

DON H. LIU SCHOLARS PROGRAM

2017 – 2018 APPLICATION

Background

Founded in 2014 by two past presidents of the Asian American Bar Association of New York (AABANY), the Don H. Liu Scholars Program, Inc. seeks to identify, cultivate and inspire future Asian American leaders within the legal profession in order to address the single most important reality facing Asian American professionals today – the barrier to advancement.

Asian Americans remain grossly underrepresented in positions of influence, leadership and power within the legal profession. The number of Asian American partners in law firms and general counsel in our largest corporations do not reflect the diversity found in today's law schools or the ranks of junior associates at law firms. It is the mission of the Program to increase these numbers.

In 2018, the Selection Committee will choose up to three 1Ls who possess the greatest potential to both excel in the classroom and succeed at a top law firm or Fortune 500 corporation. The Program will also provide mentorship and assistance with career development, including identifying potential internships.

Eligibility:

To be eligible, the applicant must meet the following criteria:

- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident of Asian descent;
- Be enrolled full-time as a 1L in a law school in Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania or the District of Columbia and expected to graduate in 2020;
- Be eligible to participate in off campus interview programs at the end of the first year;
- Be among the first in his or her immediate family to pursue a graduate or professional degree;
- Demonstrate exceptional academic accomplishments and leadership;
- Demonstrate financial need; and
- Intend to practice in the private sector in the New York City metropolitan area following graduation.

To apply to the Program, applicants must submit a completed Scholarship Application along with all supporting documents as detailed in the instructions.

Deadline:

The deadline to submit the Scholarship Application is **November 17, 2017.**

Information about Process and Dates

- All applications are due November 17, 2017.
- All applications are considered the property of the Don H. Liu Scholars Program, Inc. and any materials submitted in support thereof will not be returned.
- All applicants who advance as finalists will be notified to submit additional materials and/or informed of dates for a possible interview no later than January 19, 2018.
- The 2018 Don H. Liu Scholars will be notified no later than February 19, 2018.
- No other notice will be provided to applicants unless deemed required by the Executive Committee.

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Application Instructions

1. Submit your completed application package to:

Don H. Liu Scholars Program, Inc.
ATTENTION: Selection Committee
P.O. Box 1377
New York, NY 10150

with an electronic copy to DonHLiuScholars@gmail.com and lgu.donhliuscholars@gmail.com

All submissions for the Preliminary Round must be received or postmarked on or before **November 17, 2017** and only complete applications will be considered.

2. Preliminary Round- required application materials:

- a. A completed Application Form;
- b. Two essays addressing the topics below;
- c. Résumé;
- d. An official copy of applicant's undergraduate transcript; and
- e. A signed Personal Certification Form.

3. Essay Topics:

- a. *The Don H. Liu Scholars Program seeks to identify and empower future Asian Pacific American (APA) leaders in the legal profession through a unique blend of financial support, legal internship and professional mentorship. The Scholars Program specifically targets disadvantaged APAs, particularly those who are among the first to attend professional or graduate school in their families. Using specific examples from your personal life, academic and extracurricular accomplishments, tell us why you are the best candidate to advance the mission of the Scholars Program.*

(Approximately 500 words.)

- b. *Describe any personal challenges you've had to overcome before law school and why you would benefit from this program, or tell us anything else we should consider in reviewing your application.*

(250 to 500 words.)

4. Final Round - the Executive Committee will select finalists based on materials submitted from the Preliminary Round. Finalists will be then be notify to submit the following:
 - a. Two letters of recommendation;
 - b. A statement from applicant's law school certifying enrollment as a full-time 1L;
 - c. A copy of applicant's official financial aid package from his or her law school;
and
 - d. Two years of applicant's family's most recent tax returns (even if applicant has declared to be financially independent), and a statement (no more than a paragraph) describing your financial need (with any supporting documents).

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Application Form

NAME _____

SCHOOL ADDRESS _____

PERMANENT ADDRESS _____

WHICH ADDRESS SHOULD BE USED FOR CORRESPONDENCE?

SCHOOL PERMANENT

HOME PHONE _____

MOBILE PHONE _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

LAW SCHOOL NAME AND ADDRESS _____

EXPECTED YEAR OF GRADUATION _____

UNDERGRADUATE INSTITUTION _____

ARE YOU THE FIRST PERSON IN YOUR IMMEDIATE FAMILY TO ATTEND LAW SCHOOL IN THE UNITED STATES? PLEASE CHECK: YES NO

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Personal Certification Form

I, the undersigned applicant, understand that if I am awarded the Don H. Liu Scholarship, I must be enrolled and in good standing as a full-time 1L in a law school in Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania or the District of Columbia and be expected to graduate in 2020. I certify that I am a U.S. citizen or a permanent resident. I understand that I am required to apply the Scholarship proceeds to my law school tuition and related expenses only, that I must remain in good standing at my law school until graduation, and that I must comply with all other conditions and requirements of the Scholarship.

I understand that my failure to comply with all policies, conditions and requirements of the Scholars Program may result in the forfeiture of some or all of the Scholarship.

I understand that immediate family members of officers and directors of AABANY, or those of any officers or committee members of the Don H. Liu Scholars Program, are not eligible for the Scholarship. I also understand that all materials submitted in connection with my application will become the property of the Don H. Liu Scholars Program and that the Program reserves the right to issue public announcements regarding Scholarship recipients and to publish their essays and reports.

I certify that all statements and information contained herein and in all application materials submitted by me are true, correct, and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I certify that the essays submitted with my application were written solely by me and are my original work.

I hereby under the penalty of perjury that the foregoing statements are true and correct.

Executed on date _____

Signature of Applicant _____

Print name of Applicant _____