

APPLICATION FOR THE HILLMAN ADVOCACY PROGRAM - JANUARY 21- 23, 2026

You will be notified via email of your acceptance into the program. Priority will be given to applicants practicing in the Western District of Michigan. The Hillman Advocacy Program reserves the right to decline applications.

I would like to apply for the Western District of Michigan Hillman Advocacy Program.

I understand the program will consist of civil and criminal sections. I prefer to be placed in the:

_____ Civil Section

_____ Criminal Section

I understand that if the section that I request is full, I will be contacted regarding being placed in the other section.

Participation in the program requires use of a laptop or other device compatible with the use of pdfs and PowerPoint or Keynote. Please indicate if you have access to a device for use throughout the program, or if you need the program to provide a device on loan:

_____ Personal Device Available

_____ Require Loan of Device

Please indicate below whether you prefer the Basic or Advanced section.

_____ Basic Section: (Designed for beginning litigation attorneys) \$400.00

_____ Advanced Section: (For more experienced litigators with 3 or more years of practice — includes conducting actual jury trial during program)..... \$500.00

_____ *If you are not financially able to pay the registration fee, please indicate here your need for a scholarship application form. **All scholarship recipients will be assessed a \$55 course materials fee and payment is due with your application.** Please make checks payable to the Federal Bar Association. A limited number of scholarships are available.*

Included in your registration is membership in the Federal Bar Association, West Michigan Chapter: free for the first year.
(This is a savings of the regular membership fee of \$50.00)

Have you participated as a student in the Hillman Advocacy Program before? Yes _____ No _____

Do you practice in the Western District of Michigan? Yes _____ No _____

Payment will be due once you are accepted in the program.

DATE OF ADMISSION TO BAR: _____ P # _____ YEARS OF EXPERIENCE: _____

NAME: _____

FIRM: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

Please email the application to: Sonja Cubillo at Sonja_Cubillo@fd.org. Applications are due **by November 10, 2025**.

During the program, there is an admission ceremony for those who wish to be admitted to the United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan. Once you have been accepted into the program, please apply and pay your court admission fee online at: <https://www.miwd.uscourts.gov/attorney-admission-and-registration>. Also, please let the Admission Clerk know that you are a participant in the Hillman Program so that you will receive your certificate during the admission ceremony.

CANCELLATIONS: To receive a refund, you **must** notify Sonja Cubillo at Sonja_cubillo@fd.org by December 15, 2025.

If you will be staying in Grand Rapids for the program, we have reserved a limited number of rooms at the Courtyard by Marriott, 11 Monroe Ave. NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503. You can make a reservation by going to this link <https://book.passkey.com/e/51115680>. Discounted rates for these rooms expire December 30, 2025.