

Indigent Defense Training Scholarship Application Information

Scholarship Details

As a result of generous grant funding NACDL is able to offer scholarship assistance to indigent defense providers to attend an existing training program of their choice. Scholarships will be awarded in the form of full or partial reimbursement of the registration costs of the excellent training programs offered by NACDL and by the organizations listed below. Limited travel reimbursement stipends may also be awarded to qualifying individuals to help defray the costs of travel and lodging.

Individuals may apply for scholarship funds to attend in person training events presented by any of the following organizations:

National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL) [Live CLE Calendar](#)

National Legal Aid Defender Association (NLADA) [Defender training only] [Events & CLE Calendar](#)

National Criminal Defense College (NCDC) [Website](#)

National Association of Public Defenders (NAPD) [Events Page](#)

American Bar Association (ABA) [Criminal defense courses only] [CLE Calendar](#)

Gideon's Promise [Programs](#)

Alternatively, individuals may request assistance attending a program sponsored by a national organization not listed above, provided that the training is open to defenders from multiple jurisdictions and is not targeted to a single state. *If you are requesting assistance with costs of attending a training program by an organization not listed above, please include information about the training program and the organization with your application package.*

Do You Qualify for a Scholarship?

Demonstrated financial need is required to qualify for registration and/or travel assistance. Scholarships are available for full time public defenders, contract counsel, and private appointed counsel. Membership in NACDL is **not required** to receive scholarship assistance under the indigent defense training scholarship. Scholarship recipients are expected to complete a pre- and post-training survey for the training program that they attend. Preference will be given to individuals with a high ratio of appointed to retained work, and those willing and able to pass on what they have learned to other indigent defense providers in their community.

Application Deadlines

Scholarship applications are reviewed on a rolling basis, with review of applications for a particular program beginning approximately three months prior to the start date of the program. Although there is no formal application deadline, applications should be submitted at least 6 weeks prior to the start date of a program for the best chance of receiving travel awards.

Evaluation of Applications

Each application for scholarship is evaluated individually based on the answers provided to the questions in the application. Multiple applications from one office should be completed and submitted by each attorney individually, providing personal responses to each of the questions asked.

Submission of Applications

Completed scholarship applications can be submitted via email (preferred) or fax. Emailed application should be sent to DPrice@nacdl.org with Scholarship Application in the subject line. Faxed applications should be sent to (202) 872-8690 and directed to Diane Price.

Indigent Defense Training Scholarship Application

Name: _____

Organization/Office: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

1a) Which of the following options best describes you?

Federal Public Defender State/County Public Defender Non-profit lawyer
CJA Panel Attorney Court Appointed Attorney

1b) If you are not a full-time public defender, approximately what percentage of your practice is appointed indigent criminal defense?

Less than half 50 to 75% More than 75%

2) Please provide a brief professional background including your years of criminal defense practice and the types of cases you currently handle.

3a) What program are you requesting assistance in attending?

Organization name: _____

Course name: _____

Date and location: _____ Registration fee: _____

3b) Are you requesting travel assistance? If yes, please provide travel cost estimates.

Yes No Flight/train estimate: _____

Hotel estimate: _____

3c) If you are requesting travel assistance but are not granted travel assistance, do you still wish to be considered for scholarship assistance with registration fees only?

Yes No

4) Briefly describe your reasons for wanting to attend the program you have listed above in question 3a:

5) Please include a brief statement regarding financial need addressing the following: Your office's ability (or inability) to pay for all or part of your travel expenses (most awards will be for full or partial conference tuition and partial travel expenses – for example, a fixed amount stipend). If applicable to the structure of your office it is preferable, but not required, for a supervisor to verify this through a brief statement (attached to this application or sent to the email address above) that your office lacks sufficient funds, has a ban on out of state travel, etc. Small firm, solo practitioners, court appointed counsel, can provide a short statement regarding your need for scholarship funds.

6) Are you willing and able to pass on the knowledge that you gain to other indigent defense providers in your community? If so, please briefly describe your plans to do so.

I certify that I am an active member in good standing of the Bar of _____. My Bar Number is _____.