

**DON H. LIU SCHOLARS PROGRAM**  
**2020 - 2021 SCHOLARSHIP 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. (the “Program”) 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 2021, 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 J.D. program at an ABA-accredited and approved law school in the U.S.;
- 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 set forth below.

**Deadline:** The deadline to submit the Scholarship Application is **11:59pm (Eastern Standard Time), December 31, 2020.**

**Information about Process and Dates**

- All Scholarship Applications are due **11:59pm (Eastern Standard Time), December 31, 2020.**
- All Scholarship Applications are considered the property of 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 informed of dates for a phone interview by approximately mid-January 2021.
- The 2021 Don H. Liu Scholars will be notified by approximately mid-February 2021.
- The 2021 Don H. Liu Scholars are expected to attend the AABANY Annual Dinner which is expected to be held virtually in 2021. The date of the 2021 Annual Dinner has not yet been announced but it has been held on the last Wednesday in February in prior years.
- No other notice will be provided to applicants unless deemed required by the Selection Committee.

## DON H. LIU SCHOLARS PROGRAM

### Scholarship Application Instructions

1. Submit your completed Scholarship Application package to **Don H. Liu Scholars Program, Inc.** at [applications.donhliuscholars@gmail.com](mailto:applications.donhliuscholars@gmail.com).

All submissions for the Preliminary Round must be received on or before **11:59pm (Eastern Standard Time), December 31, 2020** and only complete Scholarship Applications will be considered.

2. Preliminary Round- required application materials:
  - a. A completed Scholarship Application Form;
  - b. One (1) essay addressing the topic below;
  - c. Two (2) letters of recommendation;
  - d. Résumé;
  - e. An official copy of applicant's undergraduate transcript; and
  - f. A signed Personal Certification Form.
3. Essay Topic: *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. Don H. Liu Scholars have a demonstrated financial need, have faced some type of adversity and are seeking mentorship and guidance in furthering their aspiring legal careers at a top law firm or Fortune 500 corporation. Using specific examples from your personal and professional life as well as academic, extracurricular and professional accomplishments, tell us how you have embodied the attributes of a Don H. Liu Scholar in overcoming adversity, especially in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, and how you would benefit from the Don H. Liu Scholars Program. (500-750 words)*
4. Final Round - The Selection Committee will select finalists based on materials submitted from the Preliminary Round. Finalists will then be notified to submit the following:
  - a. A statement from applicant's law school certifying enrollment as a full-time 1L in a J.D. program;
  - b. A copy of applicant's official financial aid package from his or her law school; and
  - c. Two (2) 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).

**DON H. LIU SCHOLARS PROGRAM**

**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 LAW SCHOOL GRADUATION: \_\_\_\_\_

UNDERGRADUATE INSTITUTION: \_\_\_\_\_

ARE YOU THE FIRST PERSON IN YOUR IMMEDIATE FAMILY TO ATTEND LAW SCHOOL IN THE UNITED STATES?

PLEASE CHECK:  YES  NO

ARE YOU ENROLLED IN A PROGRAM OTHER THAN A FULL-TIME THREE YEAR J.D. PROGRAM (E.G., DUAL DEGREE PROGRAM, EVENING PROGRAM, ETC.)?

PLEASE CHECK:  YES  NO

**DON H. LIU SCHOLARS PROGRAM (THE “SCHOLARS PROGRAM”)**

**Personal Certification Form**

I, the undersigned applicant, understand that if I am awarded the Don H. Liu Scholarship (the “**Scholarship**”), I must be enrolled and in good standing as a full-time 1L in a J.D. program at an ABA-accredited and approved law school in the U.S. 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 the Asian American Bar Association of New York, or those of any officers or committee members of the 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 Scholars Program and that the Scholars 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 affirm that the foregoing statements are true and correct.

Execution Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_