

HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

J.D. Admissions

A Guide to Your Zoom Interview with Harvard Law School

Congratulations on your interview invitation! We have completed an initial review of your application and are eager to learn more about you. Each interview is a brief, 15-minute conversation conducted virtually through Zoom. Understandably, you may be feeling nervous and excited. We've published some great blog posts on how to [ace your interview](#) and a few of our [favorite interview questions to ask](#). In addition, we wanted to provide you with a step-by-step guide on how to prepare in advance.

Step One: Download the Zoom Meetings Client

At this point, you might be really familiar with attending Zoom “meetings” or “webinars” for class or professional work settings. Our interview set-up is slightly different. You won't be receiving any links from us. Instead, we kindly ask that you [sign up](#) for a free Zoom account (if you have not already) and then download the “[Zoom Client for Meetings](#).”

Step Two: Sign up for an Interview Slot on our Calendar

Once you've downloaded the Zoom Meetings Client, navigate back to the interview invitation email we sent you with the subject line “Harvard Law School Interview Invitation.” Click on the link we provided to our calendar and select a preferred time slot. The registration form will ask you to enter your Zoom username. *Please note:* this is the email address associated with your Zoom account. We also ask for the best phone number to contact you on the day of the interview. Don't worry, your interview will still be a video call. We only ask for the phone number in case of any technical issues or last-minute scheduling conflicts that may arise.

A few important notes here:

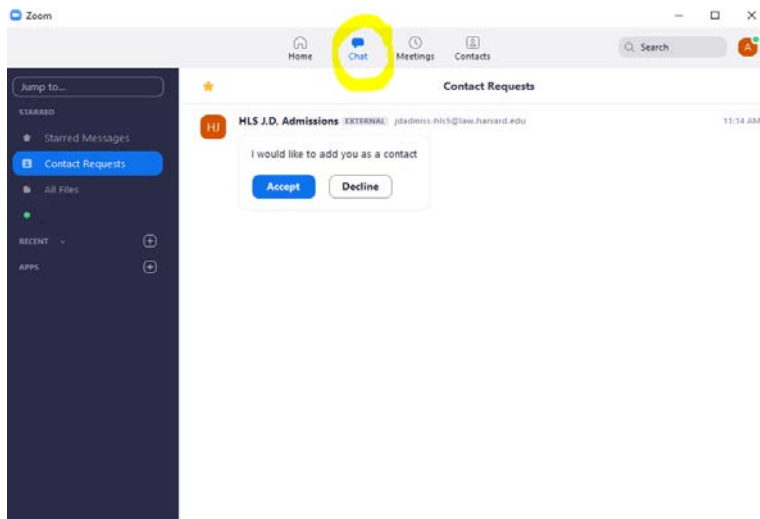
- Be mindful of the time zone when signing up. All of our interviews are conducted in *Eastern Time*.
- If you'll be joining us from an international location, it would be helpful to know in the text box we've provided on the form.
- If you are using an institution-hosted (“*.edu*”) or organization-hosted (“*.org*”) Zoom account, kindly ensure that there are no domain restrictions on adding “external” contacts.

Which brings us to our third step...

Step Three: Accept our “Contact” Request

Now that you've signed up for an interview slot and provided us with your Zoom account information, we will contact request you directly. This will usually occur one or two days before your scheduled interview. To accept our contact request, please open the Zoom Meetings Client and click on the “Chat”

feature. Then, on the left-hand column, look for “Contact Requests” to view our invitation. Here’s what it looks like below:



Step Four: The Waiting Game

That’s it! You’ve completed all necessary steps to sign up for an interview. On the day of your scheduled appointment, please sign in five minutes before the official start time. A member of the Admissions Committee will initiate a video call with you whenever they are ready. Don’t worry if we’re running a few minutes late...that’s on us!

A Few Notes:

Your interviewer is assigned at random to the time slot you chose on our calendar. You won’t know who your interviewer is until they video call you on the day of the appointed time. Visit our website to learn more about [how your interviewer is selected](#) and read a little bit about each of us on the [J.D. Admissions team](#).

We do not penalize you for technical difficulties. But you can avoid them by testing out your equipment beforehand and having a plan B (a set of headphones or a handheld device, such as your phone, for example).

If you realize you need to cancel your interview or reschedule for a different time slot, please let us know by responding to your interview invitation email.

Do not fret about the unflattering lighting, the hair strand that won’t stay in place, or sustaining unwavering eye contact throughout the conversation. In the past, most people have opted for a shirt and tie or a simple blouse. But if you are more comfortable in a full suit, or more comfortable in “business casual,” that works, too. The J.D. Admissions team will be sporting business casual attire.

Similarly, don't stress too much about any less-than-ideal surroundings for your interview. We understand that many of you are working or studying from home during the pandemic. We have kids that walk right into our "offices" during an important Zoom meeting, too!

Finally, remember that if you are invited to interview, know that it is a positive step forward in the application process. It allows us the chance to get to know the person behind the file, and allows you to see the people behind the process.

We look forward to meeting you!