



## BLACK LAWYERS ASSOCIATION OF CINCINNATI 2023 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

**Application Deadline: 5:00 PM Eastern on Saturday, February 25, 2023**

**Complete and Email Application to:**

Jordan McSayles, Chairperson  
Ebun Taiwo, Chairperson  
BLAC Scholarship Committee  
cincyBLACscholarship@gmail.com

**The entire application includes:**

- Application Forms (including scholarship questions and a signed certification)
  - Scholarship Questions:
    - Only answer questions for the scholarship(s) for which you are eligible and applying
    - You may submit up to 2 additional pages total for your answers
- Resume
  - No more than 2 pages, 12-point font or larger and 1-inch margins
- Official Law School Transcript
  - Attach your official law school transcript (including Fall 2022 semester grades) with social security number redacted
- Recommendation Form (attached) and Letter of Recommendation
  - The recommender is to submit the recommendation form and the letter of recommendation to the Scholarship Committee so that they are received by the deadline

**Format:**

The completed application must be typed except for the required signatures. All application materials should be sent in Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) only.

Please visit [www.CincyBLAC.org](http://www.CincyBLAC.org) to find scholarship descriptions  
Contact Jordan McSayles or Ebun Taiwo at  
[cincyBLACscholarship@gmail.com](mailto:cincyBLACscholarship@gmail.com) with questions



Applicant Name:

## BLACK LAWYERS ASSOCIATION OF CINCINNATI SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

The Black Lawyers Association of Cincinnati (“BLAC”) awards the following five scholarships. Please select which scholarship(s) you are applying for and complete the applicable scholarship questions (on pages 4-8) in addition to the applicant form (page 3):

Scholarship	Qualifications	School requirements, must be enrolled in	I am applying for this scholarship (check box below)
<b>Theodore M. Berry</b>	Created in recognition of the political, civic, and legal achievements of Theodore M. Berry, this Scholarship is awarded to an African-American student attending the University of Cincinnati College of Law.	University of Cincinnati College of Law	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>William A. McClain,</b> awarded in conjunction with the Cincinnati Bar Foundation	The William A. McClain Scholarship is awarded to an African-American student and Hamilton County, Ohio resident attending any ABA-accredited law school who demonstrates leadership potential and dedication to community.	Any American Bar Association accredited law school	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Jack Sherman, Jr.,</b> awarded in conjunction with the Federal Bar Association	The Jack Sherman, Jr. Scholarship is awarded to a minority student attending the Northern Kentucky Chase College of Law who is interested in public service and who embodies inclusiveness and a sense of justice.	Northern Kentucky University Chase College of Law	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Shanda L. Spurlock Memorial,</b> awarded in conjunction with Dinsmore & Shohl LLP	The Shanda L. Spurlock Memorial Scholarship is awarded to an African-American student attending law school at the University of Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky University, or University of Dayton who has demonstrated leadership potential and dedication to community.	University of Cincinnati College of Law, Northern Kentucky University Chase College of Law, or University of Dayton School of Law	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Nathaniel R. Jones,</b> awarded in conjunction with Proctor & Gamble and the Cincinnati Bar Foundation	The Judge Nathaniel R. Jones Memorial Scholarship is awarded to an African-American law student at the University of Cincinnati College of Law or Northern Kentucky University Chase College of Law who has demonstrated a strong commitment to academic excellence and community service.	University of Cincinnati College of Law or Northern Kentucky University Chase College of Law	<input type="checkbox"/>



**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address (if different from above address): \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Law School: \_\_\_\_\_

Year Began: \_\_\_\_\_ Expected Graduation Date (mo/yr): \_\_\_\_\_ In Good Standing (Y/N): \_\_\_\_\_

Law School Grade Point Average (GPA): \_\_\_\_\_ Undergraduate GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Law School Activities and/or Memberships: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Other Graduate School (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Undergraduate School: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you received, do you anticipate receiving, or have you applied for other scholarships for this academic year? (Specify and indicate whether received) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Activities/Honors: Please list any publications, academic awards, honors, scholarships and/or extracurricular activities, including involvement in the community, from the time of your undergraduate education to the present \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Describe how you plan to use your legal education:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



### Theodore M. Berry Scholarship

Created in recognition of the political, civic, and legal achievements of Theodore M. Berry, this Scholarship is awarded to an African-American student attending the University of Cincinnati College of Law. Berry was the first African-American Valedictorian, Woodward High School, Cincinnati, Ohio (1924); First African-American Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Hamilton County (1939-42); First President of the Community Action Commission (1964); and First African-American Mayor, City of Cincinnati (1972-76). Berry was active in the political arena, serving on Cincinnati City Council for more than 13 years.

1. Describe your political, civic, and legal aspirations.
  
2. Describe your political, civic, and legal achievements.
  
3. Explain how the scholarship funds will help you financially.
  
4. Explain why you should be awarded this scholarship.
  
5. If awarded this scholarship, how do you intend to use the funds?
  
6. Add any comments or additional information that may be helpful to the committee in considering you for this scholarship (optional).



### William A. McClain Scholarship

The William A. McClain Scholarship is awarded to an African-American student and Hamilton County, Ohio resident attending any ABA-accredited law school who demonstrates leadership potential and dedication to community. McClain became the first African-American member of the Cincinnati Bar Association. He later became the City Solicitor of Cincinnati (1963-72), making him the first African-American attorney to serve as City Solicitor of any major city in the country.

1. Explain your connection with Cincinnati, Ohio.
  2. Explain your commitment to the Cincinnati community.
  3. Describe your leadership activities, include positions held and responsibilities.
  4. Explain your need for financial assistance.
  5. Explain why you should be awarded this scholarship.
  6. If awarded this scholarship, how do you intend to use the funds?
  7. Add any comments or additional information that may be helpful to the committee in considering you for this scholarship (optional).
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### **Jack Sherman, Jr. Scholarship**

The Jack Sherman, Jr. Scholarship is awarded to a minority student attending Northern Kentucky University Chase College of Law who is interested in public service and who embodies inclusiveness and a sense of justice. Among other roles, Sherman served as an assistant prosecutor for the city of Cincinnati, President of the Cincinnati Bar Association, Judge on the municipal court bench for Hamilton County, an assistant professor of law at Chase College of Law, assistant attorney general for the state of Ohio, and a United States Magistrate Judge for the Southern District of Ohio.

1. Describe your interest in public service.
  2. Describe how you embody inclusiveness.
  3. Describe how you embody a sense of justice.
  4. Explain how the scholarship funds will help you financially.
  5. Explain why you should be awarded this scholarship.
  6. If awarded this scholarship, how do you intend to use the funds?
  7. Add any comments and additional information that may be helpful to the committee in considering you for this scholarship (optional).
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### **Shanda L. Spurlock Memorial Scholarship**

The Shanda L. Spurlock Memorial Scholarship is awarded to an African-American student attending either University of Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky University, or University of Dayton law school who has demonstrated leadership potential and dedication to community. As a litigation associate at Dinsmore & Shohl, Spurlock was selected as an Ohio Super Lawyers Rising Star as well as a Rising Star by the YWCA of Greater Cincinnati Academy of Career Women of Achievement. Spurlock was active in the Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky communities and served on several boards including the Taft Museum of Art, Children's Law Center, SWEL, and the Northern Kentucky Tri-County Economic Development Corporation. She was also appointed to the Ohio Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism and served on the Executive Committee of the BLAC.

1. Explain your commitment to the community.
2. Describe your leadership activities, include positions held and responsibilities.
3. Explain how the scholarship funds will help you financially.
4. Explain why you should be awarded this scholarship.
5. If awarded this scholarship, how do you intend to use the funds?
6. Add any comments or additional information that may be helpful to the committee in considering you for this scholarship (optional).



### Judge Nathaniel R. Jones Memorial Scholarship

The Judge Nathaniel R. Jones Memorial Scholarship is awarded to an African-American student attending either the University of Cincinnati College of Law or the Northern Kentucky University Chase College of Law who has demonstrated a strong commitment to academic excellence and community service. Judge Jones served as the Executive Director of the Fair Employment Practice Commission, the first African-American Assistant United States Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio, and the Assistant General Counsel to President Lyndon B. Johnson's National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders, before he was hired to serve as general counsel for the NAACP where he fought to end segregation and advance civil rights. He was appointed as a federal judge for the Sixth Circuit in 1979 by President Jimmy Carter. Upon his retirement, he worked as an attorney for the Cincinnati firm of Blank Rome. Judge Jones was awarded the NAACP's Spingarn Medal in 2016, its highest honor.

1. Describe your academic, political, civic, business, and legal achievements.
2. Explain your commitment to the community.
3. Explain why you should be awarded this scholarship.
4. Add any comments or additional information that may be helpful to the committee in considering you for this scholarship (optional).





**MEMBERSHIP INDICATION AND CERTIFICATION**

**MEMBERSHIPS:** Black Law Students Association – Yes \_\_\_\_\_ / No \_\_\_\_\_ (check one)  
Black Lawyers Association of Cincinnati – Yes \_\_\_\_\_ / No \_\_\_\_\_ (check one)  
National Bar Association – Yes \_\_\_\_\_ / No \_\_\_\_\_ (check one)

**CERTIFICATION:** I hereby certify that the information contained in this application is true and correct, and authorize BLAC to contact my law school and recommender(s) to verify information.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

We reserve the right to contact your law school and recommender(s) to verify any information provided.

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**BLACK LAWYERS ASSOCIATION OF CINCINNATI  
SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**  
[cincyBLACscholarship@gmail.com](mailto:cincyBLACscholarship@gmail.com)

**RECOMMENDATION FORM**

- For  Theodore M. Berry Scholarship     William A. McClain Scholarship  
 Jack Sherman, Jr. Scholarship     Shanda L. Spurlock Scholarship  
 Judge Nathaniel R. Jones Scholarship

(Check all that apply)

NAME OF APPLICANT: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF RECOMMENDER: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

HOW LONG HAVE YOU KNOWN THE APPLICANT, AND IN WHAT CAPACITY?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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**RECOMMENDER:** Please email this form and your signed letter of recommendation (on your letterhead) so that it is received by 5:00 pm Eastern on Saturday, February 25, 2023. Please send scanned pdf versions of the originals only. An application is incomplete if the letter of recommendation and the recommendation form are not received by the due date and time.

**PLEASE SEND TO:**

Jordan McSayles, Chairperson  
Ebun Taiwo, Chairperson  
BLAC Scholarship Committee  
[cincyBLACscholarship@gmail.com](mailto:cincyBLACscholarship@gmail.com)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Recommender

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date