



**Mercer University School of Law 3+3 Accelerated J.D. Program
with
Mercer University's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
and Stetson-Hatcher School of Business**

Recognizing that several undergraduate students are considering a career in law, Mercer Law School offers a special program for well-qualified students in Mercer's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) or Stetson-Hatcher School of Business (SHSB). The 3+3 Accelerated J.D. Program allows these students to complete an undergraduate degree and a law degree in six years rather than the traditional seven years. Through this program, students complete three years of full-time undergraduate study, use law school courses to meet the balance of required undergraduate credits, and receive a bachelor's degree after successful completion of the first year of law school.

To qualify for acceptance to the 3+3 Accelerated J.D. Program with Mercer Law School, Mercer undergraduates in the CLAS or SHSB must meet the following requirements:

- Complete at least 90 hours, to include all requirements of general education in the CLAS or SHSB and all the requirements of your chosen major (and business core course requirements for SHSB), in residence at Mercer University by the end of the second semester of your third year of undergrad;
- Have a cumulative 3.5 GPA at the time of law school application, as well as at the end of your third undergraduate year;
- Score at or above the median Law School Admission Test (LSAT) score of the preceding year's Mercer Law School entering class. See Mercer Law School's [Opening Day Statistics](#) for the median score;
- Apply for the 3+3 Accelerated J.D. Program the fall of your sophomore year by completing the 3+3 form through your CLAS pre-law advisor or SHSB undergraduate advisor;
- Demonstrate the character, fitness, and capability of satisfactorily completing the law school's *Juris Doctor* (J.D.) program and being admitted to a state bar of your choice; and
- Complete Mercer Law School's application process through the Law School Admission Council (LSAC) no later than January 15 of the year for which you are applying to law school. The application process includes providing at least two letters of recommendation. One letter must be from the chair of the applicant's department (if CLAS) or from a member of the faculty in the student's business school major (if SHSB). The other letter must be from another Mercer faculty member. These letters of recommendation should address the maturity of the student and the student's ability to meet the rigors of the law school

environment and curriculum. Mercer Law School may require the applicant to interview with law school faculty or staff during the application process.

Mercer University School of Law 3+3 Accelerated J.D. Program Frequently Asked Questions

How do I apply for the 3+3 Accelerated J.D. Program?

The first step is to request a 3+3 form from the CLAS's pre-law advisor Dr. Lori Johnson (johnson_la@mercer.edu) or SHSB's academic advisor Donna Terrill (terrill_dw@mercer.edu). This form must be emailed to your advisor in the fall semester of your second year at Mercer undergrad (by November 15).

Is that when I am a sophomore in credit hours or after I have been at Mercer for a year?

The 3+3 Accelerated J.D. Program requires that you complete at least 90 credit hours in residence at Mercer. Ninety credit hours typically mean three years of enrollment (at 15 credit hours each fall and spring semester) at Mercer. So regardless of how many credit hours you have when you enter Mercer, you should complete the form the fall semester of your second year, after you have completed your first year at Mercer. You will be eligible to apply for the 3+3 Accelerated J.D. Program in your third year at Mercer undergrad.

When should I take the LSAT?

The LSAT is offered several times a year. For more information, visit LSAC.org. For the 3+3 Accelerated J.D. Program, you must take the LSAT no later than the November test date in your third undergraduate year so that you will have your scores back to apply by January 15. Mercer Law School accepts test scores for up to 5 years.

What grades and LSAT scores are required?

You must have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 both at the time you apply to law school and at the end of your third year of undergrad. Your LSAT score must be at or above the median LSAT score of the class entering the law school the preceding year. See Mercer Law School's [Opening Day Statistics](#) for the median score.

If I have the required GPA and LSAT scores, am I guaranteed admission to Mercer Law School after my third year at Mercer undergrad?

No. The 3+3 Accelerated J.D. Program is simply an opportunity to apply early and have your first year of law school count as electives for your bachelor's degree. There is no guarantee of acceptance. There is a special consideration program for Mercer undergraduates (which requires at least a 3.5 GPA and an LSAT score at or above the median LSAT score of the preceding year's entering class), and the Special Consideration Program in Law is available for students who are applying to start law school **after** they have completed their undergraduate degree.

Do I just take three years' worth of courses (90 hours) and then go to law school?

No. For the CLAS, the 90 hours you complete should meet all the general education requirements as well as the requirements of your chosen major. For the SHSB, the 90 hours minimum that you complete should meet all the general education requirements, plus all SHSB core requirements, plus the requirements for your chosen major. For most business students, more than 90 hours of credits will be necessary to satisfy the requirements, and the

student can expect to have few, if any electives. The student interested in the 3+3 Accelerated J.D. Program will need to work closely with the student's undergraduate advisor to make sure all business requirements are met before the end of the third undergraduate year.

Do I have to complete all the course requirements before I apply to law school?

For the 3+3 Accelerated J.D. Program, you must apply to law school no later than January 15 of your third year at Mercer undergrad, before you plan to enroll in law school in the fall of that year. All required courses must be completed by the end of the second semester of that third undergraduate year.

How will the 3+3 Accelerated J.D. Program affect my scholarships in college and/or in law school?

If you are accepted into the 3+3 Accelerated J.D. Program, during the hybrid year (i.e., your first year of law school), you will be treated as a first-year law student and therefore considered a graduate student for financial aid purposes. You will be charged law school tuition and fees. You will not be eligible to receive financial aid as an undergraduate student but will be eligible to receive financial aid as a graduate student.

What other requirements must be met to qualify for the 3+3 Accelerated J.D. Program?

As part of the application process, you must submit two letters of recommendation from Mercer faculty members, including one from the chair of your major department for CLAS or one from a member of your major discipline for SHSB. The other recommendation letter must be from a Mercer faculty member. These letters should address your maturity and ability to meet the rigors of the law school environment and curriculum. Your application, like all other law school applications, must also demonstrate the character, fitness, and capability of satisfactorily completing the law school program and being admitted to a state bar of your choice.

If I am not accepted into the 3+3 Accelerated J.D. Program, does that mean that I should not bother applying to Mercer Law School after I graduate?

Absolutely not! The 3+3 Accelerated J.D. Program is designed for a specific group of applicants who wish to begin law school as soon as possible. Not being accepted into the 3+3 Accelerated J.D. Program will have no bearing on your chances of being accepted to Mercer Law School after you receive your bachelor's degree. You might be eligible for the Special Consideration Program in Law for Mercer undergrad graduates.

If I am not accepted into the 3+3 Accelerated J.D. Program, then what will I do during my fourth year at Mercer undergrad?

Add another major, take elective classes that interest you, learn a new language, run for an office in a student organization, continue to develop your reading and analytical skills, take the LSAT again, study abroad, complete a law-related internship, attend Mercer on Mission, work on an independent study with a professor, or write a senior thesis!

When do I receive my bachelor's degree?

After your first year of law school is completed and your grades are available, you can apply with the undergrad Registrar's Office to graduate from the CLAS or SHSB. For the CLAS curriculum, a minimum of 30 credit hours from the law school will be credited as meeting the CLAS's additional depth requirement and accepted as elective

credit toward the bachelor's degree. For the SHSB curriculum, a minimum of 30 credit hours from the law school will be awarded and accepted as elective credit toward the B.B.A.¹

What if I am accepted into the 3+3 Accelerated J.D. Program and decide not to finish law school?

To earn your bachelor's degree, you will either need to successfully complete the coursework in your first year of law school (i.e., a grade of C or better in each law school course) or reenroll in the CLAS or SHSB as an undergraduate and take sufficient coursework to earn the required credits to graduate.

What are the advantages of the 3+3 Accelerated J.D. Program between Mercer's CLAS and SHSB and Mercer Law School?

The biggest advantage is saving time and money! Instead of four years for an undergraduate degree and three years of law school, you can obtain a bachelor's degree and a law degree in only six years. You will save a full year's worth of tuition, fees, and living costs, and be able to take the bar exam and get into the workforce much quicker.

¹ The SHSB also offers a B.A. in Economics. An Economics B.A. student must take CLAS General Education, so an Economics B.A. student would be considered for the 3+3 Accelerated J.D. Program under the CLAS's B.A. and B.S. rules.