

**CILA'S FALL 2021 NATIVE AMERICAN LAW STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ("FAQs")**

The [California Indian Law Association, Inc.](#) ("CILA") is proud to announce that it will be offering four (4) \$2,500 scholarships to current Native American law school students to assist with law school tuition and related expenses. The application can be downloaded [here](#). Listed below are answers to FAQs.

1. Where do I submit all my application materials?

- a. All application materials must be submitted to the CILA Scholarship Committee at calindianlaw@gmail.com. Individual application components may be attached separately to one email. We prefer each attachment be titled with the applicant's first and last name and application component (e.g. Maria Smith Personal Statement).
- b. We also ask the subject line of the application email include the applicant's first and last name. CILA prefers, but does not require, application components to be submitted in .pdf format.

2. What is the deadline to submit my CILA Fall 2021 Native American Law Student application?

- a. No later than Saturday, July 31, 2021 at 11:59 PDT.

3. Must I be enrolled in a federally recognized California Native American Tribe?

- a. No. However, please note that preference will be given to applicants affiliated with federally or non-federally recognized California Tribes, but all Native American law school students are strongly encouraged to apply.

4. Is there a page limit for my personal statement?

- a. Yes, no more than three (3) pages, single spaced, standard margins, with font Times New Roman size 12 (or similar).

5. What must I address in my personal statement?

- a. Your past, present, and future commitment to serving Native American communities;
- b. Your leadership and/or community service roles you currently have or have held in the past; *and*
- c. What you hope to do with your law degree.

6. Do I need to submit a resume?

- a. Yes, a current resume is required. The Scholarship Committee does not prefer a certain format/style and multiple page resumes are accepted.

7. What Tribal Affiliation documents do I need to submit?

- a. CILA will accept any document or description that your Native American Tribe uses to verify Tribal affiliation. For example, if you do not have an enrollment card or other proof of enrollment you may submit a short narrative describing your Tribal affiliation, including but not limited to the name(s) of the tribal communities you claim affiliation and description of your community involvement. In most cases a paragraph-length description is sufficient.

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8. How many references must I submit with my application?

- a. You must submit a total of two (2) references – one (1) academic reference and one (1) professional reference. If possible, please include direct phone numbers and email addresses so we can reach out to your references as soon as possible.

9. Do I need to submit my official law school transcript?

- a. No. You may submit an unofficial law school transcript. If your school's registrar requires the school send your transcript directly to CILA, we request they be sent electronically to Janet Bill, CILA Scholarship Committee Chair, at calindianlaw@gmail.com.

10. How does the CILA Scholarship Committee consider applicants who attend law schools that offer Pass-Fail or Honors-Pass grades?

- a. The CILA Scholarship Committee understands different law schools have different grading policies and that some applicants will not have grade point averages. The Scholarship Committee's holistic review process takes into account the entire application package and appropriately considers transcripts that reflect Pass-Fail or Honor-Pass grades similar to those with grade point averages.

11. Can incoming first-year law students apply?

- a. Yes. No proof of enrollment status is required at the time of application. If you are selected as a scholarship recipient, you will be asked to verify your enrollment status prior to award distribution, early fall 2021.
- b. **In lieu of a law school transcript, we ask first-year students to provide their most recent academic transcript** (e.g. if you most recently obtained your B.A., please include your undergraduate transcript; if you most recently obtained your M.A., please include your graduate transcript.)

12. Must I be a full-time student to apply?

- a. No, Part-time and full-time students are welcome to apply.

13. Can recent law school graduates apply?

- a. No. You must be a currently enrolled law student on the date of the application deadline, July 31, 2021.

14. Can I apply if I attend an online law school?

- a. Yes. Applicants need not attend an ABA accredited law school to apply.