

KEKER VAN NEST & PETERS

Diversity Scholars Program

At Keker, Van Nest & Peters LLP, a San Francisco litigation boutique, we know that fostering diversity, equity, and inclusion in the legal profession benefits the entire legal community. As part of our commitment to enhance that diversity, equity, and inclusion, we support the next generation of lawyers through our annual Diversity Scholars program, which includes a scholarship grant and access to professional development resources. In recent years, we've awarded over \$400,000 in scholarship money to numerous recipients, who represent a broad range of identities and experiences.

AWARD INFORMATION

- Up to \$80,000 total in scholarship grants will be awarded per year, split among up to four scholars
- The exact amount and number of scholarships depends on the number, qualifications, and financial needs of qualified applicants
- In addition to a scholarship grant, Diversity Scholars will receive 1:1 academic and professional mentoring from an associate at the firm and will be invited to participate in firm events including legal education courses, speakers series presentations, and other professional development opportunities.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- First-year law students (Class of 2026) from an ABA-accredited school
- Interest in practicing litigation—such as complex commercial litigation, intellectual property litigation, or white collar criminal defense—in the Bay Area
- Employees of Keker, Van Nest & Peters, family members of employees, and persons with pending or accepted offers of employment are not eligible.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- The firm will consider a combination of factors including:
 - Academic success
 - Financial need
 - Leadership and community involvement
 - Demonstrated interest in practicing litigation in the Bay Area
 - Demonstrated commitment to enhancing justice, equity and inclusion in the legal profession
 - Overcoming significant adversity and contributing to the diversity of experiences and perspectives in the legal community, including, for instance, those who have overcome adversity stemming from their membership in a protected class—such as those who have suffered discrimination or hardship based on race, ethnicity, national origin, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, or those who have overcome adversity based on socioeconomic status, or other basis—as well as others who would contribute to the diversity of litigators in our community based on their experiences as individuals

TO APPLY

- Complete the Keker, Van Nest & Peters LLP [Diversity Scholars Application 2024](#)
- Submit the following documents:
 - A copy of your resume containing the information specified on page 3

- A copy of your undergraduate and law school transcripts. (Note: Unofficial copies may accompany your application, but official copies must be supplied for scholarship finalists prior to interviewing.)
- Personal statement, not to exceed two pages single-spaced, which describes:
 - Your interest in pursuing a career in litigation in the Bay Area
 - How your background brought you to this interest
 - How you would contribute to the diversity of the legal community, both at law school and in your career
 - The difference you believe this scholarship would make to you
 - You may also include any other circumstances or information you believe the selection committee should know.
- Signed release allowing your school to confirm your enrollment status and financial aid information directly with KVP. Please contact your school's financial aid department to obtain the paperwork they require.
- **Optional:** If you would like your financial circumstances to be considered, please provide the documents and information requested on page 3. Although providing your financial information is not required, financial need is a factor the selection committee will consider.
- **Optional:** You may also submit a statement of economic hardship (up to one page), particularly if your current financial state is not accurately reflected by the financial information provided (e.g., extraordinary debt, recent financial catastrophe, recent bankruptcy, numerous siblings attending private school/college/graduate school, etc.).
- **Optional:** Although not required, we welcome *up to two* letters of recommendation from any of your references.

TIMELINE

- February 2, 2024: Deadline for submitting application
- March 18, 2024: Finalists notified
- April 12, 2024: Finalists interviewed via video conference
- April 2024: Award Recipients notified
- May 2024: Diversity Scholars Reception in San Francisco

QUESTIONS

- For more information, e-mail ScholarshipApplications@keker.com
- Application available at <https://www.keker.com/careers/diversity/Diversity-Scholarship>

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Keker, Van Nest & Peters LLP Diversity Scholars Application 2024

Applicant Information

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Race/Ethnicity:

Gender Identity/

Pronouns:

I am currently enrolled at the following law school: _____

Employer(s), position(s) for Summer 2024 (if known):

Experiences and References

Resume - Please provide a current copy of your resume. The resume may not be longer than two pages and should include the following information, if available.

- Undergraduate and graduate school information (degrees, GPA, rank, attendance dates);
- Undergraduate and graduate school activities (organization, position, responsibilities);
- Community service since graduating high school (organization, responsibilities); and.
- Work experience, including part-time or summer positions (employer, dates, location, position).

Personal References – List up to three individuals you are not related to, who will vouch for your academic and/or professional work performance. At least one reference must be a law school professor or instructor. Although not required, we welcome *up to two* letters of recommendation from any of your references.

Name	Company & Title	Email & Phone	Relationship

Financial Information & Income

If you would like your financial circumstances to be considered, please fill out the chart below and also provide either (1) a copy of your most recent FAFSA form or Student Aid Report, if available, or (2) the cover/summary page for your 2023 or 2022 IRS tax forms (without schedules). Although providing your financial information is optional, financial need is a factor the selection committee will consider.

If you are a dependent of another person, please also include the cover/summary pages for such person(s)' 2023 or 2022 IRS tax form(s). If you are a dependent of someone other than your spouse, please provide the information requested in the chart below for the person who claims you as a dependent.

Which documents are you submitting? ☐ FAFSA/Student Aid Report ☐ IRS Tax Forms ☐ Neither

	Applicant	Spouse / Partner
A. Total income for <i>calendar</i> year 2023 (<i>not</i> including financial aid)	\$	\$
B. Expected summer 2024 position income (including grant and fellowships)	\$	\$
C. Current value of stocks, bonds, mutual funds, bank accounts, and other investment securities	\$	\$
D-1. If you own a home, current value of home	\$	\$
D-2. If you own a home, current mortgage balance	\$	\$
E. Total outstanding undergraduate/graduate debt (excluding law school)	\$	\$
Questions below pertain to the 2023–24 <i>academic</i> year (Sept. 2023-May 2024)		
F-1. Total student loans	\$	\$
F-2. Total grants, fellowships, scholarships	\$	\$
F-3. Total financial aid (add F-1 and F-2)	\$	\$
G-1. Total estimated tuition expenses	\$	\$
G-2. Total estimated housing expenses	\$	\$
G-3. Total estimated book and other education-related expenses (explain if over \$1000):	\$	\$
G-4. Total estimated education expenses (add G-1 through G-3)	\$	\$
H-1. Other estimated academic year expenses (e.g. transportation, utilities, etc., but excluding any education expenses already noted above)	\$	\$
Total estimated education and non-education expenses for 2023-24 academic year (add G-4 and H-1)	\$	\$

Please state (yes or no) if you have applied for any other scholarships or grants for the 2024–25 academic year, and if you have received any award, provide the sponsor and the amount of such award(s):

Application Documents Checklist – Please provide the following documents to apply. Your application will be considered incomplete if any of the following are not included.

- 1) This completed application (typed).
- 2) A copy of your resume containing the information specified on page 3 above.
- 3) A copy of your undergraduate and law school transcripts. (Note: Unofficial copies may accompany your application, but **official** copies must be supplied for scholarship finalists prior to interviewing.)
- 4.) A personal statement, ***not to exceed two pages single-spaced***, which describes (1) your interest in pursuing a career in litigation in the Bay Area, (2) how your background brought you to this interest, (3) how you would contribute to the diversity of the legal community, both at law school and in your career, and (4) the difference you believe this scholarship would make to you. You may also include any other circumstances or information you believe the selection committee should know.
- 4.) A signed release allowing your school to confirm your enrollment status and financial aid information directly with KVP. Please contact your school’s financial aid department to obtain the paperwork they require.
- 5.) Optional: If you would like your financial circumstances to be considered, please provide the documents and information requested on page 4. Although providing your financial information is not required, financial need is a factor the selection committee will consider.
- 6.) Optional: You may also submit a statement of economic hardship (up to one page), particularly if your current financial state is not accurately reflected by the financial information provided (e.g., extraordinary debt, recent financial catastrophe, recent bankruptcy, numerous siblings attending private school/college/graduate school, etc.).
- 7.) Optional: Although not required, we welcome ***up to two*** letters of recommendation from any of your references.

Submission Instructions and Verification

Applications and questions may be directed to ScholarshipApplications@keker.com.

I declare under the penalty of perjury that the information I provided is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. Additionally, I agree that Kecker, Van Nest & Peters LLP may publicize my receipt of the scholarship, including my name, photograph, basic biographical information, personal and academic achievements through the press, inclusion in the firm’s website or other written and electronic materials.

Name:

Signature:

Date: