☐ No

List the names of all recommenders:

________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________

Family Information

Parent/Guardian 1  ☐ please check before continuing

Parent/Guardian’s Full Name: _________________________________________________________________

Relationship: _________________________________________________________________

Age: _________________________________________________________________

Deceased:  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

Birthplace: _________________________________________________________________

US Citizen:  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

Employment information (occupation; employer; retired). Enter N/A if not applicable.

________________________________________________________________________________________

College information (college; degree; year of graduation). Enter N/A if not applicable.

________________________________________________________________________________________

Professional or graduate school information (university; degree; year of graduation). Enter N/A if not applicable.

________________________________________________________________________________________
Family Information

Parent/Guardian 2  □ please check before continuing

Parent/Guardian's Full Name: ____________________________________________

Relationship: __________________________________________________________

Age: _________________________________________________________________

Deceased: □ Yes □ No

Birthplace: _____________________________________________________________

US Citizen: □ Yes □ No

Employment information (occupation; employer; retired). Enter N/A if not applicable.

________________________________________________________________________

College information (college; degree; year of graduation). Enter N/A if not applicable.

________________________________________________________________________

Professional or graduate school information (university; degree; year of graduation). Enter N/A if not applicable.

________________________________________________________________________

Military

Have you served or are you now serving on full-time, active US military duty? □ Yes □ No

Date of entrance (month/year)________________________

Date of discharge (month/year)_______________________

Rank   _____________________________

Expected military reserve or National Guard status during law school _____________________________

Branch   _____________________________

Discharge type  _____________________________

Have you ever been separated from any branch of the US armed forces under less than honorable conditions? □ Yes □ No

If you have been separated from any branch of the US armed forces under less than honorable conditions, explain the circumstances.

________________________________________________________________________

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________________________________________________________________________
Résumé

Please upload a résumé of up to two pages detailing significant full- or part-time employment positions held. This may include internships, summer employment, and community service. In addition, the résumé should include a summary of written scholarships, presentations, awards and honors, and extracurricular activities.

I confirm that I have uploaded my résumé:  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

Personal Statement

Applicants to Columbia Law School are required to submit a personal statement supplementing required application materials. We are curious about your interests, goals, and aspirations and how the LEAD program and the J.D. program at Columbia can help you achieve these. You are encouraged to think about the contributions you hope to make to both the Columbia community and the legal profession while considering your personal, intellectual, and professional background and any relevant information that you may not have otherwise conveyed through your other application materials. Please note that the personal statement should be double-spaced and approximately two pages in length.

I confirm that I have uploaded my personal statement:  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

Project Plan

Applicants to Columbia Law School via the LEAD Fellowship Program are required to submit a LEAD project plan. Your LEAD project plan should include a description of your proposed LEAD undertaking detailing how you intend to pursue and realize the objectives of that undertaking, including, specifically, how you intend to utilize and apply your LEAD funding grant. It should also indicate any employment opportunities or graduate education you intend to pursue concurrently with your LEAD undertaking during your gap period. It may be whatever length you feel is appropriate or necessary, but we anticipate a document that is 3-5 pages in length.

I confirm that I have uploaded my LEAD project plan:  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
Certification

Please be aware that this application and the materials filed in support, including your answers and any information included in the Character and Fitness section, will be retained by Columbia Law School and made available to the committee of character and fitness of the state(s) in which you intend to practice. Admission to any state bar depends on adequate academic performance, satisfactory completion of the bar examination, and proof of good character as required by the particular jurisdiction. Honesty in the law school application and admission process is essential in satisfying the requirements of good character required by state bars. Please be sure to consult the bar admission authorities in the state(s) in which you intend to practice for all the requirements necessary for admission to that jurisdiction.

By submitting this application, I certify that the above information is true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge. I shall promptly amend the foregoing application should there be a change in any of the facts therein and shall notify the Office of Admissions of such changes as they occur.

I agree and understand that any misrepresentation due to misdirected, inaccurate, or omitted information will be grounds for an examination of misconduct in the admissions process, rescission of admission offer, disciplinary action, expulsion, or revocation of degree if discovered at a later date.

I further agree and understand that Columbia Law School reserves the right to withdraw an offer of admission if I: (1) show a significant decline in academic performance or fail to graduate (a) in the case of applicants who are currently in their senior year, in May, 2018 or (b) in the case of applicants who are currently in their junior year, in May, 2019; (2) misrepresent any matter in dealing with the Office of Admissions, Financial Aid Office, or any other representative of Columbia Law School; (3) behave in a manner that indicates a serious lack of judgment, sincerity, or integrity; (4) reserve a place in Columbia Law School’s entering class and simultaneously commit to enroll at another law school or submit a deposit to another law school; or (5) fail to comply with the terms and conditions of my LEAD Fellowship Program Contract. I also agree and understand that Columbia Law School further reserves the right to make the continuing validity of an offer of admission contingent upon my providing further information or authorizing the release of information from other parties in connection with any matter relevant to the foregoing.

I furthermore attest that I have read the LEAD Fellowship Program Contract and understand the stated policies and practices that govern the Columbia Law School LEAD Fellowship Program. I wish to be considered as a LEAD Fellow candidate. If I receive and decide to accept an offer of admission under LEAD Fellowship Program, I will do so by timely returning a signed copy of the LEAD Contract to the Columbia Law School Office of Admissions.

Applicant's Signature:  ________________________________________________________________________

Date:    ________________________________________________________________________