NAPLA LAW SCHOOL LOCATOR 2010-2011

JOSEPH BURNS
BOSTON COLLEGE

The NAPLA Law School Locator is an extension of the Rochester Locator developed by Professor Arthur S. Goldberg. Its purpose is to help applicants quickly assess the LSAT and GPA expectations of different law schools and identify schools from across the country that they may wish to research further as they choose the schools to which they will apply.

While LSAT and GPA are only two of the many criteria that law schools consider in admitting students, they are perhaps the most basic. The Locator matrix groups schools according to the median LSAT and GPA of their entering classes. If you locate the cell in which your own GPA and LSAT scores fall, you can identify those schools at which you are "competitive" (a fifty-fifty chance or better) for admission based on numbers alone. It is at this set of schools that your personal statement, letters of reference, and other qualitative credentials play the greatest role in determining whether you will be admitted and the schools in this cell and the immediately adjoining cells should make up the bulk of your applications. If you find schools here about which you know little you may want to discuss them with your pre-law advisor and do more research on them in the schools' catalog or web page, in the ABA-LSAC Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools, on the official LSAC.org website, or at the Law School Forum nearest you. It is important to note that the Locator is meant to help you find new schools for consideration and not to exclude any schools from your list.

In addition to several competitive schools, each applicant should apply to one or more "safe" schools where your quantitative credentials make it very likely that you would be admitted. The cells containing such "safe" schools are located to the left and below your "competitive" cell.

A good application strategy will also include some "reach" schools where numbers alone suggest that you will not be admitted. Such schools are located above and to the right of your "competitive" cell. All law schools admit a few applicants with unusual experience or characteristics even if they do not meet the usual LSAT and GPA expectations. In choosing "reach" schools for application therefore you should consider the kinds of experience or achievements you have that match the interests, goals or special programs at a particular law school. In your application, personal statement, and letters of reference you should emphasize why you think these make you especially qualified for admission to that school. In this way, you will give yourself the best chance for admission to a school that typically looks for higher numbers.

A reasonable application strategy therefore will include schools from at least three and probably more different cells. It is important to note that LSAT and GPA expectations are not in any way indicative of the educational experience at a law school or the suitability of that school for any individual. The Locator cannot rank the quality of law schools, nor can it tell you which is the best school for you. It simply provides a rough indicator of the competitiveness for admission at different schools, only one of many criteria you should consider in selecting the schools to which you apply. (A good discussion of the variety of criteria to be considered is included in the section on "Choosing A Law School" [Chapter 5, pages 17-21] in the *2011 ABA-LSAC Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools,* and on the LSAC.org website.)

LOCATOR MATRIX

GPA						
3.8					**C**	**A**
3.6			**I**	**F**	**D**	**B**
3.4		**L**	**J**	**G**	**E**	
3.2	**O**	**M**	**K**	**H**		
	P	**N**				
	150	**155**	**160**	**165**	**170**	

LSAT SCORE

The data on LSAT and GPA medians used in the Locator is drawn from the ***2011ABA-LSAC Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools*** and is based on admissions to full-time programs for Fall 2009. **An interactive on-line version of the Locator based on 25th percentile LSAT and GPA scores** is available on the Boston College Career Center website at the URL address:
http://www.bc.edu/offices/careers/gradschool/law/lawlocator.html.

NAPLA LAW SCHOOL LOCATOR 2010-2011

Within categories the law schools are sorted by their median GPA

A) GPA: 3.8+ LSAT: 170+
Yale Law School
Harvard Law School
Stanford Law School
Virginia (U of) School of Law
Pennsylvania (U of) Law School

B) GPA: 3.6-3.79 LSAT: 170+
Chicago (U of)
Columbia Univ. Law
New York University Sch. of Law
Northwestern U. Law

C) GPA: 3.8+ LSAT: 165-169
California Berkeley (U of)
Illinois (U of) College of Law

D) GPA: 3.60-3.79 LSAT: 165-169
George Washington U. Law
Duke Univ. Law
California Los Angeles (U of)
Vanderbilt U. School of Law
Texas (U of) School of Law
Michigan (U of) Law School
Washington U. (St. Louis) Sch. of
Boston University Law
William and Mary School of Law
Georgetown Law School
Minnesota (U of) Law
Cornell U. Law School
Southern California (U of) Law
Notre Dame Law School

E) GPA: 3.40-3.59 LSAT: 165-169
Fordham U. Sch. of Law
Emory U. School of Law
Boston College Law School
Washington & Lee U. Law

F) GPA: 3.60-3.79 LSAT:160-164
Alabama (U of) Sch. of Law
Baylor Law School
Brigham Young U. Law School
George Mason U. Law
Georgia (U of) Law
Indiana U. Bloomington Law
Colorado (U of) School of Law
Florida (U of) Levin Clg of Law
Washington (U of) Law
Southern Methodist U. Dedman Law
Ohio State U. College of Law
Pepperdine U. School of Law
Iowa (U of) School of Law
Tulane Law School
Wake Forest U. Law
Wisconsin (U of) Law
Arizona State U. Law
Georgia State U. Law School
Cincinnati (U. of) Law
Utah (U of) Quinney Clg of Law

G) GPA: 3.40-3.59 LSAT: 160-164
Cardozo School of Law
California Hastings (U of) Law School
North Carolina (U of) Law
Tennessee (U of) College of Law
Florida State College of Law
Loyola Law School - Los Angeles
Saint John's Univ. School of Law
Lewis and Clark Law School
California Davis (U of) Law
Arizona (U of) College of Law
Chicago Kent -IIT
Richmond (U of) School of law
Loyola U. Chicago Law
Brooklyn Law School
Maryland (U. of) Law
Rutgers Law - Camden
Villanova U. Law
San Diego (U of) Sch. of Law
Earle Mack-Drexel Sch of Law
Temple U. School of Law
Northeastern School of Law

H) GPA: 3.20-3.39 LSAT: 160-164
Connecticut (U of) School of Law
American U. Law
Houston (U. of) Law

I) GPA: 3.60-3.79 LSAT: 155-159
Kentucky (U of) Law

J) GPA: 3.40-3.59 LSAT: 155-159
Hofstra U. Sch. of Law
Nebraska (U of) Law
Buffalo (U at) (SUNY) Law School
Denver (U of) Law School
Oklahoma (U of) Law
Wayne State U. Law School
New Mexico (U of) Law
Kansas U. Sch. of Law
Indiana U. Sch. of Law Indianapolis
Louisville (U of) Law
Arkansas (U of) Law - Fayetteville
Nevada Las Vegas (U of) Law
Penn State-Dickinson Sch. of Law
Missouri (U. of) Columbia Law
Case Western Reserve Law
South Carolina (U. of) Law
Miami U. Sch. of Law
Hawaii (U of) School of Law
Louisiana State U Law Center
Cleveland State-Marshall U. Law
Stetson College of Law
Chapman U Sch of Law
Memphis (U of). Law
Mercer U. George S. of Law
Texas Tech U. Law
Pittsburgh (U of) Law
Drake U. Law School
San Francisco (U of) Law
Seton Hall Law School
William Mitchell School of Law

K) GPA: 3.20-3.39 LSAT: 155-159
Marquette U. Sch. of Law
Pacific (U of) McGeorge Law
Campbell U. law
Saint Louis U. School of Law
Rutgers Law School - Newark
Michigan St U Clg of Law
Santa Clara U. Law
Depaul U. College of Law
Seattle (U of) Law
Idaho (U of) College of Law
Oregon (U. of)
Saint Thomas U. (MN) Schl of Law
Catholic U. of America
Syracuse U. Law
Vermont Law School
Quinnipiac College School of Law
Samford U Cumberland Law
Suffolk U. Law School
Albany Law School
Gonzaga Law School
Baltimore (U of) School of Law
Tulsa (U of) Law

L) GPA: 3.40-3.59 LSAT: 150-154
Mississippi (U of) Law
Montana (U. of) Sch. of Law
Wyoming (U of) Law
South Dakota (U of) Law
Creighton U. Law School
Hamline U. School of Law
Duquesne U. Law
West Virginia U. Clg of Law
Florida International U Clg of Law
Ohio Northern Law School

M) GPA: 3.2-3.39 LSAT: 150-154
Akron (U of) School of Law
Maine (U of)
Regent U. School of Law
Pace U. School of Law
Northern Kentucky U. Sch. of Law
Franklin Pierce-UNH School of Law
Valparaiso U. School of Law
Washburn U. School of Law
City Univ-Queens
Missouri (U of) Kansas City Law
North Dakota (U. of)
Mississippi College of Law
Arkansas (U of) - Little Rock Law
California Western Sch.ofLaw
Southwestern University Sch. of Law
Loyola U. New Orleans Law
Roger Williams Sch. of Law
South Texas Col of Law-Texas A&M
Southern Illinois U. Sch. of Law
New York Law School
Northern Illinois U. Law
Williamette Univ. Sch. of Law
Capital U. Law School
Toledo (U of) Law School
John Marshall Law School
New England Sch. of Law
Western New England Clg of Law
Ave Maria School of Law
Elon U sch of Law
Howard U. Sch. of Law
Florida Coastal Schl of Law
Oklahoma City U. Law
Widener U. Sch. Of Law (PA)

N) GPA: < 3.20 LSAT: 150-154
Saint Mary's U. San Antonio
Texas Wesleyan
Dayton U. Law
Western State U Clg of Law
Detroit, Univ. of -Mercy
Liberty Univ Schl of Law
Phoenix School of law
Charleston school of Law
Golden Gate U. Law
Touro College Law Center
Widener U. Sch. of Law (DE)
Charlotte Sch of Law
Whittier College of Law
La Verne (U of) Clg of Law
District of Columbia Law School
Atlanta's John Marshall Law
Thomas Jefferson Schl of Law
Barry Univ Andreas Schl of Law
Saint Thomas U (FL) Schl of Law

O) GPA: 3.20-3.39 LSAT: <150
Puerto Rico (U of) School of Law
Inter American U. of Puerto Rico
North Carolina Central U. Law
Nova Southeastern U. Law Center
Pontifical Catholic U. of Puerto Rico

P) GPA: <3.2 LSAT: <150
Faulkner U Jones Schl of Law
Florida A&M Clg of Law
Thomas M. Cooley Law School
Texas Southern U. School of Law
Appalachian School of Law
Southern University School of Law