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How The GRE® Test Aided My Law School Journey

My law school journey began in 2018. I had just graduated with an accounting degree from Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas, and began working in the field, unsure of my long-term plans. One thing I did know is that there was a good chance I would go back to school to advance my education, but I was undecided about what my future looked like and the path I wanted to choose.

With a background in accounting, an MBA seemed like a natural choice. As a wildlife and history enthusiast, I even considered what museum curatorship programs could offer me. During this time, law piqued my interest and presented itself as a strong avenue, ultimately allowing me the opportunity to leverage my people skills while serving others and being an advocate. In the end, I decided this was the best path for me and to this day, this has proven to be the right choice for me.

As my journey took a winding road to law school, one thing I discovered along the way were the advantages of the GRE® test over the LSAT® in helping me get to where I wanted to be. This proved to be true for a few reasons:

The GRE allowed me to showcase my best scores

With the GRE exam, I had the ability to take the test as many times as I wanted to ensure I was sending the scores that reflected my best effort. ETS's ScoreSelect® service provided an easy option for sending all my scores on file, and for law schools to see the scores that reflected my personal best. By being able to share the GRE test scores where I performed the best, I could enhance my admissions profile to law school admissions officers and committees. In addition, the GRE exam categorizes your scores so that law schools can see the areas where you performed better or worse, allowing my law schools of choice to see that I was proficient in areas the legal education field prioritizes.

The GRE tested skill sets that I use in law school

The LSAT exam, compared to the GRE, has a different sort of question on it colloquially known as "logic games." These questions are supposed to assess if you can think "like a lawyer." But there is a problem — they teach you to answer "logic game" questions that, in my view, are entirely unrelated to law school. After I decided on law school as a career path, I had to decide what test to take. I looked into both the LSAT and the GRE. The logic games on the LSAT are extremely nuanced and unrelated to law school, unlike the GRE, which further develops and assesses skills and knowledge you learn throughout your educational career. Essentially, you are forced to learn a skill set for the LSAT that is not needed in law school and will not help you succeed in law school.

The GRE offered flexibility and opportunity

The GRE offers flexibility that the LSAT does not in terms of when it is offered. The GRE is offered much more frequently than the LSAT, allowing you ample opportunity to retake the exam in a matter of weeks if needed as compared to the LSAT. In addition, I also felt that the GRE provided me with great opportunities that would not have been made available to me had I taken the LSAT. As someone who struggles on multiple-choice questions, standardized tests are not my strong point. I made very respectable grades in college and worked incredibly hard, but there were certainly those with better resumes coming into the law school admissions arena. Including the GRE as part of my law school admissions application, I was able to receive a full tuition waiver from Texas A&M University School of Law.

I am thrilled to be a member of the Texas A&M Aggie family, and since the law school is located in Fort Worth, Texas, I enjoy living in a city that I love. I have had a fantastic experience at Texas A&M and know my professional opportunities will only grow based on my experience at this wonderful institution. All of this began with the GRE, and without it, I am confident I would not have received these opportunities.

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