



The ABAS Law Foundation  
Asian Bar Association of Sacramento Law Foundation  
A 501(c)(3) Educational and Charitable Corporation  
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www.abaslawfoundation.org

## **THE ABAS LAW FOUNDATION 2020 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

Thank you for your interest in the ABAS Law Foundation Scholarship Program. This document is the entire application package; it gives you information that you need to know about the scholarship program, how to apply, and how to seek additional information if necessary.

The deadline for your application is **Friday, March 6, 2020, at 5:00 p.m.**

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

The ABAS Law Foundation has been awarding law scholarships since soon after it was established in 1997 as an Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(3) educational and charitable nonprofit organization. The Foundation awards scholarships to recognize law students and recent law school graduates who possess extraordinary skills, desire, and potential to serve and lead the greater Sacramento area Asian Pacific Islander community. The Foundation took over the scholarship program from the Asian/Pacific Bar Association of Sacramento, a separate organization of attorneys, judges, and law students.

The Foundation funds its scholarship program through its annual fall Golf Tournament, some of the educational programs in its Speaker Series, and generous giving from community leaders.

The Foundation anticipates awarding between \$10,000 and \$20,000 in scholarships each year, and the awards to an individual typically range from \$1,000 to \$5,000. The Foundation anticipates presenting the scholarship awards at a scholarship reception in April or May 2020.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

To be considered for a scholarship, you must either:

- (i) be currently enrolled and in good standing at a Sacramento area law school; or
- (ii) currently reside in the Sacramento area and have graduated from law school in **2019**.

## CRITERIA

The Foundation awards scholarships based on the following criteria:

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

Generally, community service and leadership potential are accorded great weight and can be shown in various ways, including past activities serving API or other communities and current involvement with API organizations. But some scholarships are more heavily weighted on terms of financial need than others. You can show financial need in various ways, such as your academic year budget, eligibility for financial aid from your school, or lack of other financial support for school-related expenses.

## APPLICATION MATERIALS

You must submit all of the following information and materials **in a single PDF file** labeled with your name and the year of the scholarship (“John Doe\_ABASLF 2020”):

- a. Eligibility evidence. A copy of your current law school registration or law school diploma suffices.
- b. A personal statement, not to exceed three double-spaced pages in length. This statement must include your name, mailing address, e-mail address, and telephone number. You must sign and date your statement. Together with these required elements, your statement may contain any relevant information and may be in any form you desire. Generally, the Foundation’s Scholarship Committee is most interested in employment experience and ambitions, community and campus activities, and unique 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.
- c. Current resume.
- d. Current law school transcripts (either official or unofficial).
- e. If you believe that you are in financial need: Financial information, including, at minimum, an itemization of financial resources (including other scholarships received) and expenses for the nine-month academic period.
- f. Two or three references, including each reference’s name, mailing address, telephone number, and a brief description of your relationship to each reference.

## APPLICATION EVALUATION

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

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

Please submit your application materials via e-mail no later than **Friday, March 6, 2020, at 5:00 p.m.** to [scholarships@abaslawfoundation.org](mailto:scholarships@abaslawfoundation.org). Application materials submitted after the deadline may be considered at the discretion of the Scholarship Committee.

## QUESTIONS

If you have any questions about the scholarship program or its administration, please e-mail them to the ABAS Law Foundation Scholarship Committee Chairpersons, Jeannie Lee Jones and Kara Ueda, at [scholarships@abaslawfoundation.org](mailto:scholarships@abaslawfoundation.org), and include a reference to the ABAS Law Foundation Scholarship in the title of the e-mail message. To ensure fairness to all applicants, a copy of your question (without identifying you as the source), together with the Scholarship Committee's written response, may be disseminated to all scholarship applicants.

All questions should be received by the Scholarship Committee no later than **Friday, February 21, 2020, at 5:00 p.m.** Questions may be addressed at the discretion of the Scholarship Committee. Again, thank you for your interest in the ABAS Law Foundation Scholarship Program. We look forward to receiving your application and learning more about you.

