



2024 Law Student Diversity Scholarship Application

Submission Deadline: March 31, 2024

Scholarship Requirements

DRI announces its annual Law Student Diversity Scholarship program, open to rising (2024–2025) second- and third-year African American, Hispanic, Asian, Native American, LGBTQ+, and multiracial students. All rising second- and third-year female law students are also eligible, regardless of race or ethnicity. Any other rising second- and third-year law students who come from backgrounds that would add to the cause of diversity, regardless of race or gender, are eligible to apply. Students who are members of the American Association for Justice (AAJ), law school or law student members of AAJ, or students otherwise affiliated with or employed by AAJ are not eligible for DRI Law Student Diversity Scholarships. To qualify for this scholarship, a candidate must be a full-time student. Evening students also qualify for consideration if they have completed one-third or more of the total credit hours required for a degree by the applicant's law school. The goal of these scholarships is to provide financial assistance to three worthy law students from ABA-accredited law schools to promote, in a tangible way, the DRI Diversity Statement of Principle. See the last page of this application for the DRI Diversity Statement.

One scholarship in the amount of \$10,000 and two scholarships in the amount of \$5,000 each will be awarded to applicants who best meet the following criteria:

- Demonstrated academic excellence
- Service to the profession
- Service to the community
- Service to the cause of diversity

*Applications must include three recommendations, one each from the following individuals:**

- 1) The dean or an associate dean of the student's law school;
- 2) A current or past law professor; and
- 3) An individual who is personally acquainted with the applicant, but who is not related by bloodline or adoption.

Additionally, each applicant must include a cover letter with his or her application. In that cover letter, each applicant should identify his or her academic, personal, and professional accomplishments and how those accomplishments qualify him or her for a DRI Law Student Diversity Scholarship.

* Letters of recommendation may be submitted directly by the applicant.

Essay Requirements

In addition to submitting the attached application and required recommendations, applicants must complete an essay of no more than 2,000 words based upon the following question:

The Impact of Artificial Intelligence on the Legal Profession

Generative artificial intelligence continues to dominant the news cycle with use cases ranging from image generation to AI coding assistants. The legal profession is not immune from the effects of generative artificial intelligence. In fact, the Fifth Circuit recently proposed amendment to R. 32.2 that requires both counsel and unrepresented filers to certify that no generative artificial intelligence was used to draft filings or, to the extent that generative artificial intelligence was used, that a human has reviewed it for accuracy prior to filing. In light of the overall impact of generative artificial intelligence on the legal profession:

Is the Fifth Circuit moving in the right direction in regard to generative artificial intelligence?

- 1) If so, how will this proposed amendment impact the practice of law?
- 2) If not, how should courts address generative artificial intelligence?

Submission Deadline

Applications and all other requested materials must be received by March 31, 2024. Scholarship winners will be notified in advance and officially announced at the DRI Diversity for Success Seminar, June 12-14, 2024 in Nashville, TN.

Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

All applications, essays, and required materials** may be submitted in PDF format to scholarship@dri.org, or hard copy format to

Diversity Scholarship
DRI
222 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 1870
Chicago, IL 60606

** Letters of recommendation may be submitted directly by the applicant.

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SECTION ONE: Personal Information

Full Name

Last: _____ First: _____ M.I.: _____

Current Mailing Address

Street Address: _____ Apt/Unit #: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Permanent Mailing Address

Street Address: _____ Apt/Unit #: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

SECTION TWO: Academic Information

High School

High School Name: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Undergraduate

Undergraduate Institution Name: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Dates of Attendance: _____ Date of Graduation: _____

Degree Earned: _____

 SECTION TWO: Academic Information (*continued*)

Undergraduate Information (*continued*)

Honors, Awards, or Other Special Recognition:

Extracurricular Activities:

Graduate

Graduate Institution Name (other than law school):

City: _____ State: _____

Degree Earned: _____

Honors, Awards, or Other Special Recognition:

SECTION TWO: Academic Information (*continued*)

Graduate Information (*continued*)

Extracurricular Activities:

Law School

Law School Name: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Anticipated date of graduation: _____

GPA: _____ Grading Scale: _____

Class Rank: _____

Honors, Awards, or Other Special Recognition:

SECTION TWO: Academic Information (*continued*)

Law School Information (*continued*)

Extracurricular Activities:

Have you previously attended any other law school? If so, please explain.

SECTION THREE: Community Service Information

Describe any community service activities.

Dates	Organization/Activity	Role/Position
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

SECTION FOUR: Work Experience

Describe any relevant work experience (attach resume if necessary).

Dates	Company/Organization	Position/Title
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

SECTION FIVE: Other Information

What are your career goals?


SECTION SIX: Applicant's Certification

- 1) I am currently registered as a full-time, second- or third-year law student at an ABA-accredited law school, identified in this application, or I am an evening student who has completed one-third or more of the total credit hours required for a degree from the law school that I now attend.
- 2) I am not a member of the American Association for Justice (AAJ), a law school or law student member of the AAJ, or otherwise affiliated with or employed by AAJ.
- 3) I am eligible to apply for this scholarship under the criteria.
- 4) All information contained in this application is true and correct.

OPTIONAL	<i>DRI is committed to the principle of diversity in its membership and leadership. Accordingly, applicants are invited to indicate which of the following may best describe them:</i>	<input type="radio"/> African American	<input type="radio"/> Asian American	<input type="radio"/> Hispanic	<input type="radio"/> Native American
		<input type="radio"/> Caucasian	<input type="radio"/> Multi-Racial	<input type="radio"/> LGBT+	<input type="radio"/> Other _____

Date of birth _____ month/day/year

Signature: _____ Date: _____



Diversity and Inclusion in DRI: A Statement of Principle

DRI is the largest international membership organization of attorneys defending the interests of business and individuals in civil litigation.

Diversity is a core value at DRI. Indeed, diversity, which includes sexual orientation, is fundamental to the success of the organization, and we seek out and embrace the innumerable benefits and contributions that the perspectives, backgrounds, cultures, and life experiences a diverse membership provides.

Inclusiveness is the chief means to increase the diversity of DRI's membership and leadership positions. DRI's members and potential leaders are often also members and leaders of other defense organizations. Accordingly, DRI encourages all national, state, and local defense organizations to promote diversity and inclusion in their membership and leadership.