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Colorado LGBTQ+ Bar Association Foundation

2024 Summit Scholarship Application Packet

OVERVIEW

The Colorado LGBTQ+ Bar Association Foundation (the “**Foundation**”) Summit Scholarship fosters inclusiveness in the legal profession by providing financial assistance, in the form of two (2) \$5,000.00 scholarships, to deserving Colorado LGBTQ+ identified law students who have shown strong academic promise and community engagement. Each scholarship provides supplemental funding for law students who have a demonstrated ability in and commitment to affecting change in the LGBTQ+ communities through their commitment to working and being educated in the legal profession.

By providing scholarships to LGBTQ+ law students, the Foundation recognizes these students’ past achievements and provides much needed support for their future pursuits. Through these awards, we forge links between professional and emerging leaders, and help facilitate the growth and advancement of not only these individuals, but of our communities as well.

Two (2) students – committed to affecting change in the LGBTQ+ community through their education and work in the legal profession – will be selected for the scholarships and shall be known as Summit Scholars.

Visibility

All awardees must be "out," as members of the LGBTQ+ community, as well as to their non-LGBTQ+ peers within the educational system and profession for which they are seeking scholarship assistance. By applying for this scholarship, applicants consent to the use of their name and/or likeness in Foundation publications and promotional materials.

Guidelines and Terms of Awards

Academic achievement is the primary component of this competitive application process. Consideration will also include honors, personal/financial hardship and especially, service to the LGBTQ+ community. All applications must strictly adhere to published application instructions and guidelines. **Incomplete and/or late applications will not be considered.**

- Scholarships are educational in nature and can be applied to tuition, books, fees, or personal expenses.
- The scholarship funds are paid directly to the applicant. Consult your tax advisor to determine individual tax liability. If the applicant's school requires reporting of financial awards, please report awarded funds to the appropriate department.
- Awards are valid only for the academic year in which the application is received. Awards are distributed in one disbursement – December. The Foundation reserves the right to verify enrollment and academic standing prior to disbursement of funds.

- The Foundation Summit Scholarship Fund is a onetime funding opportunity, and those selected as Summit Scholars are ineligible to reapply to the organization.
- Foundation Board of Directors and Officers, selection committee members, major donors, and the family members of these groups are ineligible.
- The 2024 Scholarship will be presented at a celebration on **October 18, 2024**. The scholarship awardee will be expected to attend a videotaping session and provide materials that the Foundation can use in the presentation at the annual celebration.

Application FAQs and Eligibility Requirements

The Foundation considers many factors when assessing scholarship applicants, including:

- A proven track record of leadership and community involvement
- Strong academic achievement
- Working for the betterment of the LGBTQ+ community
- Financial need

Eligible applicants also:

- Must be enrolled as a rising 2L or 3L at an accredited law school based in Colorado by September 15th of the application year
- Must be enrolled for the full academic year
- Must be “out” as a person who identifies as a member of the LGBTQ+ community

Is there an age limit to apply to become a Summit Scholar?

No, there is no age limit to be eligible to become a Summit Scholar.

If my career goals are not exclusively focused on the LGBTQ+ community may I still apply?

Yes, the Foundation selects scholars whom it believes have made a contribution to the LGBTQ+ community and who will continue to do so in the future. Some scholars will choose a legal career that focuses on the LGBTQ+ community, and others will use their skills and influence in other ways while not working full time on LGBTQ+ issues. Talent and a drive to contribute to society are key characteristics of a Summit Scholar. We welcome accomplished scholars intending to practice law in all fields.

I am not sure that I qualify (or identify) as either financially disadvantaged or marginalized, but I am confident that I have many of the other strengths (history of leadership, dedication to the legal field, etc.). Should I still apply?

Yes, you may qualify and should apply. Our selection committee weighs all facets of each person's application. The Foundation supports scholars who have a variety of needs and who demonstrate a record of accomplishment and high achievement.

Does the Foundation provide scholarships to undocumented students?

Yes, our application process is open to all LGBTQ+ Colorado law students regardless of citizenship. Undocumented students are eligible and will be reviewed as international students.

If I apply and am not selected, may I reapply?

Yes, applicants may reapply the following year. Each returning applicant should submit the most current and competitive information possible, and not recycle their previous application.

Should I send my application early?

Early scholarship applications are always appreciated and early submission also increases the likelihood of early notification of whether an applicant has advanced to the semifinalist round; allowing for more time to gather the required semifinalist supplementary materials.

However, each and every scholarship application that is submitted by the deadline of **11:59 p.m. MST on the last day of eligibility** will be evaluated equally.

How will I know if you received my scholarship application?

We will send each applicant a confirmation email when their scholarship application is received. Scholarship applicants who are selected as semifinalists will be notified by **October 4, 2024**.

How will the judging take place?

A Selection Committee made up of members of the Foundation Board of Directors will review completed applications. The review of applications is strictly confidential. The decision to award scholarships is final and binding in all respects. No justifications or critique will be provided to any third-party or to applicants regarding evaluation of rejected applications.



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APPLICANT SUBMISSION DEADLINES

August 12: Summit Scholarship Application opens.

September 9: Summit Scholarship Application closes.

September 13: Semi-Finalists are notified by e-mail and provided with additional application materials.

September 27: Deadline for Semi-Finalists to submit additional materials.

October 4: Scholarship winners are notified via phone call or e-mail.

October 18: Scholarship winners will be honored at the Annual Scholarship Gay-la



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DIRECTIONS

Fill out the application completely. E-Mail one (1) copy of all materials in one (1) e-mail to the Foundation Scholarship Committee at mark.clouatre@nelsonmullins.com. **All materials must be received by 11:59 pm MST on September 9.** No mailed or hand-delivered applications will be accepted.

A completed application will consist of:

- A complete, signed application on the form below;
- A Statement of Advocacy/Activism on the form below or attached;
- Personal Essay on the form below or attached;
- Current Resume;
- Current law school transcript (official or unofficial transcripts will be accepted);
- Completed and signed Publication Release; and
- Optional Demographic Data form (this is voluntary and used solely for program development. It will not be used in the determination of scholarship recipients).



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NAME, ADDRESS AND PERSONAL IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

Full Name:	Preferred Pronouns:
Mailing Address:	Telephone: ()
City, State, Zip Code	
E-mail Address:	
Enrollment Status (choose one) Full Time Part Time	Are you eligible for Financial Aid? Yes No Unknown



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ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Name of Law School:	Name of Undergraduate College or University:
	Date of Graduation:
	Undergraduate Degree:
Law School Mailing Address:	Telephone:
	()
City, State, Zip Code	
Current Year in Law School:	
Expected Graduation Date:	Current Grade Point Average on four-point scale:



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STATEMENT ON PERSONAL ACTIVISM/ADVOCACY

In no more than one (1) page, double-spaced, 12-point font, **please describe your current and past involvement in activism and advocacy of LGBTQ+ issues through your law school or community engagement.**



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PERSONAL ESSAY

In no more than two (2) pages, double-spaced, 12-point font, please write a short essay **describing adversity you have faced in your life and how it has shaped your worldview and informed your decision to go to law school.**



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CERTIFICATION

I certify that the information provided in this application is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. Falsification of information will result in disqualification from the scholarship program and may be reported to the applicant's law school.

I have fully reviewed and agree to comply with the terms and qualifications outlined in the Colorado LGBTQ+ Bar Association Foundation Summit Scholarship Application.

Applicant's Signature: _____

Date: _____



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PUBLICATION RELEASE

I, the undersigned, hereby assign and grant to the Colorado LGBTQ+ Bar Association Foundation the right and permission to use and publish the materials/photographs/film/videotapes/electronic representations and/or sound recordings made of and submitted by me, and I hereby release the Colorado LGBTQ+ Bar Association Foundation from any and all liability from such use and publication. I understand that if I am selected to receive an award, I will provide the Colorado LGBTQ+ Bar Association Foundation with a high quality, digital photograph (professional attire required).

I hereby authorize the reproduction, sale, copyright, exhibit, broadcast, electronic storage and/or distribution of said materials/photographs/film/videotapes/electronic representations and/or sound recordings without limitation at the discretion of the Colorado LGBTQ+ Bar Association Foundation and I specifically waive any right to any compensation I may have for any of the foregoing. I understand that failure to execute this release will result in my application being ineligible for award consideration. Additionally, if I fail to provide the aforementioned photograph within 30 days of award notification, my award offer will be rescinded.

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip Code:

Phone number:

Signed: _____ Date: _____



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DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION FORM (OPTIONAL)

Response to the following information is voluntary. A response or lack of response will not be used to approve or deny any scholarship applicant. The information collected below is designed to provide the organization with demographic data on all applicants and to improve outreach.

Demographic data will NOT be utilized in the selection process.

Race/Ethnicity (Check all that Apply):		Sexual Orientation/Identity:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	American Indian or Alaska Native	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lesbian
<input type="checkbox"/>	Asian	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gay
<input type="checkbox"/>	Black or African American	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bisexual
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hispanic/Latino/Latina	<input type="checkbox"/>	Queer
<input type="checkbox"/>	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Caucasian	How "out" are you?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Totally
		<input type="checkbox"/>	In Some Places
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:
Gender Identity:		Age:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Male		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Female	How did you hear about us?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	M to F Transgender		
<input type="checkbox"/>	F to M Transgender		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gender Queer		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:		