

LSSSE Topical Module: Law Library

This module was designed to assess student engagement as they develop information literacy skills in accordance with ABA Standards. The module is also premised on gaining insights into law student use and satisfaction with library services.

1. During the current academic year, how satisfied were you with your law library's training and support in the following areas?

[Responses: Very satisfied, Satisfied, Unsatisfied, Very unsatisfied, Not used but aware of the service, Unsure whether my law library offers this service]

- Legal research classes/presentations/programs the Library staff has held
- Interactions with librarians where legal research skills are addressed (at the reference desk, individual meetings, virtual reference)
- Research guides compiled by Library staff to assist students in legal research

2. In your experience at your law school during the current school year, about how often have you communicated with a librarian about the following?

[Responses: Very often, Often, Sometimes, Never]

- Research/reference questions
- Support for library technologies (i.e. library catalog, computer lab, printers/copiers, etc.)
- Course work help
- Citation/legal writing question

3. In your experience at law school, how satisfied are you with each of these library functions?

[Responses: Very satisfied, Satisfied, Unsatisfied, Very unsatisfied, Not used]

- Library as study space
- Collaborative space availability
- Quality of print resources available
- Quality of online resources available
- Hours library is open
- Reference/Research assistance
- Circulation/Reserve services
- Interlibrary loan assistance

4. During the current school year, to what extent has your experience at your law school contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?

[Responses: Very much, Quite a bit, Some, Very little]

- Gained an understanding of the complexities of the legal system
- Gained an awareness of the cost of research
- Gained an understanding of the context for the legal issues, laws, rules, and other legal authority that govern a lawyer's use of information in the course of practice
- Developed the ability to effectively use secondary sources (Legal encyclopedias, ALR, loose-leaf services)
- Developed the ability to select appropriate sources for obtaining required information
- Developed the ability to design and implement efficient, cost-effective search strategies
- Developed the ability to critically evaluate the credibility of information sources
- Developed the ability to modify your initial research strategy based on analysis of preliminary results
- Developed the ability to determine when research has explained or supported a conclusion
- Developed the ability to use the results of your research to structure your legal analysis and prepare your work product