Sidley Diversity & Inclusion Scholarship For Summer 2021

Sidley has long been one of the most prominent and progressive proponents of law firm diversity. Our mission is to attract and retain outstanding lawyers of varied backgrounds who reflect the global marketplace that we serve. Through the leadership of our Diversity Committee and Committee on Retention and Promotion of Women, we are working to become a more diverse and inclusive organization.

To further promote diversity within the legal profession and to support Sidley’s diversity policies, the firm created the Diversity & Inclusion Scholarship Initiative for second year law students. Sidley will award a limited number of Diversity & Inclusion Scholarships in the amount of US$25,000 (less any applicable withholdings and taxes) to selected 2021 Sidley summer associates.

Eligibility and Selection Criteria

A Scholarship applicant must:

- Be a full-time law student in your second year of classes at an accredited law school.
- Submit the following documents:
  - Current law school transcript with all first year grades;
  - Resume;
  - Completed application form; and
  - Personal statement (500 words or less) addressing what you believe demonstrates your qualification for the Diversity & Inclusion Scholarship including, potentially, a description of your academic and personal strengths; exceptional contributions, through community service or otherwise, to the cause of diversity; and/or how you have overcome adversity, such as a personal or family history of educational or socioeconomic disadvantage, and have demonstrated the tenacity and talent to excel in the legal profession.

Scholarship recipients will be selected from among the eligible applicants who have demonstrated academic excellence and leadership qualities and who also have demonstrated exceptional ability, including through:

- Demonstrated contributions to diversity initiatives or to diversity and inclusion more generally, such as in the area(s) of racial or ethnic diversity, sexual orientation or gender identity, disability, veteran status, and/or other areas underrepresented or otherwise important to diversity in the legal profession; and/or
- Other extraordinary contributions or accomplishments; and/or
- Demonstrated ability to overcome adversity, such as first-in-family college attendance or socio-economic disadvantage; and/or
- Past participation in and/or interest in assisting with the diversity and inclusion initiatives of the firm such as the Sidley Prelaw Scholars Program or a Sidley 1L Diversity Summer Mentorship Program.

Expectations of Scholarship Recipients

Diversity & Inclusion Scholarship recipients must join Sidley’s summer associate program after their second year of law school.

The Sidley Diversity & Inclusion Scholarship is intended to defray the costs of the recipients’ legal education.
How To Apply
Complete the Sidley Diversity & Inclusion Scholarship application and send it, along with a resume, current official law school transcript and personal statement to:

scholarship@sidley.com

or

Sidley Diversity & Inclusion Scholarship
c/o Jennifer Connelly
Sidley Austin LLP
One South Dearborn Street
Chicago, IL 60603

Application Timeline
Given the highly selective nature of the Diversity & Inclusion Scholarships and the limited number of Scholarships available, students are encouraged to submit applications at their earliest convenience. We strongly prefer to receive the application by the time of the candidate’s call-back interview.

Please note that the Scholarship application is not an application for employment. You must apply separately for a summer associate position.

About Sidley Austin LLP
Sidley Austin LLP is a premier law firm with a practice highly attuned to the ever-changing international landscape. The firm has built a reputation for being an adviser for global business, with over 2,000 lawyers in 20 offices worldwide. Sidley maintains a commitment to providing quality legal services and to offering advice in litigation, transactional and regulatory matters spanning virtually every area of law. The firm’s lawyers have wide-reaching legal backgrounds and are dedicated to teamwork, collaboration and superior client service. Sidley is committed to achieving greater diversity not only within the firm, but also within the legal profession as a whole. For more information about Sidley, please visit www.sidley.com.