



To maintain the RI Law Center ■ To foster services to the legal profession and the community

RHODE ISLAND
BAR FOUNDATION

Michael R. McElroy
President

December 2022

Victoria M. Almeida
Vice President

Armando E. Batastini
Secretary

Dear Scholarship Applicant:

James A. Jackson
Treasurer

Enclosed you will find an application for the scholarships to be awarded through the Rhode Island Bar Foundation for academic year 2023 - 2024.

Kathleen M. Bridge
Executive Director

The Thomas F. Black, Jr. Memorial Scholarship is a one-year, non-renewable award, **for full-time students who are Rhode Island residents who will be entering their first year of law school in September 2023.**

For the academic year 2023 - 2024, the Foundation intends to grant two Thomas F. Black, Jr. scholarships in the amount of \$25,000 each. The Foundation's Scholarship Committee seeks applications from candidates without regard to race, color, religion country of central origin, handicap, age, sex, or sexual orientation. The Committee will endeavor to make awards to assure that, over time, the recipients reflect the diversity of the Rhode Island population.

Two additional scholarships from the Papitto Opportunity Connection Foundation in the amount of \$25,000 each will also be awarded to candidates who self-identify as black, indigenous, or people of color (BIPOC).

The objective of the Bar Foundation's Scholarship Program is to support high legal practice standards in Rhode Island by providing financial assistance to Rhode Island residents who show promise that they are likely to become outstanding lawyers, hopefully in Rhode Island, who will adhere to such standards and who will need such assistance in order to study law at quality law schools.

Scholarship awards shall be exclusively for tuition and related expenses for persons who enroll as full-time students in programs leading to the award of the L.L.B. or J.D. degree offered by law schools located in one of the United States or in the District of Columbia and which are accredited by the American Bar Association. Each scholarship award will be made on the basis of:

1. Demonstrated financial need, based upon your personal and family financial circumstances, as well as the extent in which you have helped to finance your undergraduate career by past and present part-time and/or full-time work efforts;
2. Superior academic performance;
3. Community and public service, and
4. Details as to the reasonable likelihood that you will in the future provide and contribute highly professional legal services to the citizens of Rhode Island.

Please complete and return (1) the application, and (2) a personal statement, along with the information required below, to tgallo@ribar.com or to the Rhode Island Bar Foundation, 41 Sharpe Drive, Cranston, RI 02920, so as to arrive by **March 24, 2023**. The personal statement should convey something about your personal education and background, your personal and family situation, why you believe you would be a worthy recipient of the scholarship, or any other information you feel would be helpful to the Scholarship Committee in considering your application.

It is important that you address in detail in your application and in your personal statement, each of the four guidelines listed above. In particular, please keep in mind that applicants have the burden of demonstrating their financial need to our Scholarship Committee. **A detailed explanation of the extent to which you can or cannot obtain family financial assistance in your first year in law school should be submitted as part of your personal statement.**

You should arrange to have the registrar of your college or university forward a copy of your academic transcript to the Rhode Island Bar Foundation.

Two letters of recommendation are required from persons who know you. One of the letters should be from a school official familiar with your academic record. Identify the persons writing these letters on the application and request that they forward their letters directly to the Rhode Island Bar Foundation.

You must also forward to us a copy of the SAR report from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), as well as a copy of your 2022 Federal Tax Return.

Finally, for your information, attached is a form entitled "Financial Package." Once you have been admitted to a law school which you choose to attend next year, you must immediately complete, sign, date, and return the enclosed form to the Rhode Island Bar Foundation. If, however, you have been admitted to one or more law schools and have not yet chosen which one you will attend, you must complete, sign, date, and return a separate Financial Package form for each law school which has accepted you and which you might possibly attend. You must also thereafter advise the Rhode Island Bar Foundation of any subsequent choice by you to attend a law school which has admitted you. All such up-to-date and completed Financial Package forms must be returned to the Rhode Island Bar Foundation as soon as possible.

The Committee reserves the right to decline to consider an incomplete application. If you have any questions, please call the Rhode Island Bar Foundation office at (401) 421-6541 or email tgallo@ribar.com.

The Rhode Island Bar Foundation welcomes your scholarship application and extends best wishes as you plan to enter law school.

Sincerely yours,



Theresa Gallo
Program Director

**APPLICATION FOR
THE THOMAS F. BLACK, JR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP OF
THE RHODE ISLAND BAR FOUNDATION**

2023

1. Full Name _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

(Please be sure that this name is the same on all application materials)

Social Security Number _____

Date of Birth _____

Place of Birth _____

Citizenship _____

Date your RHODE ISLAND _____

Residency began _____

2. Present Mailing Address

Street _____

City _____

State & Zip Code _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

3. Permanent Mailing Address

(Address where you can be contacted at any time)

After what date should we use this address?

Street _____

City _____

State & Zip Code _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

4. List name and location of high schools attended and year of graduation.

5. List all colleges, universities, graduate and professional schools attended on a full-time basis.

School	Dates of Attendance	Degree	Date	Major	Class Rank/Quintile

6. List scholastic or academic honors including scholarships, fellowships, prizes, honor societies, etc.

7. List and briefly describe three non-academic activities which have been important to you.

8. List Law Schools to which you have applied as a full-time student:

9. Have you completed a FAFSA or other Financial Aid Form: _____

(A copy of the completed FAFSA/SAR report is required)

10. 2021 Annual Income _____

(please attach a copy of your 2022 tax returns)

11. List names and addresses of your parents:

Father

Name _____
Street _____
City _____
State/Zip Code _____
Telephone _____
Email _____

Mother

Name _____
Street _____
City _____
State/Zip Code _____
Telephone _____
Email _____

12. Were you employed during the academic year as an undergraduate? _____ Positions held _____

No. of hours per week: Fr. Yr. _____ Soph. Yr. _____ Jr. Yr. _____ Sr. Yr. _____

13. State your last four positions of full-time employment.

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Employer</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Reason for Leaving</u>

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | YES | NO |
| 14. Has your academic career been interrupted for one or more terms? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15. In an academic setting, have you been subject to disciplinary sanctions, or are charges pending? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16. Have you been convicted* of a felony? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17. Have you been convicted* of a misdemeanor (except drunkennes, simple assault, speeding, minor traffic violations, affray, or disturbing the peace) within the last five years? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18. Are any charges pending which, if you were to be convicted, would require your answer to either of the two previous questions to be "yes"? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

If any answers are "yes", please give details on reverse side of this sheet.

*without the conviction later being vacated

19. List all dates you have taken or will take the LSAT: _____

20. Date(s) registered with LSDAS: _____

21. Have you ever applied for admission to a Law School in a prior year or ever attended Law School? If so, please explain:

22. List names of the two people submitting recommendations:

Name	_____	Name	_____
Street	_____	Street	_____
City	_____	City	_____
State/Zip Code	_____	State/Zip Code	_____
Telephone	_____	Telephone	_____
Email	_____	Email	_____

23. If you identify as BIPOC and would like to be considered for the Papitto Opportunity Connection Scholarship, please check here.



see next page for more information

NOTE: This application must be received by March 24, 2023.
The Financial Package Form(s) must be completed as soon as possible once you make a decision and/or when you hear from schools regarding financial aid.

Send materials to: Rhode Island Bar Foundation, 41 Sharpe Drive, Cranston, RI 02920

Telephone: (401) 421-6541 **Email:** tgallo@ribar.com

If you need additional space, please attach.

I hereby certify that the information I have provided on this application form and in any attached materials is true and complete.

Signature: _____ Date _____

Reminder -- the following items are needed to complete your application:

- ❖ Personal Statement
- ❖ SAR report from FAFSA
- ❖ Two letters of recommendation
- ❖ Official Transcripts
- ❖ Copy of your 2022 tax returns

❖ Financial Package Form(s) are due upon receipt of financial aid from schools

Founded in December 2020, the Papitto Opportunity Connection was formed by Barbara Papitto as a continuation of the long-time commitment she and her late-husband Ralph have made to creating educational opportunities and supporting the BIPOC community in Rhode Island.

To be considered for a Papitto Opportunity Connection Foundation Scholarship, you must self-identify as a black, indigenous, or person of color (BIPOC). By checking box 23 on the Thomas F. Black Jr. Memorial Scholarship form, you are indicating that you would also like to be considered for this Scholarship. No additional paperwork beyond that which is described in the scholarship letter and the Black Scholarship application, including the check off of number 23, is necessary to be considered for this Scholarship.