



2012 PUBLIC INTEREST SCHOLARSHIP

Since 1991, the California Bar Foundation has awarded more than \$3.5 million through its scholarship programs. Investing in the next generation of public interest lawyers, the flagship Public Interest Scholarship has benefited more than 600 outstanding law students over the past 20 years. The Scholarship helps pay the costs of obtaining a law school education, including tuition, fees, books, and related education expenses. Awards of up to \$7,500 recognize law students who demonstrate superior academic achievement, a sustained and extensive commitment to public service, often while overcoming serious personal hardships and obstacles, an intent to pursue a career in public interest law, and financial need.

The top awards may be made in the name of a Public Interest Scholarship Fund donor. All 2012 Public Interest Scholarships will be awarded in person at a reception to be held in early October 2012 in Los Angeles.

CRITERIA, INSTRUCTIONS & CONDITIONS

The Public Interest Scholarship is awarded in the fall of 2012 for the 2012-2013 academic year. The 2012 Application Deadline is **4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 14, 2012.**

CRITERIA

1. Candidate must be enrolled in a California law school:
 - At the time of submitting a Public Interest Scholarship Application (spring 2012); and
 - In the academic year for which the Public Interest Scholarship is awarded (2012-2013).
2. Candidate must have completed at least one year of study at a California law school by the time the Public Interest Scholarship is distributed in October 2012.
3. Candidate must demonstrate and document a strong commitment to public service, intent to pursue a public interest legal career after law school, and financial need, as shown by financial aid eligibility and outstanding educational loans.
4. Candidate must maintain at least a 2.5 GPA or equivalent on a 4.0 scale (or provide an explanation of extenuating circumstances if GPA is lower) and provide the grading curve used at Candidate's law school.
5. Candidate's law school must certify:
 - Good ethical standing of Candidate while attending law school; and
 - Candidate's financial need.
6. Candidate must be chosen as one of a maximum of **five** Candidates nominated by his/her law school.
7. Candidates from online law schools must be California residents.
8. Candidate must intend to practice law in California after graduation from law school.
9. Previous Foundation scholarship winners are eligible for the Public Interest Scholarship; any prior awards received by Candidate may be taken into consideration in the selection process.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. All portions of the Application must be **received** by the Foundation by **4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 14, 2012** (the "Application Deadline"). Attachments, letters of recommendation, and law school documents may be submitted separately, though **Candidates are strongly encouraged to submit one packet with all application materials**. Please note that in order to provide enough time to select its nominees, a law school typically requires Candidates to submit their Applications to the law school by a date earlier than the Foundation's Application Deadline.
2. Applications may be submitted by mail, delivery service, fax, or email as a **PDF** to:
Public Interest Scholarship
California Bar Foundation
180 Howard Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
Fax: (415) 856-0788
jguillory@calbarfoundation.org
Fax is the least optimal way to submit the application, though it is permitted. If faxing, please make sure that all pieces of the application are easily readable and sent together.
3. Applications postmarked by the Application Deadline but not received in full by the Deadline will not be accepted.
4. All documents submitted in association with Candidate's Application for the Public Interest Scholarship, including law school documents and letters of recommendation, should include the name of Candidate on **each** page.
5. Applications submitted in hard copy form should have **no staples**.
6. Applications submitted via email must be sent as a single PDF document, though recommendations may come directly from the recommender.
7. See the Application Checklist for a complete list of documentation that must be submitted.

CONDITIONS

1. Public Interest Scholarship Recipients must:
 - Attend a reception in their honor, which is currently scheduled for early October 2012 in Los Angeles. The Foundation will provide stipends to help cover the travel costs of attending this event for Recipients who do not attend law school in the Los Angeles area. *Failure to attend may result in forfeiture of Recipient's Public Interest Scholarship, without notice.*
 - Provide the Foundation, in a timely fashion, contact information for every date between the Application Deadline and the date of the Scholarship Reception. *Failure to do so may result in forfeiture of Recipient's Public Interest Scholarship, without notice.*
 - Arrange to have the Foundation receive an end-of-the-year transcript for the 2011-2012 academic year by August 1. *Failure to do so may result in forfeiture of Recipient's Public Interest Scholarship, without notice.*
 - Report back to the Foundation on their legal careers following their law school graduation.
2. Public Interest Scholarship Recipients will be requested to provide a recent digital photograph of themselves upon receiving notification of their award. *Please do not send photos with Application.*
3. The Foundation reserves the right to use information from Applications and letters of recommendation as part of its publicity of Public Interest Scholarship Recipients.
4. Public Interest Scholarship Recipients are expected to pursue public interest legal careers after law school.
5. Public Interest Scholarship Award Recipients receiving named scholarships may be asked to contact donors supporting their scholarships and invited to attend firm events.



2012 PUBLIC INTEREST SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Provide answers to questions on this Application. If feasible, all requested documents on the Checklist should be attached to this Application and returned by mail, delivery service, fax, or email. All requested material must be received by the Foundation no later than **4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 14, 2012.*** Please read the Criteria, Instructions, and Conditions for the Public Interest Scholarship Application for more information.

Name of Candidate**: _____

Current Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Permanent Address (if different from current address): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Race or Ethnicity (optional): _____

Gender: _____

Law School: _____

Current Class Year (1L or 2L): _____ Graduation Date: _____

Intended Plans after Law School/Reasons for Intent to Practice Law in California: _____

Contact Information for Law School Representative Providing Your Nomination:

Name and Title: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

All of the information provided to the Foundation in my Public Interest Scholarship Application and in connection with my admission to, and enrollment in, law school is true, correct, and complete, and there are no material omissions from either application.

Candidate Signature

Candidate Name

Date

*To provide enough time to process your nomination, your law school may require that you submit your Application by a date earlier than the Foundation's Application Deadline.
****Please print your name as you would wish it to appear in the Foundation's printed materials should you be selected as a Scholarship Recipient.**

CERTIFICATION AND AUTHORIZATION FORM

CERTIFICATION OF NON-RELATIONSHIP

I certify that I am not related to any member of the Board of Directors, officer, or employee of the California Bar Foundation or to any member of the Board of Governors, officer, or employee of the State Bar of California. I understand that, if I am disqualified for misrepresenting my relationship with any of the aforementioned or for any other reason, I will not be eligible to receive any scholarship from the Foundation.

_____, 2012
Candidate Signature Date

AUTHORIZATION TO USE INFORMATION, NAME, AND LIKENESS

I understand that the Foundation requires the right to use my name and likeness, as well as information from my Scholarship Application, personal statement, and letters of recommendation as part of its publicity about the Foundation, the Public Interest Scholarship (and Recipients), and fundraising for the Foundation and its programs. I hereby authorize the Foundation to so use my name and likeness, as well as information from my Scholarship Application, personal statement, and letters of recommendation, in its discretion.

_____, 2012
Candidate Signature Date

CONSENT AND AUTHORIZATION TO OBTAIN INFORMATION

I acknowledge and represent to the Foundation that I have read the Criteria, Instructions, and Conditions for the Public Interest Scholarship, the Application, and related materials. I hereby consent to and authorize the Foundation to request and obtain information relevant to my Scholarship Application. I waive my right to privacy of this information to the extent of this Consent and Authorization. I release and hold harmless the Foundation and my law school from any claims, damages, or liability whatsoever as a result of the disclosure to or use by the Foundation of any such information. I also acknowledge and agree that, if any information contained in my Scholarship Application is not true, complete, and accurate, or if material information has been omitted, I could be disqualified from receiving, and/or forfeit, any Scholarship Award(s) from the Foundation. I further agree and acknowledge that all decisions by the Foundation to award the Public Interest Scholarships are made in the sole discretion of the Foundation, and all decisions are final.

_____, 2012
Candidate Signature Date

NOTE: Candidates who submit Scholarship Applications without signing and dating the above (1) Certification of Non-Relationship, (2) Authorization to Use Information, Name, and Likeness, and (3) Consent and Authorization to Obtain Information will be disqualified from consideration for the Public Interest Scholarship.



Name of Candidate: _____

CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL NEED

Candidate's law school may complete this form or submit its own form documenting Candidate's financial need, so long as it clearly provides the information requested below.

Tuition cost for 2012-2013 Academic Year: \$ _____

Other Costs (housing, books, food, etc.): \$ _____

TOTAL LAW SCHOOL BUDGET: \$ _____

Candidate's Financial Aid Awards for 2012-2013 Academic Year:

Grants: \$ _____

Federal Loans: \$ _____

Private Loans: \$ _____

Campus Job Earnings: \$ _____

Work/Study Earnings: \$ _____

Scholarships: \$ _____

TOTAL AWARDS: \$ _____

Candidate has \$ _____ outstanding in law school student loans.

Candidate reports \$ _____ outstanding student loans from undergraduate institution.

Candidate reports \$ _____ outstanding student loans from other graduate institutions.

Signed: _____

Date: _____, 2012

Name: _____

Title: _____

Law School: _____



2012 PUBLIC INTEREST SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Please include all documents. Failure to provide any of the documents listed below may result in disqualification.

Complete, Sign, and Date the Following Documents Contained in the Application Packet:

- ✓ **Application**
- ✓ **Certification and Authorization Form**, which includes:
 - Certification of Non-Relationship
 - Authorization to Use Information, Name, and Likeness
 - Consent and Authorization to Obtain Information

Provide the Following Additional Documents:

- ✓ **Certification of Ethical Standing and Statement of Nomination** – Letter from law school (1) verifying Candidate's enrollment and good ethical conduct during the academic year in which Candidate's Application is filed, and (2) certifying that Candidate is one of the law school's **five** nominees.
- ✓ **Resume** – Designate Candidate's volunteer service post-school with double asterisks (**). Include **all** legal work experience since the beginning of law school.
- ✓ **Personal Statement** – One-page statement, not to exceed 400 words, describing Candidate's commitment to and plans for a legal career in public service.
- ✓ **Letters of Recommendation** – Three current letters of recommendation supporting Candidate's commitment to public service. Letters can be addressed to "California Bar Foundation Public Interest Scholarship."
- ✓ **Law School Transcript** – Copy of Candidate's transcript with the most recent GPA (including explanation of 2.5 equivalency for those law schools that do not use a 4.0 scale) **and** a description of Candidate's law school's grading curve. Please also include a detailed explanation of any extenuating circumstances if Candidate's GPA is lower than 2.5. This can be an unofficial transcript, but it must clearly identify the Candidate and the law school by name.
- ✓ **Certification of Financial Need** – Certification from law school financial aid office of Candidate's financial need by completing the form enclosed with this Application setting forth Candidate's financial aid package as well as total amount of outstanding undergraduate, law school, and other graduate program loans, by category.
- ✓ **Optional Statement of Financial Circumstances** – Candidate may choose to submit an additional, optional statement of up to 50 words describing any financial circumstances that Candidate believes may be relevant in determining Candidate's financial need (for example, if Candidate worked to pay for most or all undergraduate costs).

Note: *Candidate's name must appear on each page of every document submitted with the Application, including letters of recommendation.*

The Foundation must receive all documents by **4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 14, 2012**, at:

Public Interest Scholarship
California Bar Foundation
180 Howard Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
Fax: (415) 856-0788
jguillory@calbarfoundation.org

Note: *Fax is the least optimal way to submit the application, though it is permitted. If faxing, please make sure that all pieces of the application are easily readable and sent together.*