What do I need to provide when I apply?

Transcripts
• Send transcripts from all higher education institutions from which you received a grade.
• Transcripts are collected by LSAC and sent electronically with your application.

Law School Admission Test score (LSAT)
• The LSAT is offered nine times annually in July, September, October, November, January, February, March, April and June. The June LSAT is the last administration we accept for the admission cycle.
• Cumberland accepts your highest score.

Letters of Recommendation
• Cumberland requires two recommendations, ideally from two different sources (academic, professional, personal, etc.). If you plan to start directly after your bachelor’s degree, we suggest two academic recommendations.

Personal Statement
• Do not regurgitate your resume and transcripts. Write about something original.
• Be honest, but not too honest or controversial.
• Follow provided guidelines and proofread well.
• Use your personal statement as an opportunity to fill in blanks that we don’t see on the application. Give us a chance to get to know you.

Application
• Cumberland’s application is found at samford.edu/cumberlandlaw/apply.
• Disclose any criminal/academic misconduct, even if it has been expunged.
• There is no application fee.

Resume
• If possible, seek the advice of a career development professional.
• Opt for a traditional, professional resume template (avoid colored paper, pictures, stylized fonts, etc.).

Addenda
• Use the addenda for other information you want to share, such as explanations for academic/criminal misconduct, drastic changes in LSAT scores or withdrawal/failure/changes in undergraduate grades and courses.
How do I submit my application?

• All application materials are compiled and submitted electronically through the Law School Admission Council’s (LSAC) website, lsac.org.

• The Credential Assembly Service (CAS) is provided by the LSAC and is required by Cumberland. For a small fee, the service assembles a report containing your transcript, LSAT scores and letters of recommendation, and disseminates this report electronically to law schools of your choosing.

What GPA/LSAT scores do I need to be admitted?

• There is no set formula for weighing GPA/LSAT scores, and there is no score “cut-off.”

• The median scores vary from year to year, depending on the applicant pool.

• The admission committee considers all of the items included in your admission package, such as your personal statement, letters of recommendation, resume, addenda, the difficulty of your course work/major, leadership roles, civic engagement, volunteer activities, etc., in addition to your GPA/LSAT scores.

When do I need to apply and when will I hear back?

• Cumberland’s application is available on Sept. 1 each year. Pay attention to application deadlines as they can change from year to year. We suggest submitting your application by Dec. 31 to beat the rush.

• When you submit your application, you will receive an email that contains instructions on how to check the status of your application.

• Once your application is complete, you should hear back from us within 30 days.

samford.edu/cumberlandlaw