

The Black Women Lawyers' Association Scholarship Fund

Chicagoland Bar Review Scholarship Application (Summer 2023)

The Black Women Lawyers' Association Scholarship Fund (BWLA-SF) endeavors to promote diversity in the legal profession by providing mentorship and other resources in support of their legal education and career advancement. To support this goal, BWLA-SF will award recent law school graduates sitting for the Illinois Bar Exam a scholarship for bar exam preparation.

AWARD: BWLA-SF will award one (1) Bar Review scholarship to cover the cost of a bar review course for a law school graduate sitting for the July 2023 Illinois Bar Exam. Scholarship recipients will be recognized during the National Summit of Black Women Lawyers to take place March 30 – April 1, 2023, at the Fairmont Chicago Millennium Park.

ELIGIBILITY: Applicants must (1) be of Black or African descent; (2) complete the essay and application and submit all required documents; (3) have attended a Chicagoland ABA-accredited law school OR have a demonstrated present or future connection to the Chicagoland legal market; (4) supply evidence of registration for the Illinois bar exam in July 2023; and (5) be pursuing a career in government or public service.

SELECTION CRITERIA: Applicants will be evaluated on the following: professionalism of application materials (incomplete or incorrectly formatted application materials will be disqualified); essay substance and quality; commitment to public service and diversity; professional and academic achievement; unmet financial need; and BWLA involvement. Applications with excessive typographical and/or grammatical errors may be disqualified.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION: Each application must be typewritten, converted to a PDF, and combined with all other supporting documentation into **ONE PDF file**, except for a transcript or letter of good standing which may be sent directly from the applicant's law school depending on the institution's policies. Applications submitted in other formats or as more than one PDF file will not be considered. The application and all documents **must** be e-mailed to scholarship@bwla.org with "BWLA Chicagoland Bar Review Scholarship Application – Name" in the subject by **Friday, December 30, 2022, at 11:59 p.m. CST.**

<u>APPLICANT INFORMATION</u>	
Name:	Telephone Number and Email:
Address (including City, State, and Zip Code):	
Name of Law School:	Year in Law School (or Graduation Year):
Please include a current resume including any extra-curricular activities, community service, outreach activities and organizations in which you are currently involved. Please state the extent of your involvement.	
Please include a copy of your transcript.	
On a separate sheet of paper, please list any amount of financial assistance you are currently receiving, such as employment, grants or scholarships (do not include loans).	
Please complete the attached essay question and comply with the essay requirements.	

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ESSAY PROMPT AND REQUIREMENTS

ESSAY PROMPT

Share with us "why public service?" Describe your current (or intended) type of legal practice or field and explain your short- and long-term goals. What led you to those decisions? Feel free to discuss topics such as a personal challenge or experience you faced that led you to want to pursue a career in government or public service or a passion for or involvement in a project that contributed to your desire to pursue public service.

ESSAY REQUIREMENTS

1. Essay must be typed, 12-point font, double spaced on 8.5 x 11-inch paper with 1-inch margins throughout the entire document.
2. Essay must be no more than 1,000 words.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

1. Completed and signed application;
2. Essay;
3. Resume (*including current community service activities, i.e. professional organizations, student groups and non-profit activities*);
4. Law School Transcript;
5. Letter of Good Standing from your school's registrar (*for current students only*); and
6. Evidence of registration for the July 2023 Illinois Bar Exam.

All required documents must be emailed to scholarship@bwla.org with "BWLA Chicagoland Bar Review Scholarship Application – Name" in the subject by **Friday, December 30, 2022, at 11:59 p.m. CST.**

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the information provided herein is accurate and truthful to the best of my knowledge.

(Signature of Applicant)

(Date)