



**NATIONAL BAR
ASSOCIATION®**

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**GATEWAY TO SUCCESS CONFERENCE
SCHOLARSHIP AWARD APPLICATION**

National Bar Association Corporate Law Section: Gateway to Success Conference Scholarship Awards 2026

Scholarship Award Objectives

The Gateway to Success Conference Scholarship Award (“Gateway Scholarship”) advances the National Bar Association’s (“NBA”) mission of strengthening the pipeline of diverse law students. The Gateway Scholarship promotes a more diverse legal profession by helping diverse students overcome the financial challenges associated with law school. To further this goal, the NBA has partnered with several organizations to identify deserving candidates across the nation to receive the Gateway Scholarship. In prior years, up to six Gateway Scholarships have been awarded to deserving applicants, including up to three undergraduate students or recent college graduates who intend to enroll in law school in the upcoming fall semester and three law school students currently attending law school.

Scholarship Criteria and Eligibility

Scholarships ranging from \$5,000.00 to \$6,500.00 will be awarded nationally to up to six diverse law students or college students/graduates who will be attending law school in the fall of 2026. Any student or college graduate must include documentation that s/he has been accepted and will be attending law school no later than the fall of 2026. Scholarship applicants will be evaluated based on their economic need, community involvement, involvement with student organizations, leadership abilities and academic achievement. Selection criteria include financial need, merit and scholastic performance. Consideration will also be given to involvement in extracurricular activities in your community and at school.

Questions about the Gateway Scholarship may be sent to:

NBA Corporate Law Section Scholarship Committee
gatewaytosuccess@nationalbar.org

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN
February 16, 2026, 11:59 PM EST
(Applications submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.)



GATEWAY TO SUCCESS CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD 2026

Applications must be submitted no later than February 16, 2026, 11:59 PM EST. Incomplete application packets and/or applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered. Scholarship recipients will be announced during the 2026 Gateway to Success Conference at Southern University Law Center, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Scholarship recipients are not required to attend the Gateway to Success Conference.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

CELL PHONE: _____

II. LAW SCHOOL/COLLEGE INFORMATION (as of date of application)

LAW SCHOOL/COLLEGE NAME: _____

CLASSIFICATION (i.e., 1L, 2L, 3L, anticipated college graduation date or college graduation date):

COLLEGE GPA: (cumulative) _____

LAW SCHOOL GPA: (cumulative) _____

EXPECTED LAW SCHOOL GRADUATION DATE: _____

LAWSCHOOL/COLLEGE ACTIVITIES:

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: _____

III. REQUIRED INFORMATION AND ESSAY

Please upload the items listed below to the application submission form: <https://forms.gle/QzGPfp6DuiX89XAS9>. Include “Gateway Scholarship” and your name on any uploaded files (e.g., “Gateway Scholarship – [First Name Last Name]”).

- (1) Two letters of recommendation specifically prepared for the National Bar Association Gateway to Success Conference Scholarship Award. Letters of recommendation may be emailed directly from the recommender to gatewaytosuccess@nationalbar.org. Note: you are still responsible for the timely submission of all application materials, including letters of recommendation. Any letters received after the deadline will not be accepted and the application packet will be deemed incomplete and rejected without two timely submitted letters of recommendation;
- (2) Official undergraduate transcript (for college seniors or graduates);
- (3) Official law school transcript (for students who have completed at least one semester of law school);
- (4) Documentation indicating that you have been accepted and will be attending law school no later than the fall of 2026 (for college seniors or graduates);
- (5) Resume;
- (6) Headshot; and
- (7) A 250-500 word typewritten essay responding to the following questions:

Why do you want to be a lawyer? As a future leader in the legal profession, what positive impact do you feel you can make (a) as an attorney and (b) as a member of the National Bar Association?

IV. EMPLOYMENT AND FINANCIAL STATUS

Employer: _____

Address: _____

Position: _____

Salary: \$ _____

Last year's annual household income: \$ _____

Last year's household expenses: \$ _____

Current household income: \$ _____

Your anticipated expenses for the next 12 months: (please
itemize): _____

% Education personally financed: _____ % Living expenses personally financed: _____

Financial support expected from other sources for the next 12 months:

List sources of financial awards, grants, fellowships, scholarships, gifts, and/or assistance that you
currently receive or anticipate receiving in the 2026/2027 academic year:

Total Amount: \$ _____

AFFIRMATION OF APPLICANT: I have reviewed the information listed in this application for omission and errors. To the best of my knowledge the information is complete and accurate as submitted. I understand that the National Bar Association reserves the right to investigate all information in this application. By submitting this application, if I am selected as an awardee, I grant the National Bar Association and its subparts the right to use my headshot, name and the information presented in my resume, in any acknowledgement or publication regarding the Gateway to Success Conference Scholarship Award.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____