**Las Vegas Chapter of the National Bar Association**

**2024 Scholarship Packet**

**Application Deadline: September 16, 2024 at 11:59 PM PST**

**SCHOLARSHIP HISTORY AND OBJECTIVES**

Each year, the Las Vegas Chapter of the National Bar Association Foundation (“**Foundation**”), together with the Las Vegas Chapter of the National Bar Association (“**LVNBA**”), hosts the Annual Scholarships and Awards Gala, a transformative event that, historically, awards scholarships to law students. Since its inception as the Annual Scholarship Banquet in 1987, this Gala has been a beacon of hope that provides scholarships to law students that help shape futures. For the first time, the LVNBA is expanding its scholarships to current and prior students who are committed to taking the Law School Admission Test (“**LSAT**”) and journeying into law school.

The LVNBA, a civil rights bar organization at its core, was established in 1981. It is Nevada's first and only National Bar Association ('NBA') affiliate, operating under NBA Region IX. The NBA, founded in 1925, is the nation's oldest minority bar and the largest national association of over 44,000 predominantly African-American lawyers, judges, professors, and law students. This rich history underscores the importance and impact of the LVNBA's work.

The Foundation, a public charity established by LVNBA members in 2008, is unwavering in its dedication to fostering diversity in the legal field. It achieves this by providing scholarships to law students who demonstrate a commitment to serving the most underserved members of society. Additionally, the Foundation supports various educational activities, furthering its mission to create a more inclusive legal profession. This commitment to diversity is a cornerstone of the Foundation's work, and it is through these scholarships that they are able to make a tangible difference in the legal community.

When the NBA was founded in 1925, there were fewer than 1,000 African-American lawyers in the nation, and less than 120 belonged to the NBA. By 1945, there were nearly 250 members, representing 25% of the African-American members of the bar. Over the past 75 years, the NBA has grown enormously in size and influence. When the LVNBA was founded in 1981, there were fewer than 20 African-American attorneys in the state of Nevada. Currently, in Nevada, circa 100 African-American attorneys comprise approximately 1% of the membership of the State Bar of Nevada. Since the first Annual Scholarship in 1987, the LVNBA has promoted diversity in the legal profession by providing scholarships to African-American students. Most LVNBA and Foundation scholarship recipients go on to practice law in Nevada.

**2024 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS**

This year, the LVNBA Scholarship Recipient Selection Subcommittee (“**Selection Committee**”) is excited to provide up to ten (10) scholarships to deserving undergraduate and law school students. The Law School and LSAT scholarships are designed to help deserving students offset the costs of law school or preparing for and taking the LSAT.

**SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA AND ELIGIBILITY**

**Criteria**:

The Selection Committeeconsiders all materials submitted by the applicant, with particular weight given to the applicants who embody any one or combination of the following: (a) involved in LVNBA; (b) demonstrate a commitment to serving the needs of the African American community in Nevada; (c) show noteworthy academic performance; or(d) demonstrate financial need. Strong ties to a Nevada community are preferred. Letters of recommendation should be furnished by individuals who can speak to the applicant’s character, professional performance, and deservingness of receiving one of the foregoing scholarships.

**How to Complete This Packet**:

*Before* submitting your Scholarship Application Form, please **check off all boxes in this packet**, **sign** and **email** your signed packet with all Required Documents to lvnba.gala@gmail.com. Failure to submit this completed and signed Scholarship Packet *before* the **Deadline** may result in denial of your application.

**Eligibility**:

**At the time I submit my application, I confirm that**:

* I am a (i) law student in good standing; (ii) undergraduate student in good standing applying to law school in the next 12 months; or (iii) a graduate from a university with at least a Bachelor’s degree applying to take the LSAT by November 2, 2025.
* I have volunteered at least ten (10) hours with a student organization or other non-profit organization (such as the LVNBA or public service entity) in the last year.
* I am an active LVNBA Student Member.[[1]](#footnote-0)
* I have attended at least one (1) LVNBA event ***prior*** to submitting my application.
* I am available and willing to attend and volunteer at the 2024 Annual Scholarships and Awards Gala, taking place on **Saturday, November 2, 2024 at the Aria Resort and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada**.

**How do I Apply?**

Sign and submit this application packet with your **Required Documents** (below) by **September 16, 2024 at 11:59 PM PST**.

Submit your online [**Scholarship Application Form**](https://forms.gle/Lfrpj1PH6rVeDAuG8) by **September 16, 2024 at 11:59 PM PST**.[[2]](#footnote-1)

**What Documents Am I Required to Submit With This Packet?**

I am submitting with this signed Scholarship Packet the following **Required Documents** via email to lvnba.gala@gmail.com by the **Deadline**:

* + My current resume;
	+ My current headshot;
	+ My unofficial transcript;
	+ One (1) letter of recommendation from a professor, faculty, LVNBA Attorney Member, or employment supervisor with their contact phone number and email address; and
	+ Any other desired materials to support my application. This can include statements of financial hardship, how you would use funds from an LVNBA scholarship, or context on any academic performance shortcomings.

**POST-SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEE RESPONSIBILITIES**

**If I am awarded a scholarship, I agree to the following:**

Law Students:

* Remain in good standing in school;
* Attend at least two (2) LVNBA events in the next calendar year.

Undergraduate Students:

* Apply to take the LSAT in the next calendar year;
* Attend at least two (2) LVNBA events in the next calendar year.

**When will the Scholarship awards be announced?**

The 2024 Scholarship Awards recipients will be notified by **October 11, 2024**, via telephone and email (unless the LVNBA extends the submission **Deadline**). As part of their award, all scholarship recipients receive a complimentary ticket to attend the Gala!

**SIGNATURE AND ATTESTATION**

By signing here, I attest that all answers herein and in my Scholarship Application Form are true and correct. I further attest and agree that failing to adhere to any of the foregoing **Post-Scholarship Awardee Responsibilities** may result in revocation of my scholarship award and an obligation to return all funds received from the LVNBA.

| **Signature of Applicant****Printed Name of Applicant****Date** |
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*It is the policy of the Foundation and the LVNBA not to discriminate on the basis of age, gender, disability, race, color, creed, religion, ethnicity, national origin, veteran status, or sexual orientation. Officers of the Foundation and LVNBA, members of the Scholarship Recipient Selection Subcommittee, and their immediate families are ineligible for the Scholarships. All application materials submitted will become the property of the Foundation.*

1. All students may become LVNBA Student Members, and the annual dues for an LVNBA Student Member are only $1! You can pay your dues at <https://www.lasvegasnba.org/join-renew> by selecting the “Law students and up to 1-year post-J.D. graduates: $1” option. [↑](#footnote-ref-0)
2. The Form is available here: <https://forms.gle/HWQxvdDA3zvYPq9Q9>. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)