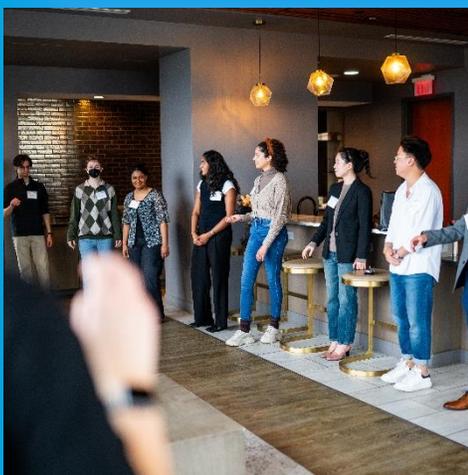


The Law Student's Guide to Opportunities with Bar Associations



Hello Law School Students!

If you are reading this, you are on the right track to connecting with amazing opportunities at fifteen great organizations in Minnesota! This guide centralizes the many sources of support for law school students. Our goal is to make it easier for you to engage and start making connections.

Use the chart on the next page to get a quick overview of the organizations and deadlines. Check out the rest of the guide for more details about how to apply and access resources.

Thank you to the many attorneys and professionals who offer these programs. We are here to support your career development and success.

Welcome to our vibrant and inclusive legal community!

With gratitude,



Summra M. Shariff
Executive Director
Twin Cities Diversity in Practice (TCDIP)
Wanton Injustice Legal Detail (WILD)

Affinity Bar Organization	Program Title	Deadline	Intended Audience	Page Number
Twin Cities Diversity in Practice	TCDIP 1L Clerkship	Applications open November 19, 2025 Applications close January 26, 2026	1L students	5
	TCDIP Connect Mentoring	September 19, 2025	2L and 3L students	5
	Social Events and CLEs Throughout the Year	None	Law students in the Twin Cities	6
Hmong American Bar Association	Annual HABA Banquet	Mid October	All Students	6
Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers	General Information	None	Minnesota Law Students	7
	LCL Educational Programs	None	Minnesota Law Students	7
	LCL Volunteer Opportunities	None	Minnesota Law Students	7
Minnesota Native American Bar Association	Minnesota American Indian Bar Association 2025 – 2026 Scholarship	October 2025	American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian law students in Minnesota.	8
Minnesota Asian Pacific American Bar Association	MNAPABA Student Membership	None	Law students	8
	Student Scholarship	May 2026	MNAPABA Members who are law students or recent graduates	9
	MNAPABA Annual Gala	September 4, 2025	MNAPABA Members, Law Students, Supporters	9
	MNAPABA Events	None	Minnesota Law Students	9
Minnesota Association of Black Lawyers	MABL Foundation Scholarships	October 10, 2025	Black, African, African Diaspora law students from Minnesota schools.	10
	Student Membership	Rolling	Law students	10
The Minnesota Chapter of the Federal Bar Association	General Information	None	Minnesota Law Students	11
Minnesota Disability Bar Association (MDisBA)	Student Membership	Rolling	Minnesota Law Students	11
Minnesota Hispanic Bar Association (MHBA)	General Information	None	Minnesota Law Students	12
	MHBA Student Scholarship Fund	None	Minnesota Law Students	12
	The Manuel Cervantes Endowment Fund Award	None	Law Students Nationwide	12
	MHBA Mentorship Program	None	Minnesota Law Students	13
Minnesota Lavender Bar Association (MLBA)	Free Membership for Law Students	None	All Law Students	13
Minnesota State Bar Association	General Information	None	All Law Students	14
Hennepin County Bar Association	HCBA 1L Diversity Clerkship	Applications open Mid-November	Minnesota Law Students	14-15
Ramsey County Bar Association	Diversity Law Student Scholarship	April	Minnesota law students from marginalized and/or underrepresented backgrounds	14
Minnesota Women Lawyers (MWL)	Free Membership	None	All Law Students	16

	MWL Foundation Law Student Scholarships	Fall 2025	Minnesota Law Students	16
	MWL Student to Attorney Mentor Program	Fall 2025	MWL Student Members	17
	MWL Social Justice Writing Award	Fall 2025	Minnesota Law Students	17
	MWL Leadership and Volunteer Opportunities	Ongoing	All Minnesota Law Students	17
National LGBTQ+ Bar Association	Membership	Ongoing	Law Students Nationwide	18
	Backpack to Briefcase	None	Law Students Nationwide	18
	LGBTQ+ Bar Law School Scholarship	April	Law Students Nationwide	19
	LGBTQ+ Trans/Nonbinary Grant	April	Trans/Nonbinary Law Students of Color	19
	Feinman Scholarship	January	Law Students Nationwide	19-20
Minnesota Defense Lawyers Association (MDLA)	Membership	None	Minnesota Law Students	20
	MDLA Diversity Clerkship Program	December 1	Minnesota Law Students	21
	MDLA Midwinter Conference (MWC)	January	Minnesota Law Students	21
	Trial Techniques Seminar (TTS)	August	Minnesota Law Students	21-22



Twin Cities Diversity in Practice

TCDIP 1L Clerkship

For over a decade, the [TCDIP 1L Clerkship](#) has helped launch the careers of law students of color in the Twin Cities. We strengthen the legal talent pipeline with strategic partnerships between TCDIP Members from law firms and corporate legal departments. Each summer, clerks spend 6-10 weeks each at a law firm and 2-4 weeks with a corporate legal department (typically a client of the law firm). TCDIP 1L Clerks benefit from supportive programming, including mentorship groups, professional development training, and small group coaching sessions.

Open to: All 1L students nationwide with special encouragement for 1L students of color to apply.

Applications open: 11/19/2025

Deadline: 1/26/2026

Contact: info@diversityinpractice.org

TCDIP Connect Mentoring

Using a structured small group model, [TCDIP Connect](#) brings together attorneys of varying experience levels, local law students of color, and early career attorneys of color. The goal of TCDIP Connect is to develop meaningful professional interconnectedness between multiple people who may not have otherwise crossed paths. Attorneys are from TCDIP Member law firms and corporate law departments. Students can expect a time commitment of approximately 1-2 hours per month from October – May. Participants benefit from the support of TCDIP Staff, a structured mentorship handbook, and guided agendas.

Open to: 2L and 3L students of color in Minnesota

Deadline: September 19, 2025

Contact: info@diversityinpractice.org

Social Events and CLEs Throughout the Year

TCDIP hosts several social events, CLEs, and programs throughout the year. Follow our [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) for updates, or check out our [calendar](#) to register for events. Stay in touch with your school's student affinity leaders to keep up with our student opportunities!

Open to: Law students and legal professionals

Contact: events@diversityinpractice.org

Website: <https://diversityinpractice.org/>



Hmong American Bar Association

Annual HABA Banquet

The [Hmong American Bar Association](#) hosts an annual banquet every fall. Registration is open to all legal professionals, including law students. Tickets are \$50 per person and include a one-year membership to HABA. The 2025 banquet will be held on October 30 starting at 5:30 p.m. Email haba.minn@gmail.com for additional details.

Open to: All law students in the Twin Cities area

Deadline: Mid-October

Contact: haba.minn@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/habaminn.org/>



LAWYERS CONCERNED FOR LAWYERS

Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers (LCL)

LCL supports legal professionals in Minnesota on any issue causing stress or distress. LCL provides free and confidential support and services regarding substance use, mental health, work-life balance and well-being, stress management, career, family, financial, licensing, and other issues. Services include short term counseling (up to 4 free sessions per issue), a 24-hour counseling hotline, referrals, peer support, coaching, support groups, education, crisis intervention and—most importantly—someone to listen to you. We can also coach you on reaching out to others. If you are dealing with any of these issues, you are not alone. There is help and there is hope!

Open to: Minnesota law students, lawyers, judges, legal support staff, and immediate family members

Contact: Jon Tynjala, jtynjala@mnlcl.org

Website: <https://www.mnlcl.org/>

LCL Educational Programs

LCL offers CLEs, law school programs, PSAs, and other educational content. We are eager to collaborate with others, including law student organizations, to develop programs or provide a speaker as a panelist or in a stand-alone program. Our goal is to raise awareness about challenges and to provide educational content that helps legal professionals do their best work and be their best selves.

Open to: Minnesota law students

Deadline: None

Contact: Jon Tynjala, jtynjala@mnlcl.org

LCL Volunteer Opportunities

Lawyers and law students volunteer with LCL to help publicize LCL services and to offer peer support to colleagues. Those providing peer support have had experiences that motivate them to support others in similar situations.

Open to: Minnesota law students

Deadline: None

Contact: Jon Tynjala, jtynjala@mnlcl.org



Minnesota Native American Bar Association (MNABA)

Minnesota Native American Bar Association Scholarship 2025 – 2026 Scholarship

The Financial Scholarship is for American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian law students who demonstrate a financial need.

Open to: American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian law students in Minnesota.

Deadline: October TBD

Contact: Jody Alholinna, jody.alholinna@courts.state.mn.us or Reid Raymond, reid.raymond@co.hennepin.mn.us

Website: <https://www.mnamericanindianbar.org/>



Minnesota Asian Pacific American Bar Association (MNAPABA)

The Minnesota Asian Pacific American Bar Association (MNAPABA) is a community of Minnesota Asian Pacific American and Asian lawyers who support one another, celebrate each other's accomplishments, create opportunities for dialogue on issues of importance to APAs, and highlight APA issues to the legal community at large. MNAPABA (formerly NAPABA-MN) is an affiliate of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA).

MNAPABA Membership

MNAPABA has three membership levels: Private Sector, Public Sector, and Law Student. **Our membership runs from October 1 through September 30 of each year.** Our annual dues are not pro-rated, however, **if you join on or after August 1 of a bar year, your membership fee will cover dues through September 30 of the following calendar year.** We encourage you to join no matter the time of year, however, because we are constantly providing our members with valuable resources, news, events, and connections.

Open to: Law students
Deadline: None

<http://mnapaba.org>

Student Scholarship

MNAPABA awards a summer law scholarship to a law student or recent law graduate who will, through a summer internship with a governmental or nonprofit organization, serve underserved communities. Preference will be given to those directly serving Minnesota and/or Asian Pacific American communities.

Open to: Minnesota Law Students
Deadline: May 2026

Contact: mnapaba@gmail.com

MNAPABA Annual Gala

Our largest event of the year, the Gala draws over 300 attendees and includes a keynote address, awards, and robust student attendance. Students can apply for subsidized or free tickets and connect with firms, judges, and community leaders.

Deadline: 9/4/2025

Contact: mnapaba@gmail.com
Website: <https://mnapaba.org/>

MNAPABA Events

All of MNAPABA's events are open to law students. MNAPABA encourages law students to attend CLEs, social events, and their annual gala as a way to connect with practicing attorneys and judges who are part of the MNAPABA network.

Open to: Minnesota Law Students

Deadline: Ongoing

Contact: mnapaba@gmail.com
Website: <https://mnapaba.org/>



[Minnesota Association of Black Lawyers \(MABL\)](#)

[MABL Foundation Scholarships](#)

[The Minnesota Association of Black Lawyers](#) and the MABL Foundation annually select talented law students of color throughout Minnesota to receive scholarships. Scholarships are awarded based on a law student's overall application, with emphasis on the student demonstrating outstanding academic achievement, commitment to addressing issues affecting their community, and the potential to effectuate the overall goals of the organization. Scholarship recipients are selected by a Scholarship Committee appointed to review student applications, and the scholarships are awarded at the MABL Foundation Annual Scholarship Gala.

Open to: Black, African, African Diaspora law students from Minnesota schools.

Deadline: October 10, 2025

Contact: Board@MABL.org

Website: <https://mabl.org/>

[MABL Membership](#)

MABL encourages all law students to sign up to be a MABL member. Membership is FREE for students!

Open to: Any law student at a Minnesota law school.

Deadline: Ongoing

Contact: membership@mabl.org



Federal Bar Association

The Minnesota Chapter of the Federal Bar Association

The Minnesota Chapter is one of the largest and most active chapters of the Federal Bar Association in the country. The Chapter provides professional, educational, and networking opportunities to lawyers in the Twin Cities. Two Chapter Committees specifically target law students. First, the **Law School Outreach Committee** provides local FBA student divisions with guidance on organizing events, obtaining funding, furthering diversity, and connecting with opportunities within the FBA. It also hosts events to engage with law students in the Twin Cities Area and awards scholarships to law students. Second, the **Chapter's Mentorship Committee** seeks to connect law students and others interested in pursuing a legal career with practicing attorneys offering practical information and support.

Open to: All law students in the Twin Cities area, particularly those interested in federal practice.

Contact: Zac MacFarland (zmcfarland@fredlaw.com) or Megan Helstrom (mhelstrom@fredlaw.com)
Website: <https://www.mnfedbar.org/>

MDisBA

Minnesota Disability Bar Association

Minnesota Disability Bar Association (MDisBA)

Founded in 2022, the Minnesota Disability Bar Association is an organization of Minnesota State legal professionals including attorneys, judges, staff, and students with and without disabilities as well as nondisabled allies. MDisBA offers peer support, networking, discussion, and outreach opportunities for our members with a focus on disability-related issues. We define disability broadly to include self-identification of physical, mental, visible or non-visible, permanent or temporary, and active or inactive disabilities.

Student Membership

Law students attending a Minnesota Law school or who are interested in practicing in Minnesota after graduation can join the Minnesota Disability Bar Association for free. Law student membership does not include voting privileges.

Open to: Minnesota Law Students

Deadline: None, rolling basis

Contact: mndisba@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.mdisba.org/>



Minnesota Hispanic Bar Association (MHBA)

MHBA Social Events

Join the MHBA for social events and networking throughout the year to get to know the Latine judges and attorneys in Minnesota. See the MHBA calendar for more details.

Open to: All Minnesota law students.

Deadline: None

Contact: mnhispanicbar@gmail.com

Website: <https://minnhba.org/events/>

MHBA Student Scholarship Fund

The MHBA Student Scholarship Fund is designed to assist with law school-related expenses. The scholarships are intended for: a) Current law students of any law school in the state of Minnesota who actively support or have a proven track record of supporting the Latine or the Hispanic community, or b) Prospective law students, admitted to any law school in the state of Minnesota, that support or have supported the Latine or Hispanic community. For more information, please contact mnhispanicbar@gmail.com.

Open to: All Minnesota law students supporting the Latine or Hispanic community.

Deadline: None

Contact: mnhispanicbar@gmail.com

Website: <https://minnhba.org/>

The Manuel Cervantes Endowment Fund Award

The MHBA Endowment Fund serves as a source of funding for law student interns working at non-profit organizations serving the Latine community.

Open to: Law students nationwide.

Deadline: None

Contact: mnhispanicbar@gmail.com

Website: <https://minnhba.org/awards/>

MHBA Mentorship Program

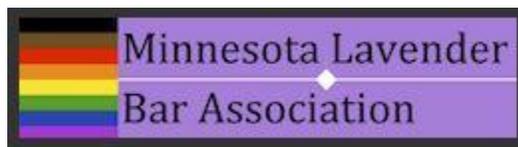
In 2004, the MHBA began its Law Student Mentorship Program to mentor the next generation of attorneys in Minnesota. Every year the program kicks off with a reception, where law student members are matched with member attorneys to provide guidance and an introduction into the legal community in Minnesota. More information, including registration information, will be available on our website and social media platforms soon.

Open to: Minnesota Law Students.

Deadline: None

Contact: mnhispanicbar@gmail.com

Website: <https://minnhba.org/>



Minnesota Lavender Bar Association (MLBA)

The Minnesota Lavender Bar Association (MLBA) is the primary Association of attorneys in Minnesota supporting the LGBTQ+ Community. The MLBA was founded in 1996 as a special project of OutFront Minnesota's Legal Program. The Association was started in response to the limited opportunities for LGBTQ+ lawyers and law students to network, learn together, and address homophobia within the profession. The MLBA was reorganized in 1999 as an independent, 501(c)(6), organization, and is an affiliate member of the National LGBT Bar Association.

Free Membership for Law Students

[The Minnesota Lavender Bar Association \(MLBA\)](#) offers law students free membership in our organization! Members gain access to networking and social opportunities for legal professionals, receive a discount on registration for the MLBA annual conference, and can sign up for our newsletter featuring news, upcoming events, and career opportunities.

Open to: Law students nationwide

Deadline: None

Contact: info@mnlavbar.org

Website: <https://mnlavbar.org>

MSBA

Minnesota State
Bar Association

Minnesota State Bar Association

[Minnesota State Bar Association](#) is a professional community of lawyers, law students, and legal professionals in our state. MSBA supports your journey to becoming an attorney by offering complimentary membership during your time in law school. Maximize your law student membership by attending networking gatherings, CLEs, and other events. Join a few of our 40 practice area sections aligned with your interests. Utilize MSBA's practice tools, resources, publications, and consider volunteering for pro bono work. And perhaps most importantly, connect with experienced attorney members to build your professional network. They look forward to supporting the rising generation of lawyers like you.

Website: <https://mnbars.org/?pg=join>

District Bars in the MSBA shown on next pages



Hennepin County Bar Association Diversity Committee

HCBA 1L Diversity Clerkship Program

The [HCBA 1L Diversity Clerkship Program](#) places first-year law students with Minnesota legal employers for full-time, paid summer associate experiences. Ultimately, the program hopes to find its participants becoming future partners and leaders in Minnesota's legal community. The RCBA Diversity Committee has partnered with the HCBA Diversity and Inclusion Committee to support these efforts.

The summer of 2025 was the program's 18th year, and more than 50 students applied, and 14 students were placed. Hundreds of law students, including those from

underrepresented backgrounds, have been served by the program since its inception.

The 1L Diversity Clerkship program's mission is to provide fair and equitable clerkship opportunities for local law students. Any student may apply, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, or disability.

Open to: Current 1L students currently attending a Minnesota law school.

Deadline: Mid-November

Contact: Erikka Ryan, Director of Equity, Inclusion, and Foundations, eryan@mnbars.org

Website: <https://www.mnbar.org/hennepin-county-bar-association>



[Ramsey County Bar Association](#)

[Ramsey County Bar Foundation Diversity Law Student Scholarship](#)

In the spring of 2026, the [Ramsey County Bar Foundation](#) will award \$12,000 in scholarships to law students who contribute meaningfully to diversity in their community and have volunteer or paid work experience, and/or interest in legal services to low-income Minnesotans.

The applicant must be a current Minnesota law school student and recipients are chosen based on resume (record of academic and professional achievement, leadership qualities through past work experience, community involvement and student activities) and responses to prompts focused on career growth and diversity.

The Diversity Scholarship program's mission is to provide fair and equitable scholarship opportunities to local law students. Any student may apply, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, or disability.

Open to: Current 1-3L students attending a Minnesota law school.

Deadline: April (Check website for updates)

Contact: Erikka Ryan, Director of Equity, Inclusion, and Foundations, eryan@mnbars.org

Website: <https://www.mnbar.org/ramsey-county-bar-association>



Minnesota Women Lawyers (MWL)

Free Membership for Students

Minnesota Women Lawyers (MWL) is an association of more than 1,200 attorneys, judges, law students, legal employers and others who are dedicated to advancing the success of those who identify as women attorneys and to striving for a just society. Guided by its values of equity, leadership, and community, MWL provides opportunities for members to develop as leaders, network with other attorneys and law students, and have an impact on the profession and their communities.

Law student membership is FREE. Law students are invited to participate and get involved with MWL at all levels. Learn more about membership, upcoming events and initiatives, and volunteer opportunities at www.mwlawyers.org. And check us out on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#). Visit the MWL Law Student Hub for the latest information! <https://mwlawyers.org/page/LawStudentHub>

For more information, contact MWL Executive Director Debra Pexa (dpexa@mwlawyers.org).

MWL Foundation Law Student Scholarships

The Minnesota Women Lawyers Foundation offers three [law student scholarships](#) each year: **MWL Foundation Law Student Scholarship**, the MWL Foundation **Leslie Altman Memorial Law Student Scholarship**, and the newly established **2024 MWL Foundation Hollins-Matchett-Mitchell Law Student Scholarship**. The goal of each scholarship is to provide aid to all law students attending a Minnesota law school who demonstrate an interest in furthering the mission of Minnesota Women Lawyers, "To advance the success of women lawyers and strive for a just society." Each scholarship award is \$2,500. Recipients are required to use the award for educational purposes.

Open to: All Minnesota law students.

Deadline: Fall 2025

Contact: Jennifer McPhail, jmacphail@mwlfoundation.org

MWL Student to Attorney Mentor Program

MWL's Student to Attorney Mentoring Program matches law students and attorneys in a one-on-one mentoring relationship based on student interest and attorney practice area. The goal of MWL's Student to Attorney Mentoring Program is to provide law student members with knowledge, advice, and support they need to successfully navigate law school and develop a fulfilling and meaningful career. This program continues over the course of the school year. Must be an MWL member.

Open to: All Minnesota law students. Must be an MWL member.

Deadline: Fall

Contact: Tessa Jones, tjones@mwlattorneys.org

MWL Social Justice Writing Award

All law students currently enrolled in or a 2024 graduate of one of the three Minnesota law schools (Mitchell Hamline School of Law, University of Minnesota Law School and University of St. Thomas School of Law) are invited to **submit** a scholarly paper or article they have written on a topic involving law and social justice. All topics related broadly to law, justice, and equity are eligible, whether or not related to women's rights or feminist theory. The writer(s) of the selected MWL Social Justice Writing Award paper will be awarded a cash prize of \$2,500 (total) at the MWL Rosalie Wahl Leadership Lecture in Fall each year.

Open to: All Minnesota Law Students

Deadline: Fall 2025

Contact: Debra Pexa, dpexa@mwlattorneys.org

Website: <http://www.mwlattorneys.org/>

MWL Leadership and Volunteer Opportunities

Each year, MWL provides many opportunities for law students to gain volunteer and leadership experience. Through this active involvement, law students not only help to advance MWL's mission, but also develop professional skills and build relationships with attorneys from across the profession.

Open to: All Minnesota Law Students

Deadline: Ongoing

Contact: Tessa Jones, tjones@mwlattorneys.org

Website: <http://www.mwlattorneys.org/>

THE LGBTQ+ BAR

National LGBTQ+ Bar Association

[The National LGBTQ+ Bar Association](#) is a national association of lawyers, judges and other legal professionals, law students, activists, and affiliated lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender legal organizations. The LGBTQ+ Bar promotes justice in and through the legal profession for the LGBTQ+ community in all its diversity.

National LGBTQ+ Bar Association Law Student Membership

National LGBTQ+ Bar membership is open to all legal professionals and law students without regard to age, race, religion, gender, color, national origin, ancestry, disability, political affiliation, sexual orientation or gender identity. Law students already admitted to law school may join as a law student member for \$40. If you are a member of your law school's LGBTQ+ group, you are eligible to receive 50% your membership cost, lowering it from \$40 to \$20. *Note: all law student members of the National LGBTQ+ Bar can register for our annual Lavender Law Conference & Career Fair at no cost.

Open to: Law students nationwide

Deadline: Ongoing

Contact: Patrick O'Brien patrick@lgbtqbar.org

National LGBTQ Bar's Backpack to Briefcase

Welcome to Backpack to Briefcase! B2B is the National LGBTQ+ Bar's new law student members-only website with resources to help LGBTQ+ law students navigate law school and career planning. B2B houses content on a number of topics, including Law School Skills, Health & Wellness – including an LGBTQ+-competent provider map, LGBTQ+ Legal Knowledge, Career Planning, and more! We will continuously update and add items, so check back regularly to see what's new.

Open to: Law students nationwide

Deadline: None

Contact: Patrick O'Brien patrick@lgbtqbar.org

National LGBTQ+ Bar Law School Scholarship

The National LGBTQ+ Bar Association and Foundation offers three scholarships of \$2,500 each, annually. Students must be accepted or enrolled at least half-time in an ABA-accredited law school to be eligible,* and must complete an application. Scholarships will be awarded to: One incoming 1L student, one rising 2L student, one rising 3L or 4L (enrolled in evening or part-time program) student. Funds are granted on an unrestricted basis and may be used for tuition, housing, books, transportation, living expenses, bar application/study expenses, or any other law school-related expense.* Entering first-year students who have not yet been accepted to law school or have not yet chosen a law school by April 1 may still apply; funding will be released upon proof of registration.

Open to: All Minnesota law students. Must be an MWL member.

Open to: Law students nationwide

Deadline: April

Contact: Patrick O'Brien patrick@lgbtqbar.org

National LGBTQ+ Bar Trans/Nonbinary Law Graduates of Color Grant Fund

In 2022, the National LGBTQ+ Bar Association and Foundation established a need-based grant available to graduating transgender and/or nonbinary law graduates of color. The Trans/Nonbinary Law Graduates of Color Grant Fund will award three unrestricted \$1,000 grants, to help offset the costs associated with the period of time between graduation and taking the Bar Exam/employment. Accepted grantees will also receive a 1-year free membership with the National LGBTQ+ Bar Association.

Criteria: December or Spring U.S. Law School Graduate. Trans and/or Nonbinary Person of Color. Registered to take a U.S. Bar exam in the summer. February Bar exam takers are not eligible.

Open to: Trans/Nonbinary people of color graduating from law school

Deadline: April

Contact: Patrick O'Brien patrick@lgbtqbar.org

International Association of LGBTQ+ Judges, Judge Paul G. Feinman Scholarship

The International Association of LGBTQ+ Judges established the Judge Paul G. Feinman Scholarship in 2021. This scholarship is to assist you as you create your own path of passion and commitment to justice, as our friend Judge Feinman always did. The Scholarship will be awarded annually to a law student who has demonstrated a commitment to the LGBTQ+ community and will be working (as a judicial intern, extern, clerk, etc.) with a judge or judicial officer at some time prior to the student's graduation from law school. The scholarship is in the amount of \$2,500. Scholarship

funds are unrestricted and may be used for tuition, housing, books, transportation, living expenses, bar application/study expenses, or any other law school-related expense.

Open to: Law Students Nationwide

Deadline: January

Contact: International Association of LGBTQ+ Judges, lgbtqjudges@gmail.com

Website: <https://lgbtqbar.org/>



Minnesota Defense Lawyers Association (MDLA)

The [Minnesota Defense Lawyers Association](#) is an association dedicated to serving the needs of lawyers engaging primarily in the defense and trial of civil disputes. MDLA provides educational and professional development opportunities that benefit both the individual member and the civil defense practice. MDLA members exchange information on court decisions, briefs, witnesses, trends, and practices and procedures throughout the state.

MDLA membership means more than just access to services. It embodies a commitment to the principles of the defense community, led by the Minnesota Defense Lawyers Association. Membership support is vital to the organization's continued leadership to ensure a balanced, fair approach in Minnesota courts and in the legislature.

Website: <https://www.mdla.org>

Contact:

Phone: (612) 750-8606

Email: info@mdla.org

MDLA Diversity Clerkship Program

The Minnesota Defense Lawyers Association hosts an annual MDLA Diversity Clerkship Program for 1L and 2L students. The MDLA Diversity Clerkship Program provides diverse law students with a chance to serve as a summer clerk at a civil defense law firm in the Twin Cities area. The program provides students with opportunities to improve their writing and research skills, attend various litigation matters, network with local attorneys, and, potentially, find placement with a local firm.

Students will remain at their firm for the entirety of the clerkship program and will be employed for at least 10 weeks. Students will be paired with an inter-office, partner level attorney mentor, who will ensure the student is receiving work projects and active feedback. The firm will also complete a program objectives form to ensure that the student has received adequate experiences and work projects. Applications will open December 1, 2025 on Symplicity, where more details will be posted.

Applications open December 1st

MDLA Midwinter Conference (MWC)

The Minnesota Defense Lawyers Association provides opportunities for diverse law students for mentorship and free admission to the 2026 MDLA Midwinter Conference. Students will be paired with a civil defense attorney who will aid in mentorship, networking, and job placement. As part of the mentorship program, students will receive free admission to the 2025 MDLA Midwinter Conference, January 2026 in Walker, MN. Students will be able to attend valuable CLE sessions on civil litigation topics, attend meals and happy hours with other member attorneys, and engage in multiple networking opportunities with civil defense attorneys across Minnesota. This is an exceptional opportunity for diverse students to become involved in the civil defense bar and create multiple, valuable relationships for future employment. Applications will be posted on Symplicity, where more details will be included.

Trial Techniques Seminar (TTS)

We are pleased to invite all Minnesota law students to apply for complimentary admission to the MDLA Trial Techniques Seminar August 2026 in Duluth, Minnesota! The seminar offers a unique opportunity for diverse law students to network with practicing attorneys and attend engaging presentations on litigation strategy. Participants will also have the chance to connect with legal professionals, judges, and vendors in the civil-defense practice. Previous attendees have enjoyed numerous networking opportunities and built lasting relationships with local defense practitioners.

Accepted law students will receive free admission to all seminar events, complimentary lodging at a nearby hotel, and all meals provided through the seminar program. Keep an eye on Symplicity for the posting and application details.