

ADDENDUMS: THE BASICS

What are Addendums for?

An addendum is a brief note to the admissions committee explaining why there is some type of discrepancy in your application. For example, perhaps you have an excellent GPA but did poorly on the LSAT because you have a difficult time performing on standardized tests, or perhaps you did poorly before you served a mission then returned and earned excellent grades but your cumulative GPA does not reflect that.

Where should I put an Addendum in my application?

There is usually no place in an application for an addendum. Simply write your name and LSAC number in the top left corner of a blank sheet of paper, title the sheet "Addendum" and then write your brief explanation. Send this directly to each law school you are applying to with your application and it will be added to your file.

How do I write an Addendum?

Addendums should be concise and straightforward. Simply state the discrepancy with specific details and the reason it occurred. Below is a sample addendum that you can adjust to fit your specific needs.

Sample Addendum

Joseph Young
SS # 222-354-4678

Addendum

I would like to make the Admissions Committee aware of the circumstances surrounding my grades.

I came to BYU in fall of 2004 and for 3 semesters maintained a GPA of 3.7 or above. In winter semester of 2004 I received a GPA of 2.1. My mother was diagnosed with cancer that semester and I made several trips home to support her in her illness. In retrospect I probably should have withdrawn from school but at the beginning of the semester I did not understand how much time and effort it would take to help her through this difficult time. Since that semester I have maintained a GPA of 3.7 or above.

I hope you will take this information into account when you evaluate my application. Thank you for your time and consideration.