



2020 Scholarship Application and Instructions

Submission Deadline: September 30, 2020

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 Puerto Rican and Latino students attending ABA-accredited law schools. Applicants must be enrolled during the 2020-2021 academic year and must demonstrate financial hardship.

This year we will be awarding scholarships 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.
- Confirmed commitment to continued involvement with the Puerto Rican Bar Association.

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



Application Requirements

Applicants must submit all of the following to the Scholarship Committee by September 30, 2020:

- Cover letter describing how their academic, personal, and professional accomplishments qualify them to receive a scholarship award.
- Completed 2020 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 2020-2021 academic year.
- Essay: Applicants must submit a legal commentary from **one** of the following **four** topics (3,000 words): Your selected essay must cite case law, statute, rule of law, or ordinance you reasonably believe supports your legal commentary.
 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 requiring a search warrant in a criminal case?
 4. Problems often endure for lack of comprehensive solutions. Present your comprehensive and well thought out solution to the United States of America's immigration system. Include any change you propose to make to existing immigration



statutes, policies and/or procedures to achieve the required 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 September 30, 2020**. Scholarship recipients will be notified by October 30, 2020 and will be honored by the Puerto Rican Bar Association Scholarship Fund, Inc. later in 2020.

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 Steven Cordero, Esq. at president-elect@prbany.com



2020 Application

PART A. PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____
 Last First M.I.

Date of Birth: _____
 Month/day/year

Mailing Address: _____
 Street Address Apt/Unit #

 City State Zip Code

Permanent Address: _____
 Street Address Apt/Unit #

 City State Zip Code

Email Address: _____ Phone No.: _____

Ethnicity: _____
 Check as many as applies: Puerto Rican Hispanic Multi-Racial African American
 Asian American Native American Caucasian Other: _____.

Prior Convictions:

Have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor? Yes No
 Have you ever been convicted of a Felony? Yes No

If “yes” to any of the above, please provide an explanation along with the date of offense and conviction.



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 2019 and 2018;
- Applicant's W-2 Tax Forms for 2019 and 2018;
- 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 2020-2021 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: _____