

2022 BALIF Diversity Bar Study Scholarship - Sponsored by the CLA Litigation Section

Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom (“BALIF”) has partnered with the **Litigation Section of the California Lawyers Association (“CLA”)** to present a scholarship for those who have demonstrated an intent to pursue a career in litigation, have shown commitment to serving the LGBTQAI+ community, and are planning to take the California Bar Exam.

PURPOSE: To recognize a law student in their final year of law school who will take the California Bar Exam, has shown excellence and achievement in law school, and has:

- Overcome personal hardships or challenges;
- Has a demonstrated financial need (preference will also be given to students who do not already have bar study expenses covered);
- Demonstrated intent to pursue a career in litigation following graduation;
- Demonstrated leadership potential and a history of involvement with LGBTQAI+ student, professional, and/or civic organizations; and
- Demonstrated service in support of their local LGBTQAI+ communities & commitment to social justice.

AWARD: A minimum scholarship of \$2500, as determined by the selection committee.

APPLICATION PROCESS: Application for the scholarship must include the following:

- **Résumé.** Please include any litigation work experience you have.
- **Transcript.** Please include a copy of your law school transcript. The applicant’s grade point average and law school enrollment are subject to verification.
- **Statement of Financial Need.** Your statement should address, as relevant, the financial situation of your family, including income (estimates), other sources of support for bar exam expenses, anticipated bar exam expenses (including living expenses if relevant to statement of need), number of household wage earners, number of dependents, unusual expenses, or any other information you find relevant for the selection committee to know.
- **Essay submission.** (two page maximum). The essay should address how the applicant fulfills the above-mentioned purpose of the scholarship.

ADDITIONAL SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENTS:

- Attend *and* volunteer at the **BALIF Annual Gala on Friday, March 4th 2022**, assuming the event is not postponed or cancelled due to COVID-19.
- Become a Student Member of BALIF (free of charge - [sign up here](#)), if not already.
- Applicants are strongly encouraged to become members of the Litigation Section of CLA after passing the California Bar Exam and securing full-time employment.
- Applicant must be planning to sit for the California Bar and use the scholarship for bar study/exam expenses within 9 months of award disbursement (anticipated award disbursement: March 2022).
- Please note that applicants may only receive one bar study scholarship sponsored by the CLA Litigation Section. If you have already received one from another bar association, you are not eligible to apply.
- Please note that if an employer is already providing you with a bar study stipend, you are also not eligible to apply.

DEADLINE TO APPLY: All applications must be received by **11:59 PM on Monday, January 31st, 2021**. Please email your applications to newlawyers@BALIF.org

Questions? Email us at BALIF@BALIF.org