

FREE GUIDE FOR ASPIRING LAWYERS

The Complete LSAT. Guide.

Everything Indian students need to know about the Law School Admission Test — the new post-2024 format, sections, scoring, timelines and a proven preparation roadmap for JD admissions in the US & Canada.

2h 20m

MC Testing Time

~76

Scored Questions

120–180

Score Range

§ What's Inside This Guide

A complete, structured walkthrough — from understanding what the LSAT is (and the big 2024 format change), to building a study plan that gets you a competitive score.

01	What Is the LSAT & Who Needs It	Page 3
02	Exam Format & The Four Sections	Page 3
03	Logic Games Are Gone — What Changed in 2024	Page 4
04	Content Breakdown: LR & RC	Page 4
05	The Argumentative Writing Task	Page 5
06	Scoring System Explained	Page 5
07	Registration, Dates & Fees	Page 6
08	Eligibility & Pathways for Indian Students	Page 6
09	4-Month Study Timeline	Page 7
10	Best Prep Resources	Page 8
11	LSAT vs LSAT–India vs CLAT	Page 8
12	Competitive Score Benchmarks	Page 9
13	Common Mistakes to Avoid	Page 9
14	Get Personalised Guidance from EduQuest	Page 10

Why This Guide?

Prepared by the EduQuest counselling team for Indian students exploring law study abroad — the same team that guides students through UCAT, MCAT, SAT and ACT admissions.

01 What Is the LSAT & Who Needs It

The **LSAT (Law School Admission Test)** is a standardised, multiple-choice and writing examination administered by the **LSAC (Law School Admission Council)**. It is required for admission to the vast majority of **JD (Juris Doctor)** programmes at law schools across the United States and Canada.

Unlike an undergraduate law degree, a JD is a graduate-entry professional degree — applicants already hold a bachelor's degree in any discipline before applying. For Indian students considering a US or Canadian legal career (or a JD after an undergraduate degree abroad), the LSAT is typically the single most important admissions factor alongside undergraduate GPA. It tests reading comprehension and logical/argumentative reasoning — not legal knowledge.

4

MC SECTIONS

35 min

PER SECTION

2h 20m

TOTAL MC TIME

50 min

WRITING TASK

02 Exam Format & The Four Sections

The LSAT multiple-choice portion consists of four 35-minute sections. Three are scored; one is an unscored "experimental" section used by LSAC to pretest future questions — and it looks identical to the scored sections, so every section must be treated as if it counts.

Section	Focus	Questions	Scored?
Logical Reasoning I	Short arguments — find flaws, assumptions, strengthen/weaken	24–26	Yes
Logical Reasoning II	Same skill set, second full section	24–26	Yes
Reading Comprehension	4 passages (3 standalone + 1 comparative pair)	26–28	Yes
Unscored / Experimental	Either LR or RC content, position unknown	~24–27	No

Test Delivery

The LSAT has been administered digitally since 2019. It can currently be taken remotely with a virtual proctor or at a Prometric test centre — from August 2026, LSAC is shifting nearly all test-takers to in-person Prometric centres, so always confirm the current delivery mode when you register.

03 Logic Games Are Gone — What Changed in 2024

If you've seen older LSAT prep books mentioning "Logic Games" (Analytical Reasoning) — puzzles involving seating charts, scheduling grids, and grouping rules — that section has been **permanently removed since August 2024**. It was replaced with a second scored Logical Reasoning section.

Why It Matters for Your Prep

Any study material built around Logic Games is now outdated for the scored portion of the test. Focus 100% of your preparation on Logical Reasoning and Reading Comprehension — LSAC's own analysis of over 200,000 test sessions found the change had minimal impact on overall score distributions.

04 Content Breakdown: LR & RC

Logical Reasoning (≈65% of your scored questions)

Each question presents a short argument (1–2 sentences to a short paragraph) followed by a task — identify an assumption, find a flaw, strengthen or weaken the conclusion, draw a valid inference, or match the structure of a parallel argument. There are roughly 14 recognised question types.

- Assumption & Necessary/Sufficient Assumption
- Strengthen / Weaken the Argument
- Flaw in the Reasoning
- Inference / Must Be True
- Parallel Reasoning & Parallel Flaw
- Main Point, Method of Argument, Principle

Reading Comprehension (≈35% of your scored questions)

Four dense passages drawn from law, humanities, social sciences and natural sciences — three standalone passages plus one "comparative reading" set of two shorter, related texts. Questions test main idea, structure, author's tone/purpose, and inference — no outside subject knowledge is assumed.

05 The Argumentative Writing Task

Separate from the multiple-choice test, every LSAT taker completes an **Argumentative Writing task** — a 50-minute online essay arguing for a position on a given topic using evidence and reasoning. It replaced the older "Writing Sample" / Decision-based prompt format.

- Taken online, unsupervised, any time from **8 days before** your scheduled test through year-round availability.
- Unscaled, but sent to every law school you apply to alongside your LSAT score.
- Plays a more meaningful role in admissions than the old writing sample used to.

06 Scoring System Explained

Your LSAT score is based purely on the three scored sections (raw score = number of correct answers, out of roughly 76 questions), converted onto a scaled score of **120 to 180**. The average test-taker scores around **150**.

Score Band	Scaled Score	Approx. Percentile
Below Average	120–145	Below 40th
Average	150–152	~50th–55th
Competitive	160–164	~80th–90th
Highly Competitive	165–169	~93rd–97th
Exceptional	170+	98th+

Because raw-to-scaled conversion adjusts slightly per test form, a single missed question can matter more at the very top of the scale than in the middle.

07 Registration, Dates & Fees

- Registration is done through the LSAC's official portal (**lsac.org**) using an LSAC account.
- The LSAT is offered roughly **8 times a year** across the testing cycle, including dates accessible to international candidates.
- Current base registration fee: approximately **US \$253** — the Credential Assembly Service (CAS), required for reporting scores to schools, and per-school reports add further cost.
- Attempt limits: up to **3 times** in a single testing year, **5 times** within five years, and **7 times** total in a lifetime.
- Scores are typically released within about **3 weeks** of your test date.

08 Eligibility & Pathways for Indian Students

There is no nationality restriction on the LSAT — any student with (or completing) a bachelor's degree can register. For Indian students, two distinct pathways are worth separating clearly:

- **US/Canada JD via the LSAT:** requires a completed undergraduate degree (any discipline) before applying — this is the standard route into a US or Canadian law career.
- **LLM programmes:** most one-year LLM programmes for students who already hold an Indian law degree do *not* require the LSAT — check each university's specific requirement.

Always confirm each target law school's exact LSAT/GPA requirements, since policies and typical admitted-student ranges vary widely between institutions.

09 4-Month Study Timeline

Because the LSAT tests a narrow, learnable skill set (rather than broad subject content), most successful applicants prepare intensively over 3–4 months with 150–250 hours of study.

Phase	Duration	Focus
Phase 1 — Diagnostic & Fundamentals	Weeks 1–2	Take a cold diagnostic test; learn core LR question-type frameworks
Phase 2 — Untimed Drilling	Weeks 3–6	Drill LR and RC by question type, untimed, to build accuracy first
Phase 3 — Timed Section Practice	Weeks 7–10	Introduce the 35-minute clock per section; review every wrong answer
Phase 4 — Full-Length Practice Tests	Weeks 11–14	Official LSAC PrepTests under real timing, one every 5–7 days
Phase 5 — Review & Taper	Final week	Light review only, focus on pacing and rest before test day

Pro Tip

Keep an error log categorised by question type (e.g. "Weaken," "Parallel Reasoning") rather than just right/wrong — LSAT gains come from fixing recurring reasoning patterns, not from more raw volume.

Weekly Study Checklist Template

- ☐ 3–4 targeted drilling sessions by question type
- ☐ 2 Reading Comprehension passages daily, timed
- ☐ One timed section (LR or RC) under real conditions
- ☐ Error log review — tag each miss by reasoning pattern
- ☐ One rest day to avoid burnout

10 Best Prep Resources

Official Materials

- LSAC Official LSAT Prep Plus (real retired PrepTests)
- LSAC's free LawHub practice platform
- Khan Academy Official LSAT Prep (free, LSAC-partnered)

Structured Courses

- 7Sage LSAT Course
- PowerScore LR & RC Bibles

Practice & Drilling

- Retired official PrepTests (the gold standard — nothing mimics real LSAT phrasing better)
- 7Sage question-type drill sets

Writing Task Prep

- LSAC's free official writing prompts
- Feedback from a coach on structure & clarity

11 LSAT vs LSAT–India vs CLAT

Feature	LSAT (US/Canada)	LSAT–India	CLAT
Used For	US/Canada JD programmes	Select Indian law schools	Indian NLUs (5-yr integrated LLB)
Administered By	LSAC	Pearson VUE (under LSAC licence)	Consortium of NLUs
Entry Point	Post-bachelor's (JD)	Post-12th & postgraduate tracks	Post-12th
Format	LR + RC + Writing	LR + RC (no Logic Games)	Legal & general aptitude, MCQ

LSAT–India is a distinct exam from the US/Canada LSAT and does not use the same score scale — confirm which exam a specific Indian institution requires.

12 Competitive Score Benchmarks

School Tier (Illustrative)	Typical LSAT Range
T14 US Law Schools	170–180
Strong Top-50 Law Schools	160–169
Solid Regional Law Schools	150–159
Access/Standard Admission Range	145–149

These are illustrative bands only — always verify a specific school's published median LSAT and GPA on its official admissions page (schools publish 25th/75th percentile ranges).

13 Common Mistakes to Avoid

- **Studying from outdated materials** — any prep book still built around Logic Games no longer reflects the scored test; use only post-August-2024 resources.
- **Skipping the error log** — reviewing wrong answers without tagging the underlying reasoning flaw means the same mistake repeats across tests.
- **Rushing into timed practice** — building accuracy untimed first, then adding the clock, produces stronger long-term gains than timing yourself from day one.
- **Treating the experimental section casually** — since it's indistinguishable from scored sections, underperforming there wastes effort with zero score benefit, so pace every section as if it counts.
- **Neglecting the writing task** — it's unscored but reviewed by admissions committees; rushing it can undercut an otherwise strong application.

Ready to Start Your LSAT Journey?

EduQuest's counselling team helps Indian students plan their law-school pathway, choose the right LSAT timeline, and build a personalised study plan — the same support we provide for UCAT, MCAT, SAT and ACT applicants.

What EduQuest Can Help With

- ☐ Personalised LSAT study timeline based on your target intake
- ☐ Guidance on US & Canadian law school shortlisting
- ☐ Full-length practice test reviews with question-type feedback
- ☐ End-to-end application & admissions counselling

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eduquest.org.in | This guide is for informational purposes; exam format, fees and dates are set by LSAC and may change — always confirm current details at lsac.org.