



The ABAS Law Foundation

Asian Bar Association of Sacramento Law Foundation
A 501(c)(3) Educational and Charitable Corporation
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Taxpayer Identification Number: 91-1859906

ABAS Law Foundation Scholarship Application (for 2009 - 2010)

Thank you for your interest in the ABAS Law Foundation Scholarships. This material constitutes the entire application package and should provide you with all you need to know about the scholarship and how to apply.

Background and Purpose

The Asian Bar Association of Sacramento (ABAS) was founded in 1981. The membership, which now numbers well in excess of one hundred attorney members, is a group of judges, attorneys, law students and friends who have associated for purposes of professional development, community service, advocacy and camaraderie. As part of its community service mission, ABAS established scholarships in 1991.

In 1997, ***The ABAS Law Foundation***, a charitable and educational organization, was established under Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(3). A primary purpose of The ABAS Law Foundation is to grant scholarships, which recognize law students and recent law school graduates who possess extraordinary skills, desire and potential to serve and lead the greater Sacramento Asian-Pacific Islander community.

In 2009, the Foundation raised \$16,000 through our springtime wine tasting and fall golf tournament. These two events, plus generous gifts from community leaders, fund the Foundation's scholarships.

This year the Foundation awarded a total of \$16,000 in its Spring series of scholarships for law students. The awards usually range from \$500 to \$4,000 for individual scholarships. The Foundation will present the awards at an ABAS event in Spring 2010.

Eligibility

To be considered for the scholarship, you must be either: (i) currently enrolled and in good standing at a Sacramento area (including U.C. Davis) law school; or (ii) currently residing in the Sacramento area and have graduated from law school in Spring/Summer 2009 or winter 2009-10.

Criteria

The Foundation awards scholarships on the basis of the following criteria:

- (i) potential for community service and leadership in the Asian-Pacific Islander community;
- (ii) academic achievement; and
- (iii) financial need.

Generally, community service and leadership potential are given more weight and can be shown in various ways, including past activities serving API or other communities and current involvement with API organizations. Financial need can be demonstrated with various types of information in addition to the academic year budget, such as eligibility for financial aid from the law school or lack of other financial support for school related expenses. Some scholarships are weighted more heavily on financial need than the other criteria.

Application Materials

Each applicant is asked to submit the following information and materials:

- i. Evidence of scholarship eligibility (a copy of your current law school registration or law school diploma will suffice)
- ii. A personal statement, not to exceed three pages (double-spaced) in length. This statement must also include your name, address, email, and telephone number. You must sign and date your statement. Other than these requirements, your statement may contain any information and may be in any form you desire. Generally, the Scholarship Committee is interested in employment experience and ambitions, community and campus activities, and unusual life experiences. If you feel you have overcome any form of hardship (financial, educational, physical, etc.,) you are encouraged to discuss the experience in your statement. Feel free to be creative and innovative in your approach to the personal statement.
- iii. Current résumé
- iv. Current law school transcripts (official or unofficial)
- v. Financial information (if you feel that you are in financial need) — an itemization of financial resources and expenses for the nine-month academic period, at a minimum; and
- vi. Identification of two (2) references (including each reference's name, address, telephone number and a brief description of your relationship with each reference).

Application Evaluations

The ABAS Law Foundation Scholarship Committee will evaluate each scholarship application and will select the scholarship recipients in its sole discretion, bound only by the scholarship purposes and scholarship criteria. To facilitate the decision making process, the Committee may, in its discretion, require a personal interview with any or all scholarship applicants.

Application Deadline

Please submit your application information and materials must be received **by February 26, 2010**, to:

Darrel "H" Woo
ABAS Law Foundation Scholarship Chair
email (.PDF format please): ABASLawFdnApp@jplawoffice.com

Application materials emailed after the due date may be considered at the discretion of the Committee.

Additional Information

If you have any questions regarding the scholarship or its administration, please email Darrel Woo, at darrelwoo@gmail.com. For fairness to all applicants, a copy of your question (without identifying you as the source), together with the Committee's written response, may be disseminated to all scholarship applicants. All questions must be received by the Scholarship Committee no later than 5:00 p.m., February 12, 2010. Questions received after that time may be addressed at the discretion of the Committee.

Again, thank you for your interest in the ABAS Law Foundation Scholarships. We look forward to receiving your application.