The Sidley Prelaw Scholars Program is designed to increase diversity in law schools and the legal profession by helping diverse, high-performing college students with financial needs offset the high costs of LSAT preparation classes and admissions applications and by helping them prepare for the first year of law school.
2019 SIDLEY SCHOLARS
SUMMER SEMINAR
LAW SCHOOL
MATRICULATION

1 UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN LAW SCHOOL

1 USC Gould School of Law
1 Stanford Law School
2 University of California, Berkeley
1 University of California, Davis

4 Undecided

1 University of Oklahoma College of Law
1 Texas A&M University School of Law
SIDLEY PRELAW SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Are you a diverse, high-performing college student planning to pursue a career in law, but struggling with the costs of the LSAT and law school applications? Consider applying for the Sidley Prelaw Scholars Program.

The Sidley Prelaw Scholars Program aims to increase diversity in law schools and, eventually, in the legal profession by subsidizing the LSAT preparatory course and law school application expenses of talented, diverse college students who may have difficulty paying the expenses associated with applying to law school and by helping them prepare for the first year of law school.

For eligibility requirements, an outline of the program and how to apply, please read below or visit sidleyscholars.com.
PROGRAM ELEMENTS

• The 2021 Sidley Scholars Summer Seminar is a multi-day introduction to the structure of the American legal system, substantive instruction on the traditional first-year law school courses, and advice on how to succeed in law school, as well as an opportunity to meet Sidley lawyers and other leaders in the legal community. The Sidley Scholars Summer Seminar is for scholars who are starting law school immediately following the Summer Seminar.

• Scholars will receive up to $2,500 to pay tuition in a commercial LSAT preparation course, as well as reimbursement for application fees for as many as seven law schools.

• Scholars may be eligible to receive an additional $3,500 scholarship award in two installments. Scholars will receive $1,250 when they have (1) successfully completed an approved LSAT preparatory course, (2) taken the LSAT, and (3) applied to at least five accredited law schools. Each Scholar will receive a final $2,250 scholarship distribution once the Scholar commits to a specific law school, sends proof of enrollment to Sidley and attends the entire Sidley Scholars Summer Seminar the summer before matriculation.

ELIGIBILITY

Sidley Scholars will be selected on a competitive basis. To be considered as a Sidley Scholar, one must:

• Be a second semester college junior or a senior, graduating from an accredited American college in good standing no later than June 30, 2021, or be a very recent graduate of an accredited American college;

• Submit a complete application and supporting materials by the application deadline; and

• Demonstrate financial need through the application and supporting materials.

Because of the mission of the program, preference will be given to the most well-qualified diverse applicants, with an emphasis on populations underrepresented in the legal field.
EXPECTATIONS OF SIDLEY SCHOLARS

Each Sidley Scholar is expected to:

• Graduate in good standing from college before June 30, 2021.
• Meet all LSAT, law school application and program deadlines.
• Attend all classes associated with the LSAT preparatory course.
• Attend the entire Sidley Scholars Summer Seminar in the summer before law school. The last installment of the scholarship award is contingent upon in-person attendance and successful completion of the Sidley Scholars Summer Seminar. It is expected that 2020 Sidley Scholars will attend the 2021 Summer Seminar. Reasonable travel expenses to the Summer Seminar will be reimbursed.
• Matriculate to law school in Fall 2021.
• Be available to Sidley representatives via telephone and email from February 2020 through September 2021 and respond in a timely way to all inquiries from Sidley.
• Upon starting law school, remain in touch with Sidley representatives to provide feedback on how the Sidley Prelaw Scholars Program is benefiting the Sidley Scholar during the first year of law school.
• Upon an expression of interest, be available to a future Sidley Scholar as a mentor.

In rare circumstances, a student may request that the firm consider an exception to a requirement of the program. Sidley’s Diversity Committee will consider such requests on a case-by-case basis, but certain benefits of the program may not be made available to such student. For example, Scholars who do not attend the entire summer seminar may not receive the final installment of their scholarship award. All such decisions are at the sole discretion of Sidley’s Diversity Committee.
FUNDING ($2,500 MAXIMUM) FOR:

- Tuition for a Sidley-approved LSAT prep. course
- Registration fees for the June, September or December 2020 LSAT and the Law School Data Assembly Service (“LSDAS”)
- Law school application fees (up to seven)
- LSDAS report fees (up to seven)

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD ($3,500)

- $1,250 will be paid after the Scholar has applied to at least five law schools.
- $2,250 of the scholarship will be paid after the Scholar commits to a specific law school, sends proof of enrollment to Sidley and attends the entire Sidley Scholars Summer Seminar the summer before matriculation.

2020 PROGRAM TIMELINE

January 10, 2020
- Application deadline (postmark date or electronic submission)

March 16, 2020
- 2020 Sidley Scholars published to website the week of March 16, 2020. Check website for the list of newly named Sidley Scholars (sidley.com/sidley-prelaw-scholars)

April 2020
- Start date for LSAT prep course for June 2020 LSAT (exact dates vary by location and provider)

June – December, 2020
- The 2020 LSAT dates have not yet been announced but 2020 Sidley Scholars are eligible to take any LSAT exam from June – December 2020.

June/July 2021
- Sidley Scholars Summer Seminar

(Exact dates to be determined and may be subject to change. The program is generally hosted in Chicago, Thursday – Sunday.)
**HOW TO APPLY**

Go online to [sidleyscholars.com](http://sidleyscholars.com).

Download, complete and print the online application. Submit the application, resume, Free Application for Federal Student Aid,* an official or unofficial transcript** and a sealed and signed recommendation to:

Sidley Prelaw Scholars Program  
c/o Merisa Lima  
Sidley Austin LLP  
One South Dearborn  
Chicago, IL 60603

OR

Email*** the application and supporting documents to: [sidleyscholars@sidley.com](mailto:sidleyscholars@sidley.com). Recommendations may be submitted electronically but they must be emailed directly from the recommender (and not the applicant). If the recommendation is being mailed, it must be signed and sealed. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

* Free application for Federal Student Aid is available at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).

** Unofficial transcripts are accepted. However, once an applicant has been chosen, he/she must submit an official transcript.

***If submitting an application via email, documents should be submitted as one pdf attachment in the following order:

---

**ABOUT THE FIRM**

Sidley is a premier global law firm with a practice highly attuned to the ever-changing international landscape. The firm advises clients around the globe, with more than 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 for our firm, but within the legal profession as a whole. We strive to attract, retain and promote outstanding lawyers of varied backgrounds who reflect the global marketplace that we serve.

Through the leadership of our Diversity Committee and the Committee on Retention and Promotion of Women, Sidley is making sustainable progress in our journey toward becoming a more diverse organization.

For more information about Sidley, go to [sidley.com](http://sidley.com).
OUR DIVERSITY ACHIEVEMENTS

Best Law Firms for Diversity (2020)  
—Vault

“Perfect” 100 score  
—Human Rights Campaign’s Corporate Equality Index (CEI) report

Best Law Firms for Women and Hall of Fame Inductee  
—Working Mother

“Innovation in Diversity and Inclusion” Award  
—Financial Times Innovative Lawyers Awards

Law Firm Diversity Champion Finalist  
—Facebook

“Champions for Disability Inclusion in the Legal Profession Award”  
—ABA Commission on Disability Rights