



LGBTQ BAR PREPARATION SCHOLARSHIP

The mission of the Washington State Association for Justice (WSAJ) is to stand up in the courtroom and the halls of government for real people. We defend your Constitutional rights, including the right to have your day in court. We hold corporate and other powerful interests accountable. We are a community creating and sharing resources for our members to secure justice.

In December of 2016, WSAJ created its LGBTQ section, a group open to all WSAJ members to focus on LGBTQ issues in the law, as well as to provide a professionally supportive environment for LGBTQ members to discuss and confront issues that arise in their day-to-day practices and legal communities. WSAJ's LGBTQ section is modeled after the national-level LGBT Caucus of the American Association for Justice, and provides an opportunity for all members to work together against hate and intolerance, and to increase awareness and understanding of the issues faced by LGBTQ individuals in the profession.

To support aspiring plaintiff's attorneys from the LGBTQ community, the section raises funds from its membership to provide scholarships to help defray the costs of a **Themis bar preparation course** to law school graduates and APR 6 law clerk graduates who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or otherwise self-identify as a part of the queer community.

The primary criteria for selection of scholarship recipients (after the applicant identifying as LGBTQ, as described above) is a **demonstrated interest and intent to practice in the plaintiff's bar**. Other criteria that will be considered include financial need, academic achievements, extracurricular and community activities, and life experiences.

This scholarship will cover a Themis bar preparation course; **we are unable to offer scholarships for bar prep courses other than Themis**. If a selected applicant has already enrolled in a Themis course, they will be reimbursed. **Applicants must self-identify as LGBTQ and must be preparing to take the Washington State bar exam in the next year.**

Applications are due by **Friday, November 15, 2019**. All applicants will receive email notification from WSAJ of award or non-award by **Friday, December 13, 2019**. Additional application instructions can be found at the end of this form.



APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone #: _____

Are you an APR 6 law clerk? (Y/N) _____ Law School: _____

Are you currently enrolled in a Bar Prep course? Yes No

If Yes, what course are you enrolled with? _____

(Please note: this scholarship will only cover a Themis bar prep course.)

Amount of Deposit: \$ _____ Amount owing: \$ _____

Please explain briefly within which group or groups you self-identify which have been historically discriminated against and/or are historically under-represented in the legal profession based on sexual orientation, gender identity, and/or gender expression:

(continued)



Please attach to this application:

1. A résumé including past work experiences along with any achievements, honors, clubs, associations, community activities, or hobbies.
2. A brief essay, **not to exceed two pages**, typed and double spaced, stating why you would like to be considered for this scholarship. **Your essay should primarily discuss your ideal law practice post-graduation and how that practice fits into WSAJ's mission.** Please feel free to provide any additional background information you would like the LGBTQ Section Scholarship Sub-Committee to consider. For example, you may consider discussing whether you are the first person in your family to attend undergraduate or law school, any prior professional experiences of achievements, obstacles and challenges that you have overcome, any community service work you are involved in, and/or what compelled you to attend law school.

Deadline for Application:

All applications and requested materials **must be received by Friday, November 15, 2019**. They should be mailed to: WSAJ, LGBTQ Scholarship, 1809 7th Avenue, Suite 1500, Seattle, WA 98101-1328 **OR** emailed to Raphaela Weissman at raphaela@washingtonjustice.org (email preferred).

Signature: _____ Date: _____