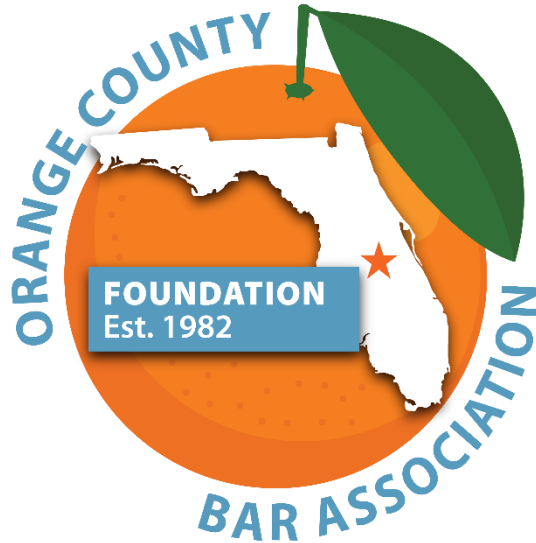




ORANGE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION, INC. 2025 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PACKET

The Orange County Bar Association Foundation, Inc. (OCBAF) is proud to announce its scholarship application. The goal of the OCBAF scholarship is to better serve our Orange County community through legal education. The OCBAF scholarship is made possible through the generous donations of Orange County Bar Association, Inc. (OCBA) members, friends, and OCBA fundraising efforts such as the OCBA Law Day 5k and OCBA Gala.

The OCBAF's 2025 scholarship will be awarded to a deserving, University of Central Florida (UCF) B.S./B.A. Legal Studies student or Valencia A.S. Paralegal Studies student. The scholarship award recipient will have demonstrated leadership, academic excellence, and involvement on campus and in the general community.

The scholarship consists of a **maximum** award of 52 credit hours of \$5,500.00 for a declared B.A./B.S. UCF Legal Studies Student or 65 credit hours or \$5,500.00 for a declared A.S. Valencia Paralegal Studies Student. The award covers only tuition course costs with the prefix "PLA".

ORANGE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION, INC. 2025 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

I. ELIGIBILITY

Applicants for the OCBAF Scholarship must meet the following criteria:

- a. Must demonstrate strong academic achievement and excellence; with a cumulative 3.0 GPA minimum requirement;
- b. Must be a current UCF Declared Legal Studies Major seeking a B.A. or B.S. in Legal Studies who has Junior Status at the time of receipt of the award or a current Valencia Declared Paralegal Studies Student seeking an A.S. in Paralegal Studies;
- c. Must have campus and community involvement and/or leadership and;
- d. Be in good standing with their university or college;
- e. Complete applications must be sent via email to ocbafoundation@gmail.com by **March 7, 2025 at 11:59pm.**
- f. **NOTE:** The OCBAF Scholarship award recipient will be required to attend a 2025 OCBA luncheon, as well as any other events where the recipient will be publicly announced.

II. AWARD MAXIMUM

The 2025 OCBAF Scholarship consists of:

- a. A maximum award of 52 credit hours of \$5,500.00 for a declared B.A./B.S. UCF Legal Studies Student or 65 credit hours or \$5,500.00 for a declared A.S. Valencia Paralegal Studies Student.
- b. The award covers only tuition course costs with the prefix “PLA”. All other fees are the responsibility of the award winner.
- c. **These are maximum amounts and the scholarship may be less if the recipient has less hours left to earn their degree. The scholarship only pays for Legal Studies Credit Hours or Paralegal Credit Hours.**
- d. In the event there is a question as to whether a credit hour qualifies under the scholarship, it will be in the sole discretion of the OCBAF to make that determination.
- e. The decision of the OCBAF will be final.

III. SELECTION PROCESS

The selection process includes:

- a. From all the applications received, the OCBAF will select a limited number of applicants to be interviewed. The recipient will be selected from those students actually interviewed by the OCBAF.

- b. The OCBAF Scholarship award recipient will be selected by a committee consisting of OCBAF board members, which will evaluate applicants on the following criteria:
 1. Academic achievement;
 2. Personal essay;
 3. Community service, leadership or volunteerism;
 4. Letters of recommendation;
 5. Financial need (not a determinative factor); and
 6. Military service (not a determinative factor).
- c. The 2025 OCBAF Scholarship award recipient will be notified of his or her selection on or about March 15, 2024.

IV. DISTRIBUTION OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

Initial distribution:

- a. Once the OCBAF Scholarship recipient has been selected, the recipient is responsible for providing proof of their tuition credit hours for the upcoming semester.
- b. **NOTE:** Only tuition course costs for a declared B.A./B.S. UCF Legal Studies or for a declared A.S. Valencia Paralegal Studies program with prefix: “PLA” will be covered by this scholarship.

Recertification:

To continue receiving the scholarship the recipient must:

- a. Be enrolled in at least twelve (12) credit hours per semester; while maintaining a 3.00 overall GPA, and; continued enrollment in the appropriate program.
- b. Recertify by providing proof of continuing eligibility each semester with an official transcript to the OCBAF Scholarship Committee for continued eligibility of the scholarship.
- c. The date of recertification is the day after the “add/drop” period for each semester.

Failure to adhere to 3.00 GPA:

- a. The first time the grade assessment falls below a 3.00 overall GPA, the recipient will be placed on probation immediately and will have until the next grade assessment to bring the overall GPA to a 3.00.
- b. If the overall GPA is not raised to a 3.00 by the next grade assessment, the recipient will no longer be eligible for the scholarship.

V. COMPLETING THE APPLICATION

- a. Type or print the application clearly.
- b. Please do not leave any blanks. If an item does not apply, simply indicate with “N/A.” Incomplete or untimely applications will not be considered.

- c. The following items **must** be attached to the application (if you fail to attach these items, your application will not be considered):
1. An essay of five hundred (500) words maximum, typed, double spaced, 12-point font, 1 inch margins, addressing the following factors, among other you may wish to include:
 - a. Family background;
 - b. Career goals or aspirations;
 - c. How you plan to give back to the community after graduating college and/or law school;
 - d. Financial need (if applicable); and
 - e. Military Service (if applicable).
 2. An official school transcript(s) from your current educational institution.
 3. A resume detailing your education and work history, as well as any special skills, licenses, credentials, experiences and achievements.
 4. A signed letter from either your Program Coordinator, Academic Coordinator, or other education official affirming what degree program you are in and how many credit hours you have left to complete that degree as of Fall 2024. (Please do not include credit hours needed to obtain a second major, a minor, or general education requirements. The reported hours should only include these necessary to fulfill your Legal Studies or Paralegal Studies Degree).
 5. Recommendation(s): One or two letters of recommendation, addressed to the OCBAF Scholarship Committee, must be submitted with this application. The letters can be emailed to OCBAFoundation@gmail.com. Such letters should be regarding your academic and personal achievements, community service, and potential for future success. In addition, such letters may address the maturity, motivation, self-confidence, leadership, and commitment of the applicant.
- d. Please include in your packet where or how you found out about the scholarship program.
- e. Complete applications must be sent via email to ocbafoundation@gmail.com by 11:59pm on **April 11, 2025**.

**ORANGE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION, INC.
2025 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

I. PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____

Last First Middle

Mailing Address: _____
 Street City State Zip Code

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

II. ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Current educational institution you are attending: _____

Degree that you are currently enrolled in: _____

Starting in Fall 2025, how many credit hours do you have left to obtain that degree? (Please do not include credit hours needed to obtain a second major, a minor, or general education requirements. The reported hours should only include these necessary to fulfill your Legal Studies or Paralegal Studies Degree). _____

Anticipated Graduation Date: _____ GPA: _____

III. FINANCIAL INFORMATION (not a determinative factor, therefore this section is optional)

Please list the anticipated assistance from parent/guardian (for 2025-2026 academic year): _____

Please list the anticipated assistance from own income (for 2025-2026 academic year):

Please list the anticipated assistance from other grants/scholarships (for 2025-2026 academic year): _____

Please submit a brief statement about your financial need (i.e., special family situation, medical needs, employment or other circumstances which affect your ability to pay for your education). (Please add additional pages if necessary.) _____

IV. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Please submit a brief statement about your leadership and community roles and activities: (Please add additional pages if necessary.) _____

Please submit a brief statement about your volunteer activities: (Please add additional pages if necessary.) _____

Please submit a brief statement about your honors, achievements, and awards: (Please add additional pages if necessary.) _____

V. ATTACHMENTS

The following items **must** be attached to the application (if you fail to attach these items, your application will not be considered):

_____ An essay of five hundred (500) words maximum, typed, double spaced, 12 point font, 1 inch margins, addressing the following factors, among other you may wish to include:

6. Family background;
7. Career goals or aspirations;
8. How you plan to give back to the community after graduating college and/or law school;
9. Financial need (if applicable); and
10. Military Service (if applicable).

_____ An official transcript(s) from your current educational institution.

_____ A resume detailing your education and work history, as well as any special skills, licenses, credentials, experiences and achievements.

_____ A signed letter from either your Program Coordinator, Academic Coordinator, or other education official affirming what degree program you

are in and how many credit hours you have left to complete that degree as of Fall 2025. (Please do not include credit hours needed to obtain a second major, a minor, or general education requirements. The reported hours should only include these necessary to fulfill your Legal Studies or Paralegal Studies Degree).

Recommendation(s): One or two letters of recommendation, addressed to the OCBAF Scholarship Committee, must be submitted with this application. The letters can be emailed to OCBAFoundation@gmail.com. Such letters should be regarding your academic and personal achievements, community service, and potential for future success. In addition, such letters may address the maturity, motivation, self-confidence, leadership, and commitment of the applicant.

CERTIFICATION

I certify that I have completed the foregoing application and have attached all required information needed for consideration.

I certify that all information on this application and in the enclosed attachments are true and correct. I hereby give the Orange County Bar Association Foundation, Inc. (OCBAF) permission to share the information, including GPA and biographical information contained in this application package for public relations purposes.

I certify that I am currently enrolled as either a UCF B.A./B.S. Legal Studies Student or a Valencia A.S. Paralegal Studies Student. I am aware that the scholarship award received could be taxed and could affect my eligibility for financial aid. I understand the application package materials become the property of the OCBAF and will not be returned.

I certify that I release the OCBAF from any legal liability that may arise out of my application for this scholarship. I understand that this is an application only, and this is not a guarantee of any scholarship award approval. I understand that the distribution is at the sole and absolute discretion of the OCBAF. I hereby submit this application and this certification, and I accept all conditions contained herein.

Applicant's Printed Name

Applicant's Signature

Date