

CCBA Scholarship Application

Thank you for your interest in the Cameron County Bar Association Scholarship Fund. The mission of the CCBA Scholarship Fund is to encourage students to enroll in either a paralegal program at an accredited college or university or an ABA-accredited law school and to provide financial assistance to ensure that the student has the opportunity to further their academic career in the legal field.

The Cameron County Bar Association Scholarship Fund will award \$3,000 for financial assistance annually to each scholarship recipient who is either enrolled in a paralegal program at an accredited college or university or an ABA-accredited law school. The applicant's financial need; personal, family, and educational background; personal statement; and participation in community service activities will be considered in selecting the recipients of the Cameron County Bar Association Scholarship. It is important for every applicant to complete all portions of the application. A committee of Cameron County Bar Association members will select the recipients. The decision of the committee is final.

Application Deadline:

The deadline to submit your application is March 14, 2009. **Your application must be postmarked no later than March 14, 2009.** Faxed and emailed applications will not be accepted.

Requirements for Eligibility:

To be eligible to receive a Cameron County Bar Association Scholarship, the applicant must meet all of the following requirements:

1. The applicant must be entering or enrolled in a paralegal program at an accredited college or university or an ABA-accredited law school;
2. The applicant must be a current resident of Cameron County or went to a high school in Cameron County for at least 2 academic years;
3. At the time of submission of the application, the applicant must have achieved a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 (on a 4.0 grading scale) or its equivalent at his or her high school, undergraduate institution or law school depending on the institution where the applicant is currently enrolled at the time he or she submits their application;
4. The applicant must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States of America; and
5. The applicant must provide two (2) letters of recommendation. At least one (1) of the letters of recommendation should be from a teacher, professor, principal or dean. If you have been out of school for a number of years and have difficulty finding an academic recommender, please substitute letters from an employer and/or others who have worked closely with you. No more than two (2) recommendations will be considered.

Before receiving scholarship funds, recipients will be required to demonstrate admission to and plan to enroll in a paralegal program at an accredited college or university or an ABA-accredited law school. If the applicant is selected to receive a CCBA Scholarship, he or she will be required to demonstrate admission to and plan to enroll in a paralegal program or law school before receiving scholarship funds. **Students who do not enroll or who leave the paralegal program or law school after being admitted, will be required to return all or a proportional amount of scholarship funds.**

To apply for a Cameron County Bar Association Scholarship, the applicant must provide the following information:

1. **Application Form.** Each applicant must complete the attached application form;
2. **Personal Statement.** A personal statement is your opportunity to include information that the application form does not convey and that you feel will assist us in reaching a thoughtful decision on your application. Examples of such information include a description of your personal strengths, your contributions through community service, a description of any special or unusual circumstances that may have affected your academic performance, or your personal and family history of educational or socio-economic disadvantage. While this list is not all inclusive, we offer it for you to consider the types of information that may be useful in evaluating your application. Please limit your personal statement to 1,000 words. Font size must be 12 points;
3. **Recommendations.** Each applicant must submit two (2) letters of recommendations, at least one (1) of which must be from a teacher, professor, principal or dean. If you have been out of school for a number of years and have difficulty finding an academic recommender, please substitute letters from employers and/or others who have worked closely with you. No more than two (2) letters of recommendation will be considered.

The recommenders must return the letters to you in sealed, signed enveloped to be included with your application;

4. **Transcript.** Each applicant must submit an official copy of his or her transcript from the academic institution where they are currently enrolled at the time they submit their application; and
5. **Resume.** Each applicant must submit their current resume.

Additional Information

Please do not send any collateral materials such as photographs or articles outside of those required above. Please do not insert the scholarship application in any type of binder, folder or binding.

Application Submission

Applicants must send applications to:

**Cameron County Bar Association
Scholarship Committee – Scholarship Application
P.O. Box 3866
Brownsville, Texas 78523**

If you have any questions, please contact us at (956) 266-0622 or by email at ccba@cameroncountybar.org

For additional information, please refer to our website www.cameroncountybar.org

Please complete the following sections even if the information is included elsewhere in the materials you submit. Please do not use references such as “see resume” or “see attached material.” If you need additional space, provide the remaining information on additional pages following the format of each section.

Academic and Non-Academic Honors and Awards

List the honors and awards you have received.

Extracurricular Activities and Interests

List the activities and describe your participation or offices held

Activity or Organization	Dates Involved	Offices Held or Description of Participation

PART III. WORK EXPERIENCE

Community Service Activities

List community service activities in which you have participated. We encourage you to discuss these activities and your contribution to the activities in your personal statement.

Activity or Organization	Dates Involved	Offices Held or Description of Participation

Employment

List positions of employment and military service beginning with the most recent.

From	To	Position Held	Name & Location of Employer	Hours per Week	Reason for Leaving

PART IV. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

A. Financial Resources for 2009-2010 Academic Year:

Anticipated aid from spouse or family \$ _____
 Scholarships received for the year \$ _____
 Anticipated earning for the year \$ _____
 Grants or other financial aid for the year \$ _____

B. Anticipated expenses for the 2009-2010 Academic Year:

Anticipated cost of tuition \$ _____
 Anticipated cost of books, supplies, etc. \$ _____
 Other anticipated costs (specify) \$ _____

PART V. MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

_____ Yes _____ No Have you been placed on academic probation or been required to withdraw from any school for academic reasons?

_____ Yes _____ No Have you been the subject of any disciplinary action taken by any school or college, or charges pending?

_____ Yes _____ No Have your undergraduate or graduate courses been interrupted for one or more terms for any reason?

_____ Yes _____ No Have you been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor? Or is any charge pending against you for any crime other than a minor traffic violation?

_____ Yes _____ No Have you been separated from a branch of the armed forces of the United States under conditions other than honorable?

If your answer to any of the above questions is “Yes,” please explain fully in a separate statement.

PART VI. PERSONAL STATEMENT

You must submit a brief statement describing either your personal and family background, financial hardship, community service activities, why you plan to get into the legal field or why you feel you deserve this scholarship.

Please limit your personal statement to 1,000 words and attach it to your application

PART VII. RECOMMENDATIONS

Please list the name, address and telephone numbers of two (2) individuals who will be sending the Cameron County Bar Association Scholarship Committee, letters of reference. At least one (1) letter of recommendation must be submitted from a teacher, professor, principal or dean.

The recommenders must return their letters to you in a sealed, signed envelope, to be included with your application.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone number: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone number: _____

Part VIII. INFORMATION RELEASE OF CERTIFICATION

I hereby authorize the release of any academic or related information maintained by

for purposes of determining scholarship eligibility for the above named scholarship. I hereby certify that I am a citizen of the United States of America. I certify that to the best of my knowledge the information given on this application is complete and accurate. I understand that providing false, misleading or incomplete information will be the basis for denial or revocation of scholarship funds. If material changes occur on any of the questions I have answered on this application, I will notify the Cameron County Bar Association promptly.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Before receiving scholarship funds, recipients will be required to demonstrate their acceptance or enrollment in a paralegal program at an accredited college or university or ABA accredited law school.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to see that the following items are forward to the Cameron County Bar Association:

1. A completed application form, signed and dated by the applicant;
2. An original copy of your academic transcript from the institution you are currently attending;
3. Two (2) letters or recommendation;
4. A personal statement; and
5. Current resume

Completed applications must be postmarked no later than March 14, 2009 and must be sent to:

Cameron County Bar Association
Scholarship Committee-Scholarship Application
P.O. Box 3866
Brownsville, Texas 78523

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For additional information, please refer to our website at www.cameroncountybar.org.