



Cameron County Bar Association 2020 Law Student Scholarship Application

Thank you for your interest in the Cameron County Bar Association Law Student Scholarship. The purpose of the CCBA Scholarship is to encourage students to enroll in an ABA-accredited law school and provide financial assistance to ensure students have the opportunity to further their academic career in the legal field.

The Cameron County Bar Association will award \$2,500 in financial assistance annually to one scholarship recipient who is enrolled in 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 CCBA 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 recipient. The decision of the committee is final.

Application Deadline:

In light of the circumstances involving Covid-19, the deadline to submit your application has been EXTENDED to JUNE 10, 2020. Your application must be postmarked or emailed no later than JUNE 10, 2020. Only Mail in and Email applications will 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 an ABA-accredited law school;
2. The applicant must be a current resident of Cameron County or have attended 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 an ABA-accredited law school. If the applicant is selected to receive a CCBA Scholarship, he or she will be required to demonstrate admission or enrollment in law school before receiving scholarship funds. **Students who do not enroll or who leave the 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, however, in light of the circumstances surrounding Covid 19, you may alternatively submit an unofficial transcript, from all higher education institutions attended or currently attending 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 MAIL applications to:

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

OR

Applicants must EMAIL applications to bguerra@benguerrallaw.com.

If you have any questions, please contact us at (956) 428-0300 or by email at bguerra@benguerrallaw.com.



Cameron County Bar Association

**CCBA Law Student Scholarship Application
2020 Academic Year**

PART I. PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____
Last First Middle Initial

Mailing Address: _____

Permanent Address: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ Email: _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____ Place of Birth: _____

Citizenship: ____U.S.A. ____Permanent Resident (How long have you lived in the U.S.? _____)

Other: _____
Country

Marital Status: _____ No. of Children/Dependents: _____

Name and Occupation of Spouse: _____

PART II. EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

| | City & State | Dates Attended | Degree | Date Degree Awarded or Expected | Major | Grade Point Average |
|--|--------------|----------------|--------|---------------------------------|-------|---------------------|
| High Schools | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Undergraduate Colleges/Universities | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Graduate, Law, & Professional Schools | | | | | | |
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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 materials.” 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 |
|--------------------------|----------------|--|
| | | |
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| | | |
| | | |

PART III. CAMERON COUNTY RESIDENCE

Are you a current resident of Cameron County or did you attend a high school in Cameron County for at least 2 academic years? Please explain your answer.

PART IV. EXPERIENCE

Community Service Activities

List community service activities in which you have participated. We also encourage you to discuss these 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 |
|------|----|---------------|-----------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
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PART V. FINANCIAL INFORMATION**A. Financial Resources for 2020-2021 Academic Year:**

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

B. Anticipated Expenses for the 2020-2021 Academic Year:

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

PART VI. MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

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

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

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

_____ Yes _____ No Have you ever 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 ever 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 VII. PERSONAL STATEMENT

You must submit a brief statement describing either your personal and family background, financial hardship, community service activities, why you plan to enter the legal field and/or why you believe you should be awarded this scholarship.

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

PART VIII. RECOMMENDATIONS

Please list the name, address and telephone numbers of two (2) individuals who will be sending recommendation letters to the Cameron County Bar Association Scholarship Committee. 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 IX. RELEASE OF EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

I hereby authorize the release of any academic or related information maintained by [list all higher educational institutions you attended or are attending]:

I hereby certify that I am a citizen or permanent 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

REMEMBER: Before receiving scholarship funds, recipients will be required to demonstrate their acceptance or enrollment in an ABA accredited law school.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure the following items are forwarded to the Cameron County Bar Association:

- ☐ A completed application form, signed and dated by the applicant;
- ☐ Original sealed academic transcripts from all higher education institutions attended/attending OR unofficial transcripts;
- ☐ Two (2) letters or recommendation;
- ☐ A personal statement; and
- ☐ Current resume

Help us with outreach next year! Please describe briefly how you heard about the CCBA Law Student Scholarship:

Completed applications must be postmarked no later than June 10, 2020 and must be sent to:

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

OR

bguerra@benguerrallaw.com

If you have any questions, please contact us at (956) 428-0300 or by email at bguerra@benguerrallaw.com.