



Los Angeles Paralegal Association (LAPA) Student Member Scholarship Guidelines and Procedures

As part of its mission in developing, strengthening, and advancing the paralegal profession, the Los Angeles Paralegal Association (LAPA) recognizes a student's academic achievement in a paralegal program with the Student Member Scholarship Award.

LAPA encourages student members to apply for this \$1,000 scholarship which will be awarded at LAPA's October Conference.

I. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The eligibility criterion for the LAPA Student Member Scholarship Award is as follows:

- 1. The applicant must be a "student member" in good standing of LAPA.**
2. The applicant must attend a paralegal program in the State of California. For purposes of this Award "paralegal program" is defined as one of the following institutions as stated in California Business and Professions Code 6450: (1) a program approved by the American Bar Association; (2) a Post-baccalaureate certificate program in paralegal studies; (3) a baccalaureate degree program in paralegal studies; or (4) a paralegal program at, or a degree from a non-ABA accredited school that requires the successful completion of a minimum of 24 semester, or equivalent, units in law-related courses.
3. The applicant must be a current part-time or full-time student who has successfully completed at least 12 semester units or equivalent of substantive paralegal coursework.
4. The applicant must have maintained a minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 for the immediate previous semester and **submit an unofficial transcript with their application.**

5. The applicant must have either (1) demonstrated a dedication to community service by volunteering and/or assisting in pro bono organizations; or (2) demonstrated leadership by participation in campus and/or paralegal program leadership activities.

II. SELECTION PROCESS

Selection will be based upon:

1. Eligibility;
2. Scholastic excellence;
3. Community service activity;
4. A review of the applicant's writing sample (see below.)

III. HOW TO APPLY

Submit a completed application along with the following:

1. A 1-2 page essay entitled, "Why Do You Want to Become a Paralegal." The essay must be typed, and double-spaced;
2. Two (2) letters of recommendation from a member of the faculty or administration of the applicant's paralegal program or employer (if working in a law office/ law firm);
3. A current resume including the names, emails, and telephone numbers of at least two references (can be professional, academic, or character reference); and
4. An unofficial current transcript.

Applications and supporting documentation must be received by **October 05, 2021 by 9pm** via email to: **School Liaison Committee Chair Samantha Burns at Samantha@marjiya.com**, and **VP of Membership & Policy Francisco Gutierrez at fgutierrez0731@gmail.com**.

One scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 is to be granted annually. The LAPA Scholarship is to be used for the sole purpose of pursuing a paralegal education.
