



Legal Eagles Top Tips



Check out our Top Tips!

Application Tips

1

Do not apply to firms just for the sake of it. You must apply to firms that you have a genuine interest in and firms you think meet your personal requirements. This is where researching the firm comes in handy! If you want a better family/work balance, then applying to a magic circle firm wouldn't be the smartest idea.

2

Tailor your applications to the individual firms. Show your interest in the firm by mentioning any recent cases they have been involved in, their diversity or any charity work they have done. Make sure you remember to link these back to your own experiences.

3

You must re-read your applications! Constantly check your grammar and spelling. You would be surprised at how many people misspell the name of the firm they're applying to. Even if you come across as an amazing candidate, bad spelling and grammar will ruin it all.

4

Stay up to date with the news, especially around your interested field and in topics the firms specialise in. Some applications may require you to discuss an interesting news topic. The more you know, the easier this will be. These questions will also come up in your interviews so make sure you are ready.

5

Show off your work experiences and competencies in your applications. Firms love to see your interests, passions and previous work. This does not have to be legal. It can be working in a pub or volunteering in a library! **SHOWCASE THOSE SKILLS!**

Networking Tips

1

Actively seek out opportunities to network. Not all events need to be organised by firms or legal organisations. Go to events that have nothing to do with law. Remember, everyone is either a client, potential client or your ticket into the industry.

2

Plan ahead! Make sure you have a list of relevant topics to discuss, for example, if you're going to an AI event, look up any new news topics on AI and how they might affect clients or even the firm. Set some goals you want to achieve from the event.

3

Arrive 10 -15 minuets early. This shows that you are engaged and eager to meet new people. There will be plenty of people who need someone to parter up to! Speak to them first. You may even catch the organisers of the event and may want to talk to them too to show them that you're interested!

4

Do not be afraid to ask questions! If there is a topic of dicussion that you want to learn more about, make sure you ask questions. This shows that you are interested and eager. You may even learn something new that could benefit you in the future.

5

From today, LinkedIn is your best friend! If you liked the person, topic or experience, make sure you connect on LinkedIn and keep in touch. Post about the events and connect with the firms involved. The aim is to make sure everyone leaves the event remembering your name.

How To Research Firms

1

Figure out what type of firm you want to work in and the type of law that interests you. Ask yourself, do you want to work in a magic firm, silver circle, international firm...? Is commercial law for you? Or maybe you like marine law.

2

Once you have decided on the firms, research their unique selling points. Check the firm out on the Legal 500, Chambers and Partners and most importantly, the firms actual website. Are they a full service firm? Or maybe they have an overseas seat options.

3

Research their services and sectors. This is essential as not all firms practice in certain areas. Make sure the firm you're interested in provides services in the area you would like to specialise in. If not, why are you applying to the firm?

4

Research their previous experience and cases. Check the firms social media platforms and website to find out any new cases they have been involved in. This will enable you to understand the type of work they do and who their clients are.

5

Check out the type of training contract the firm has and their commitment to diversity. Find out how many seats the training contract has and what those seats are. Does the firm have specific events? Maybe they do a lot of charity work. These are all things you need to take into account.



Work Experience

1

Apply for vacation schemes. Not only do they help you choose the right firm for you, but they also increase your chances of gaining a training contract. Vacation schemes allow you to gain experience in different legal sectors and enable you to find out the culture of the firm.

2

Volunteer in the industry you're interested in. What do I mean by this? Well, if you're interested in corporate law, gain some experience in a business. If you're interested in sustainability and ESG, volunteer for an environmental organisation. This will show that you're passionate about your chosen field of work.

3

It can be hard sometimes to gain experience in larger firms but don't let that stop you. Go to the local smaller law firms in your area, introduce yourself and give them a copy of your CV. You can also find organisations that give out free legal advice such as the Citizens Advice Center. They are more than happy to take on the extra help.

4

Non-legal experience is also essential. The skills that you gain from non-legal work experiences are transferable. You can easily take the skills you gained in Tesco and apply them to a legal setting. Did you work as a team? Did you take a more leadership approach. Did you work in a pressured environment. **TRANSFER YOUR SKILLS!**

5

Shadowing a legal professional is also a great way to gain experience. You will gain an insight into the work place and witness their unfiltered routines. Shadowing is also a great opportunity to network and enhance your ability to converse with legal professionals, further improving your confidence to communicate within the legal environment.

Studying Tips

1

Make sure you write clear and concise case notes. Include the case name, the name of the parties and the facts or any relevant legal background. You should then include any issues of the law as well as what law was applied and why. The Notier Club have great resources for writing clear and concise case notes.

2

Do not just read every page of your textbook. Read efficiently and effectively. Ask yourself, can I use this part of the reading in my essay? Can I use this for an argument? If not, do not write unnecessary notes. Focus more on reading journal articles and other sources to help you analyse in your essays. These will get you the top marks!

3

When writing lecture notes, don't waste time copying the lecture slides word for word. Pick out the most significant parts and most importantly, listen to what the lecturer is saying. When you are studying and condensing your lecture notes, find a format that works for you. The cornell method is incredibly popular so do check it out.

4

Practice questions are essential for prepping for your exams. Make sure you look over the mark scheme to ensure you understand what gets you the best marks. The more you go over past papers and exam questions, the more confident you will feel. Don't forget to ask your tutor to read over your answers so you can identify where you need to do to improve.

5

Create checklists for each module. Checklists not only help with the structure of your notes, but also in making sure you have completed all of your required tasks. They also help with ensuring you have all of the essential points for your exam answers.