

# WORKSHOP FOR BCL/JD RE-APPLICANTS

# ATELIER POUR RE- POSTULANT.E.S AU PROGRAMME DE DROIT BCL/JD

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Doyenne adjointe à l'admission et au recrutement





# Agenda

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The reality of admissions at McGill Law

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Understanding what your refusal letter was saying

4

Grasping your strengths and weaknesses

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6

Useful tips in building a more competitive application

7

Student Ambassador Testimony

8

Q&A period

# The Reality of Admission at McGill Law



In any given year at McGill Law...



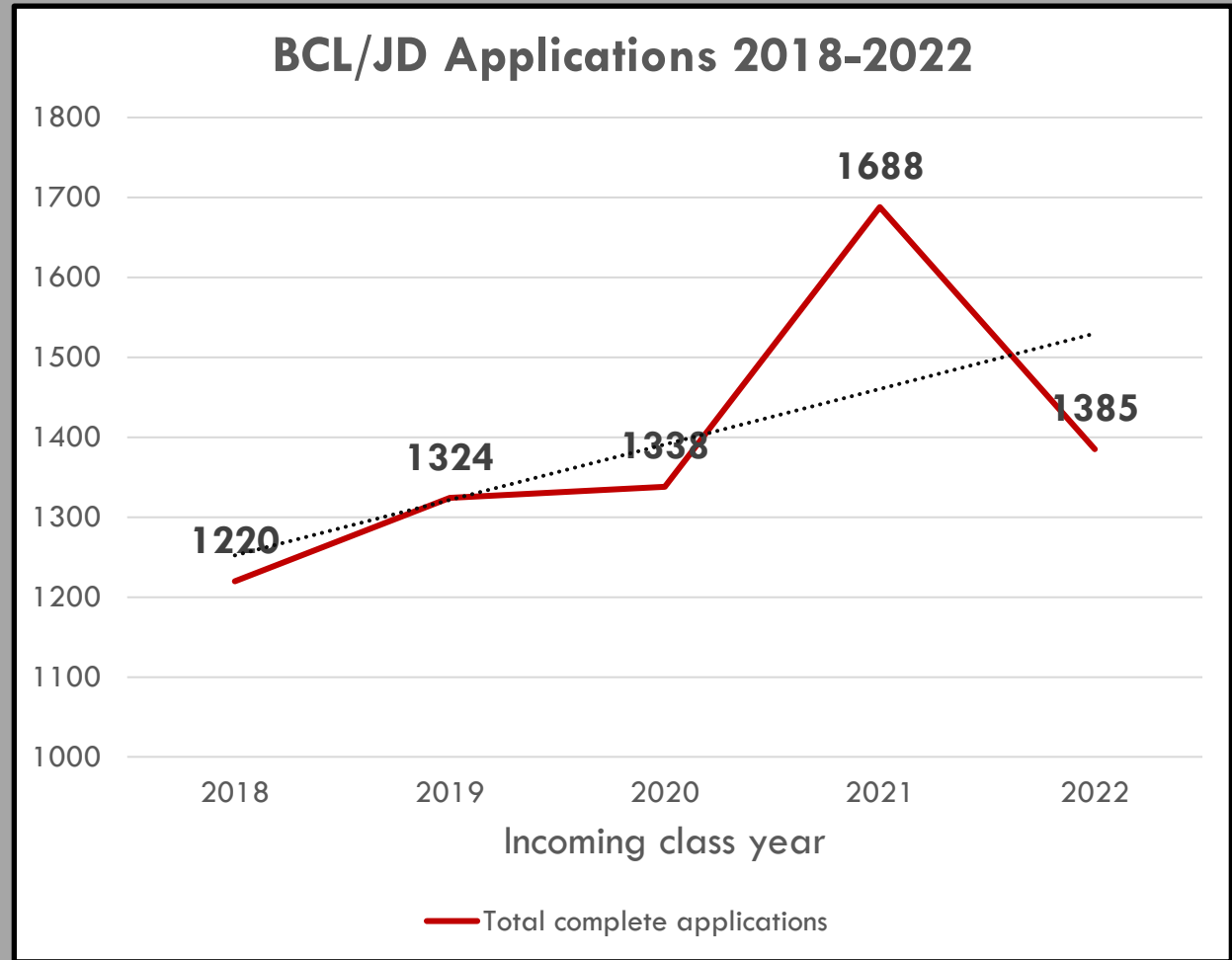
**1100 + Refused candidates**

Due to Lack of space, we refuse many candidates with positive elements

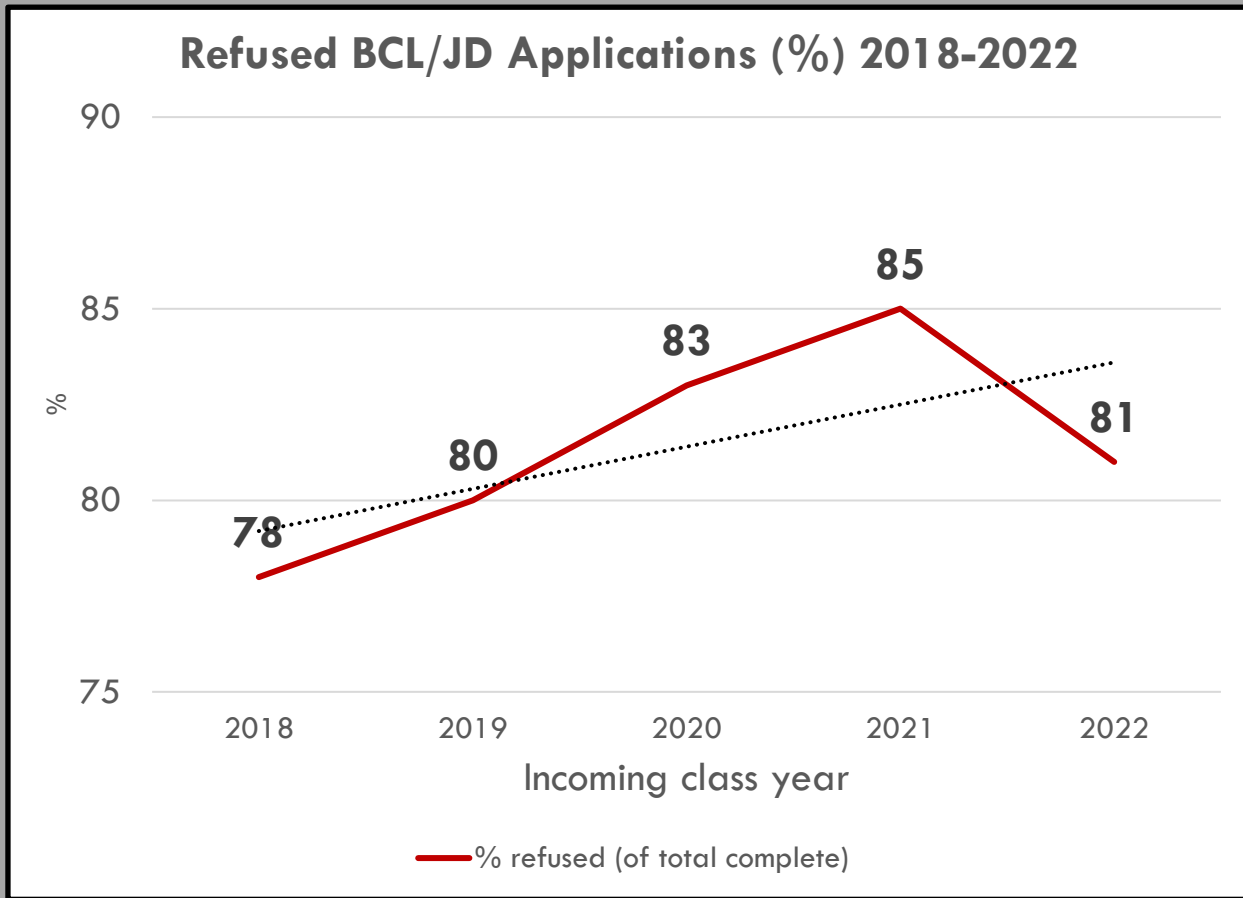


**8 : 1 Applications to class size ratio**

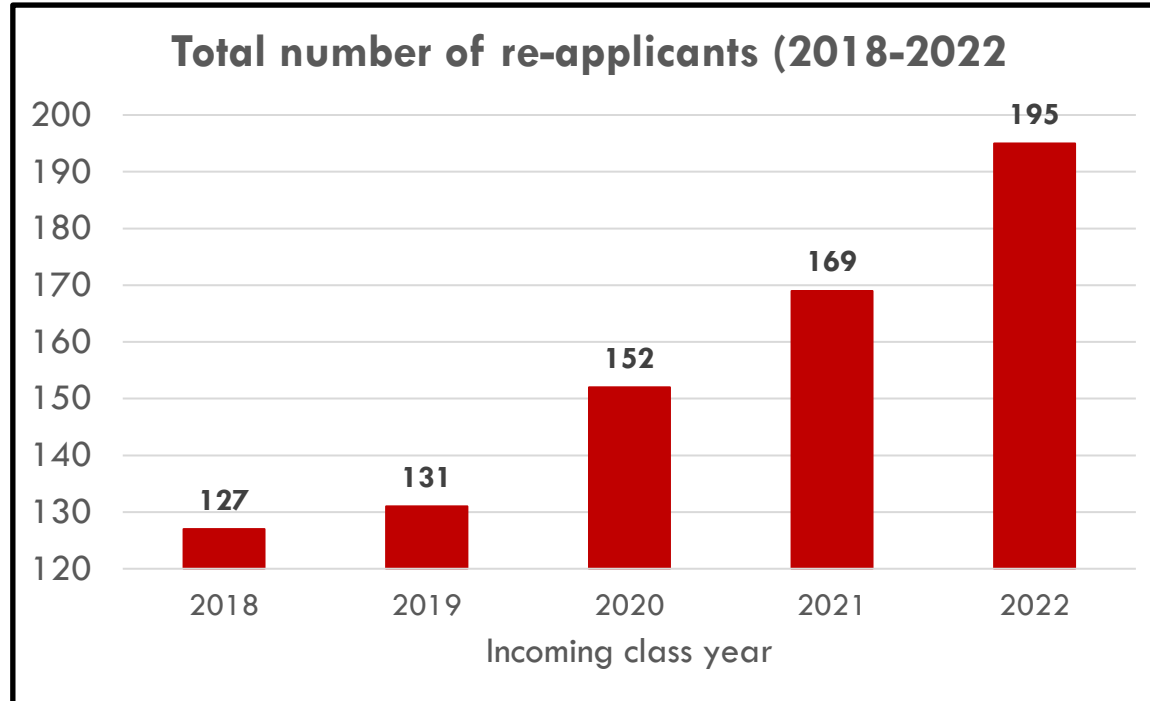
# The Reality of Admission at McGill Law



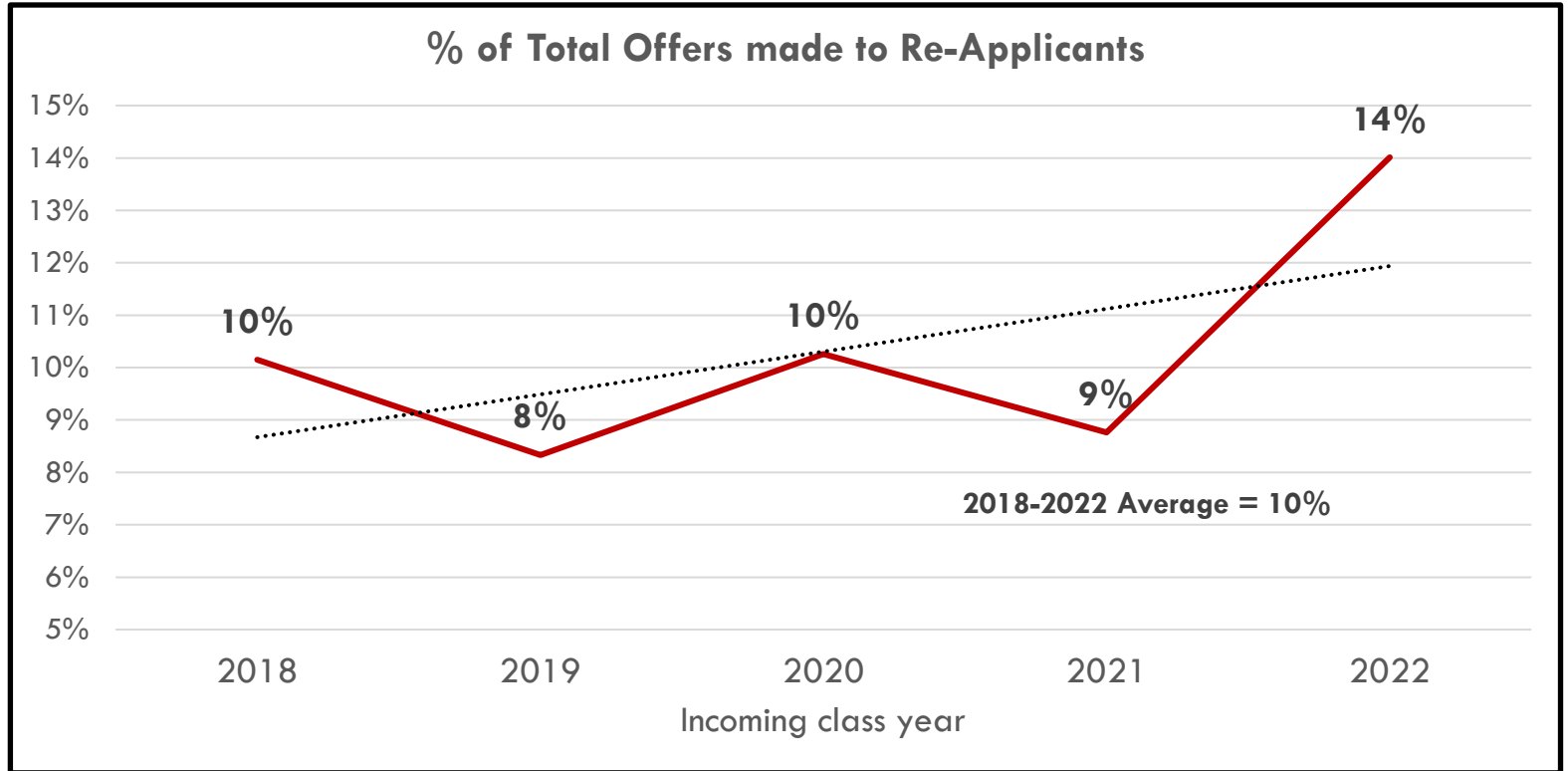
# The Reality of Admission at McGill Law



# Re-applicant overview



# Re-applicant overview



# Success of re-applicants



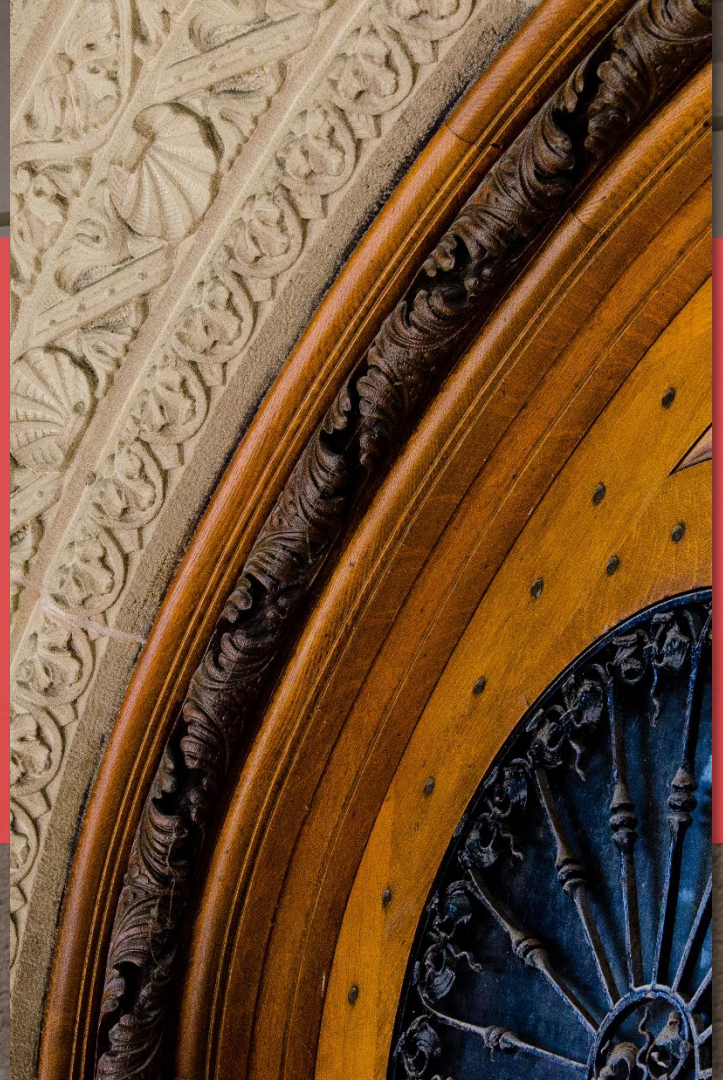
<b>Incoming Class Year</b>	<b>% Re-Applicants Admitted after 2nd Application</b>	<b>% Re-Applicants Admitted after 3rd Application</b>	<b>% Re-Applicants Admitted after 4th Application</b>
2018	17%	5%	0%
2019	14%	3%	0%
2020	14%	2%	0%
2021	11%	1%	1%
2022	17%	2%	1%
<b>Average</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>0%</b>



# Understanding

## What your refusal letter was saying

- Understanding the WHY of the refusal
- Analyzing it
- Being attentive to and critical of your own path





# A bit of **information** about...

01

## **Holistic approach of evaluation**

Every element taken into consideration (context for grades too)

02

## **How decisions are made**

Comparison to the pool of applicants

# Your letters contained one of the reasons below:



**Positive elements** but not overall competitive



**Academic portion** not competitive



**Insufficient** French proficiency



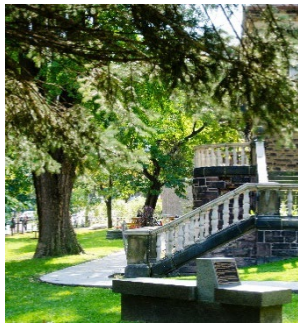
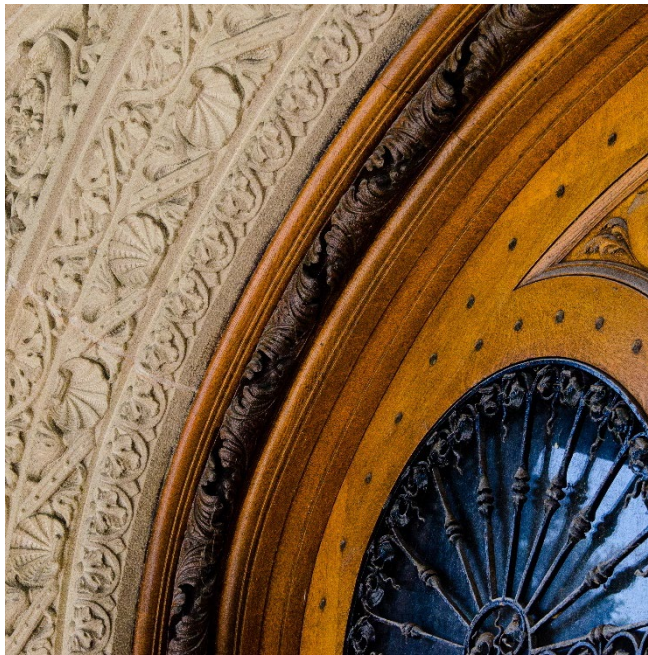
**Undergraduate degree** would not be finished



**Refused** post-interview



**Encouraged** to re-apply



**Grasping**

**Your strengths and  
weaknesses**

**Saisir vos forces et  
vos faiblesses**

# Focus on all elements of your file



## 2021 incoming cohort...



**85 %**  
Average for University  
Candidates

*92% of the class had an average over 80%*



**164 LSAT**  
For those who took it

*86% of the class had an LSAT score of 160 or higher*



**35.041 R-score**  
For CEGEP candidates

*93% had an R-score of 33 or higher*

## Profil Concurrentiel (au-delà du dossier scolaire)

- CV
- Dissertation personnelle (auparavant appelée la « lettre de présentation personnelle »)
- Recommandations
- Aptitudes linguistiques
- Circonstances atténuantes, le cas échéant

# PIÈGES COURANTS QUI AFFLIGENT LES RE-POSTULANTS



**Re-apply without  
changing anything**



**Aptitudes  
linguistiques  
inchangées**



**Improve on your  
strengths instead  
of your  
weaknesses**



**En un mot,  
manque  
d'adaptabilité**

# Useful tips in building a more competitive application



Avoid common Pitfalls



Be open, lucid,  
adaptable



Can I address my lack  
of academic  
competitiveness?



Check our admission  
instructions every year



# WHAT GOES IN A **NEW APPLICATION**



## **New Personal Statement**

Must stand alone. Do not assume that the Committee will reread the old one.

**New limit of 750 words.**



**Ce qu'il faut  
soumettre dans une  
nouvelle demande  
d'admission**

## **New CV**

Maximum 2 pages



## **Transcripts and references**

It depends:

Were the old ones final?

Were they all academic?


*You can re-use the same ones, but you **must** re-submit them via the Applicant Portal*

**New application must stand on its own merits**

Assistant Dean will have access to old file, but don't presume that she will read it in its entirety.







**Perspective d'un  
ambassadeur  
étudiant:**

Être admis après un refus ?  
C'est possible !



**Merci !**

**Any questions ?**

**Get in touch or book an advising appointment  
(virtual or in-person):**



<https://www.mcgill.ca/law/bcl-jd>



[admissions.law@mcgill.ca](mailto:admissions.law@mcgill.ca)



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