



2019 Scholarship Application and Instructions

Submission Deadline: August 30, 2019

The Puerto Rican Bar Association Scholarship Fund, Inc. (“Scholarship Fund”) is now accepting applications for its annual scholarship. The Scholarship Fund was established to promote diversity within the legal profession by providing scholarships to students of Puerto Rican and Latino descent attending ABA-accredited law schools. Applicants must be enrolled during the 2019-2020 academic year and must demonstrate financial hardship.

This year we will be awarding scholarships in the amount of \$10,000 to be used for the legal education of applicants who demonstrate the following:

- Academic Excellence
- Community Involvement
- Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion within the Legal Profession
- Financial Need

In order to be eligible for the Scholarship, applicant must demonstrate one of the following connections to NY:

- Resident of the State of New York.
- Enrolled in an ABA Accredited New York State Law School.
- Confirmed commitment to work in New York State after completing their law school education.

If you have any questions regarding the scholarship application, please email Jesus M. Zeno, Esq. at president-elect@prbany.com.



Application Requirements

Applicants must submit all of the following to the Scholarship Committee by August 30, 2019:

- Cover letter describing how their academic, personal, and professional accomplishments qualify them to receive a scholarship award.
- Completed 2019 Scholarship Application.
- Resume.
- Most recent transcript (*note: students entering their 1L year must submit transcripts from their undergraduate institution or most recent post-graduate institution*).
- Class registration or other proof of enrollment for the 2019-2020 academic year.
- A legal commentary, supported by case law, statutes, rule of law, or ordinances, on **one** of the following **four** topics (3,000 words):
 1. Should federal agents be allowed to arrest and deport an undocumented person when the individual has appeared in any court for any reason?
 2. Should discovery of an individual's social media accounts and/or social media posts, including third-party subpoenas to social media companies, be permissible in any civil litigation?
 3. Does a reasonable expectation of privacy exist in an individual's social media accounts and/ or social media posts that requires a search warrant in a criminal case?
 4. Problems often endure for lack of comprehensive solutions. Present a comprehensive and well-reasoned solution to the United States of America's immigration system, including any change you propose to make to existing immigration statutes, policies and/or procedures to achieve a balance between order, security and justice.



- Two letters of recommendation from any of the following:
 - Dean, Associate Dean, or Professor at Applicant’s law school (*note: students entering their first year of law school may submit a recommendation from a Dean, Associate Dean, or Professor from their undergraduate or post-graduate institution*);
 - Member of the Puerto Rican Bar Association who is in good standing;
 - An individual who is personally acquainted with the applicant, but not related by blood, marriage, or adoption; or
 - A former employer of the applicant.
- Proof of Financial Need.

Submission Deadline

Completed applications must be **received by August 30, 2019**. Scholarship recipients will be notified by September 30, 2019, and will be honored at the Puerto Rican Bar Association Scholarship Fund’s Annual Gala on Friday, October 18, 2019, from 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at The Lighthouse, Pier 61, New York, NY.

Incomplete or late applications will not be considered by the Scholarship Committee. All applications, essays, and required materials must be submitted in a single PDF document to Jesus M. Zeno, Esq. at president-elect@prbany.com, and Elsa Hernandez, Esq. at corresponding-secretary@prbany.com.



PART B. ACADEMIC INFORMATION

High School (Name, City, State): _____
 Year Graduated: _____

Undergraduate Institution: _____

 City State Zip Code

Dates of Attendance: _____ Date of Graduation: _____
 Degree Earned: _____
 Honors, Awards or Special Recognition: _____
 Extracurricular Activities: _____
 Community Service: _____

Undergraduate Institution: _____

 City State Zip Code

Dates of Attendance: _____ Date of Graduation: _____
 Degree Earned: _____
 Honors, Awards or Other Special Recognition: _____
 Extracurricular Activities: _____
 Community Service: _____

Graduate Institution: _____

 City State Zip Code

Dates of Attendance: _____ Date of Graduation: _____
 Degree Earned: _____
 Honors, Awards or Special Recognition: _____
 Extracurricular Activities: _____
 Community Service: _____

Graduate Institution: _____

 City State Zip Code



Dates of Attendance: _____ Date of Graduation: _____
 Degree Earned: _____
 Honors, Awards or Other Special Recognition: _____
 Extracurricular Activities: _____
 Community Service: _____

Law School: _____

 City State Zip Code

Dates of Attendance: _____ Date of Graduation: _____
 Degree Earned: _____
 Honors, Awards or Special Recognition: _____
 Extracurricular Activities: _____
 Community Service: _____

Law School: _____

 City State Zip Code

Dates of Attendance: _____ Date of Graduation: _____
 Degree Earned: _____
 Honors, Awards or Other Special Recognition: _____
 Extracurricular Activities: _____
 Community Service: _____

PART C: COMMUNITY SERVICE

In no more than 1,000 words, please describe how your volunteer and/or community service has impacted you and your community. In your response, please include dates of service, the name(s) of the organization(s), and the position(s) held with each organization.



PART D: FAMILY BACKGROUND

1. Are you Puerto Rican or of Puerto Rican descent? Yes No

If “yes”, please state from which “*pueblo*” your family originated and tell us in 1,000 words or less what you know about your *pueblo*. If “no” then go to question 2 below.

2. Are you or your family from Latin America? Yes No

If “yes”, please state where in Latin America you, or your family, were born. Please tell us in 1,000 words or less what you know about your family’s country and/or province.



PART E: APPLICANT'S PROOF OF FINANCIAL NEED

Proof of applicant's financial need must be provided together with this application. The following items must be provided to demonstrate financial need, unless not applicable:

- Applicant's affidavit as to financial need;
- Applicant's Tax Returns or Parent's Tax Returns if applicant is a claimed dependent for the Years 2018 and 2017;
- Applicant's W-2 Tax Forms for 2018 and 2017;
- Letter from School's Bursar or Financial Aid verifying tuition and any financial aid granted.

PART F: APPLICANT'S CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that I am or will be enrolled as a law student in good standing at an ABA-accredited law school for the 2019-2020 academic year; that the answers contained herein are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge; and that **all money awarded to me by the Scholarship Fund will be for my legal education and related expenses**. I understand that the Scholarship Fund will be relying on my representations herein in determining whether to award a scholarship to me.

Signature: _____

Date: _____