

JOINT JD/MAcc PROGRAM

The JD/MAcc program involves two separate graduate degrees: Juris Doctor (JD/Law) and Master of Accountancy (MAcc), which are completed concurrently. Students must apply to each program separately, and they must attend law school at Brigham Young University. Acceptance into one program does not guarantee admission into the other, although the law school has historically looked favorably on students' backgrounds in accounting. Students will apply to and complete requirements for both degrees within a four-year time span following the Accounting Junior Core. For important dates and deadlines for applying to law school, visit the law school's website [here](#).

Once admitted, the student works with each program individually, although there will be an overlap of credits being taken:

MAcc	Juris Doctor (Law)
A maximum of 12 credit hours in the MAcc program are waived in recognition of classes taken in law school.	The law school waives up to 12 credit hours of electives in recognition of classes taken in the business school, as long as those 12 credits are taken <i>after</i> the student has started taking classes at the law school (i.e., during Years 3-4 in the table below).

In the first year, students will exclusively take MAcc courses. In the second year, students will exclusively take the standard first-year law courses. In years three and four, students will take a combination of MAcc and law school courses. A maximum of twenty-four credits will be waived through concurrent enrollment within these two programs. The following highlights a timeline for students interested in doing the JD/MAcc program:

	Year 1	Year 2	Years 3-4
Junior Core	1st Year of MAcc	1st Year of Law School or 1L	2nd and 3rd Years of Law School or 2L and 3L
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Complete the Junior Core ● Prepare for the LSAT* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Take only MAcc courses ● Take the LSAT* ● Apply to Law School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Take only Law courses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Take Law and MAcc courses concurrently ● Complete BS, MAcc and Law requirements

*See notes at end of document about the LSAT and LSAT exemption.

The 1L year or first year of law school is similar to the Junior Core. You interview for a summer internship for experience, and paid positions are hard to come by without being in the top 20% of your class (roughly). The summer before your 2L year, you recruit for a summer associate position that can lead to a full-time job offer.

The JD/MAcc program opens many different career opportunities for its graduates. Careers in tax law are abundant, whether at a law firm, accounting firm, or inside of a corporation. Many JD/MAcc students also go on to become corporate transactional attorneys at law firms or in-house. For example, some specific practice areas in corporate law that past JD/MAcc students have accepted jobs in include: general corporate, early-stage/VC financing, private equity M&A, capital markets (IPOs), tax, estate planning, etc. These careers may include drafting corporate governance documents, negotiating terms of business transactions for clients, advising business owners on business and equity structures, mitigating risks of lawsuits, or planning for passing on generational wealth.

If you have additional questions about this program, please reach out to a JD/MAcc mentor:

- Austin Burton email at burtona5@student.byu.edu or text at 385-418-3301
- Melanie Reyes email at melanie.reyes@law.byu.edu, text at 801-378-5011 or make an appointment here.

The BYU Law Registrar is unable to address any questions related to your MAcc or undergraduate credit requirements. If you have any logistical questions, you may contact each program directly:

- MAcc Program: julie_averett@byu.edu
- Law School: admissions2@law.byu.edu or <https://law.byu.edu>

*Although most applicants take the LSAT, the law school also accepts the GRE. Additionally, applicants who are eligible for the [LSAT Exemption](#) may apply to the law school without taking the LSAT or the GRE. Students interested in applying as an LSAT-exempt applicant should email admissions2@law.byu.edu to see if they qualify. Simply meeting the qualifications for LSAT exemption does not guarantee admission.

Given the competitive nature of law school admissions, the surer way to obtain admission into law school is by taking the LSAT and doing well on it. Additionally, the law school caps scholarship amounts for LSAT-exempt applicants, while students who take the LSAT may receive better scholarship opportunities than those who apply and are accepted LSAT-exempt, depending on how well they do on the LSAT. Once students take the LSAT, they can no longer apply as an LSAT-exempt applicant and must use their LSAT score in their application.

