

## 2026 BINDING EARLY DECISION – JD TRANSFER CANDIDATE CERTIFICATION

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Northwestern Pritzker School of Law evaluates Early Decision – JD Transfer applications according to the same selection criteria as Regular Decision – JD Transfer applications. However, an Early Decision – JD Transfer applicant's particular interest in Northwestern Law, evidenced by their Early Decision – JD Transfer application designation, is specially considered by the Admissions Committee. Otherwise, Early Decision – JD Transfer applicants do not have a significant advantage in the selection process.

**This is a binding admission program.** If admitted through the Early Decision – JD Transfer program, Early Decision applicants commit themselves to matriculating at Northwestern Pritzker School of Law. Applicants may not apply to any other binding Early Decision – JD Transfer programs during the same transfer admission cycle. Early Decision – JD Transfer applicants may only apply to other law schools through those institutions' regular decision programs.

Upon admission to Northwestern Law through the Early Decision – JD Transfer program, applicants must understand and agree that they are required to immediately withdraw all other law school transfer applications and may not initiate any new applications. Failure to honor these commitments may result in the revocation of the admissions offer, and the Early Decision – JD Transfer candidate will not be permitted to matriculate to Northwestern Law.

JD Transfer applicants who are not admitted through the Early Decision program may be held and evaluated again as part of the Regular Decision – JD Transfer applicant pool.

Northwestern reserves the right to provide its peer law schools with the names of applicants accepted under our Early Decision – JD Transfer program.

**Conditions for Candidates Admitted to the Early Decision – JD Transfer Program:** Candidates admitted to the Early Decision – JD Transfer Program will be required to complete additional requirements following any offer of admission. Please review the following information carefully prior to signing this certification form.

- Candidates who are admitted through the Early Decision – JD Transfer Program must coordinate with the registrar's office at their originating law school to submit **final and official first-year transcripts** on or before a date specified by the Admissions Committee in the candidate's official admission letter.
- Early Decision – JD Transfer Program applicants must have completed a first year (1L) curriculum that is substantially similar to Northwestern Law's, at a law school accredited by the American Bar Association.
- Applicants **must have earned a minimum of 28 GPA credit hours** (or the equivalent) as of the completion of the first year of the JD program at their originating law school. Failure to demonstrate the successful completion of the minimum credit hours as of June 2024 may result in the revocation of any offer of admission to the Early Decision – JD Transfer Program.
- Grades below a C or its equivalent will not be accepted for transfer credit.
- Because of the differences in curriculum among law schools, students who are admitted on a transfer basis may not receive full credit for all first-year courses.
- Successful Early Decision – JD Transfer candidates may transfer a maximum of 28 credit hours and must complete the final two years of the JD degree in residence at Northwestern Law. Officers from the Law School's Office of the Registrar will review the final and official 1L transcripts for the students admitted through the binding Early Decision – JD Transfer program. In late July, the Registrar will determine which law school courses and credit hours are transferable to Northwestern Law and communicate this information with the transfer student in writing.
- Candidates who are admitted through the Early Decision – JD Transfer Program **must remain in good standing** with their originating law school. The Office of Admissions reserves the right to request an additional letter of good standing from the dean's or dean of students' office at the candidate's originating law school following completion of their first year.
- Both Early Decision- and Regular Decision- JD transfer students are **not eligible for institutional scholarships or grants**. Northwestern Law is dedicated to offering a comprehensive financial aid program for students seeking assistance, and financial aid packages for all transfer students will consist of loan funding.

**Instructions:**

If you agree to the above terms of the Early Decision – JD Transfer program and you wish to apply as an Early Decision – JD Transfer candidate at Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, **you must complete this form and submit it as part of your application materials** no later than the Early Decision – JD Transfer application deadline.

**Certification:**

I certify that I have read the above and understand the stated policies and practices that govern the Early Decision – JD Transfer admission program at Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, and I wish to be considered as an Early Decision – JD Transfer candidate. During this admissions cycle, I have not submitted and will not submit an application for Early Decision – JD Transfer at any other law school nor will I enter into an Early Decision – JD Transfer agreement with any other law school. If accepted under Northwestern Pritzker School of Law’s Early Decision - JD Transfer program, I will matriculate at Northwestern Pritzker School of Law in August 2026 and agree to immediately withdraw any JD transfer applications to other schools and to refrain from initiating any new JD transfer applications.

Applicant signature

Date signed

Print name

LSAC account #: L

***A signature is required on the Early Decision – JD Transfer Application Certification Form. The signed form must be uploaded to your Northwestern Law Early Decision – JD Transfer application. A screenshot will not be accepted.***

***Please download, sign, and save this signed form as a PDF. Thereafter, you must load this form to your Northwestern Law Early Decision – JD Transfer Application when prompted.***