



September 10, 2026

Ms. Sudha Setty  
Law School Admission Council  
662 Penn Street  
Newtown, Pennsylvania 18940

Dear Ms. Setty,

We write with deep concern regarding apparent overcompliance by the Law School Admission Council (LSAC) with U.S. sanctions that has led your institution to bar Iranian nationals from utilizing your services, including the Law School Admission Test (LSAT). Our organization, the National Iranian American Council (NIAC), has a long history of tracking changes to U.S. sanctions policy and how they are implemented by institutions offering a wide range of products and services. We have received reports of numerous individuals of Iranian heritage in the United States and Canada receiving sudden notifications from LSAC that they are barred from using your services, effective immediately, as a result of changes to U.S. sanctions policy. While recently announced changes by the Treasury Department to eliminate General License G and other exemptions supporting academic exchange are radical and punitive, there does not appear to be any legal requirement for LSAC to bar Iranian nationals outside of Iran from taking the LSAT exam. As a result, we strongly urge you to revisit this policy and take remedial action.

The Iranian-American community, including Iranian nationals lawfully admitted to the United States, includes many lawyers and prospective lawyers who understand the value of the law and have taken or are planning to take the LSAT exam. The move to restrict Iranian nationals from taking the LSAT based solely on national origin, and likely unnecessarily as a result of overcompliance with U.S. sanctions, is deeply unfair and likely contrary to vital legal protections against discrimination.

In line with your mission to promote access, equity, and fairness in law school admission, we urge you to immediately revisit your policies to both ensure full compliance with sanctions obligations and that your policies are not overcomplying with those sanctions and needlessly barring Iranian nationals in the United States, Canada and elsewhere around the globe from utilizing your services.



Our organization strongly opposes the recent revocation of general licensing supporting academic services involving Iranian nationals and understands the confusion and hardship that accompany such radical changes. LSAC is not alone in making changes to its compliance practices in recent weeks, including in ways that likely go well beyond what is required by U.S. sanctions.

We strongly encourage LSAC and its compliance team to contact officials in the Office of Foreign Assets Control at the Treasury Department to clarify LSAC's sanctions obligations following these changes in sanctions policy and, if deemed necessary, seek a specific license that would allow LSAC to fully restore services to Iranian nationals.

NIAC also welcomes the opportunity for dialogue with LSAC to discuss sanctions compliance, the impact of LSAC's changes on Iranian nationals and opportunities for supporting the reinstatement of appropriate licensing to support LSAC and other academic test administrators.

Sincerely,

Jamal Abdi  
President, NIAC