



**THE ZELLE LLP
2026 DIVERSITY IN LAW SCHOLARSHIP
AND PAID 1L SUMMER CLERKSHIP**

Zelle LLP is committed to increasing diversity in the legal profession. To that end, Zelle is pleased to offer this Diversity in Law Scholarship again in 2026. The Scholarship is designed to encourage and assist students from diverse backgrounds and with diverse perspectives, as well as students with a proven interest in diversity-related issues in pursuing the law as a profession. For additional information about Zelle, please visit www.zellelaw.com.

ELIGIBILITY: Applicants must either be: (1) first-year law students pursuing their Juris Doctor degree who are **currently enrolled** full-time at an ABA-accredited law school and who have completed at least one semester of law school; or (2) be part-time (four-year program) or joint-degree students **currently enrolled** in their second year of law school at an ABA-accredited law school.¹ Applicants also must either (1) be a member of a population or group whose background and perspectives are historically underrepresented in the private practice of law; or (2) demonstrate a long-standing commitment to diversity that will be furthered by award of the scholarship. Selection considerations will include but not be limited to: academic performance, writing skills, demonstrated leadership skills, an interest in litigation (including antitrust and insurance litigation), financial need, and a desire to practice in one of the cities where Zelle maintains an office.² Applicants are required to have a 2.8 cumulative law school GPA (or its equivalent).

FINANCIAL AWARD: The Scholarship awards the selected recipient a total of **\$15,000.00** to be applied towards the selected recipient's law school tuition, fees, and text books, with one half of the scholarship paid for the student's second year of law school and one half of the scholarship paid for the student's third year of law school subject to the following: To receive the second installment of the scholarship, the recipient must maintain at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA (or its equivalent) through the student's second year of law school.

SUMMER 2026 CLERKSHIP: The Scholarship recipient will be offered and must accept a paid summer clerkship at one of the firm's offices for the summer following the student's

¹ Students who intend to begin law school in the 2026-2027 academic year are not eligible to apply. Current undergraduate and LLM students are not eligible to apply.

² Zelle expressly reserves the right not to award a scholarship in any given year if, at the firm's discretion, the pool of candidates is too small or no applicants are deemed to have met the firm's scholarship selection guidelines.

first year of law school.³ The position pays \$2,500.00 per week. The specific location of the clerkship will be decided by the firm in consultation with the recipient and will be based upon both the recipient's interest and the firm's need. Please note that the Scholarship recipient may elect to split the summer between the Zelle clerkship and an unpaid public sector internship (defined as a nonprofit/public interest organization, government employee, or judicial internship), so long as the Scholarship recipient commits to a minimum of five weeks at Zelle.

APPLICATION: To be considered for the Zelle LLP Diversity in Law Scholarship, students should complete and submit the attached application and required documents to Zelle LLP by **January 12, 2026, at Midnight PT**. NO LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED. To the extent law school grades for the Fall 2025 semester are not yet available on the application deadline, they may be submitted separately, when available. Completed applications may be submitted by electronic mail to: DIVERSITY@ZELLELAW.COM

³ The Scholarship recipient must meet all eligibility requirements for employment and clear a conflicts check.



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APPLICATION

Due by January 12, 2026 Midnight PT

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

Phone No. _____ **E-Mail:** _____

Law School: _____

Law School G.P.A. _____

Undergraduate School: _____

Undergraduate Degree/Major: _____

Undergraduate G.P.A. (Major/Cumulative): _____

Other Degrees/Education: _____

Have you already accepted an internship or clerkship for the summer of 2026?

Yes No

Please rank the Zelle LLP office(s) in which you would be interested in pursuing a clerkship opportunity. (Please Note: Office location will be based on the scholarship recipient's interest and firm need.)

- Atlanta
- Boston
- Dallas
- London
- Ft. Lauderdale
- Minneapolis
- New York City
- Oakland
- Philadelphia
- Washington, D.C.

Additionally, please provide the following documents in .PDF format along with your completed application form. All documents are to be attached to your application email as separate documents. Please name the PDF file of each document using the naming convention shown below:

- Resume: Last name, First Initial – Resume*
- Completed Application: Last name, First Initial – Application*
- Cover Letter: Last name, First Initial – CL*
- Undergraduate Transcript(s)*: Last name, First Initial – Undergrad Transcript*
- Law School Transcripts*: Last name, First Initial – Law School Transcript*
- Graduate School Transcripts (if applicable) *: Last name, First Initial – Grad School Transcript*
- Legal Writing Sample: Last name, First Initial – Writing Sample*
- Personal Essay of no more than 750-1000 words (explaining your interest in the scholarship program, how diversity has influenced your life and how it impacts the legal profession): Last name, First Initial – Personal Essay*

If any of the above documents are unavailable at time of application (ex: law school transcript), the applicant must respond to their original email application with the additional document attached no later than the end of January.

*For purposes of this application, unofficial transcripts are acceptable; however, applicants may be asked to provide official transcripts at Zelle LLP's request.

VERIFICATION AND AUTHORIZATION

I CERTIFY THAT ALL OF THE INFORMATION ON THIS APPLICATION IS COMPLETE AND ACCURATE. I UNDERSTAND THAT MISREPRESENTATION OF ANY INFORMATION AS PART OF MY APPLICATION MAY RESULT IN REMOVAL OF MY APPLICATION FROM CONSIDERATION, CANCELING OF MY SCHOLARSHIP, AND/OR TERMINATION OF ANY OFFER OF EMPLOYMENT, OR TERMINATION OF ANY EMPLOYMENT.

ADDITIONALLY, BY SIGNING THIS APPLICATION, I HEREBY AUTHORIZE ZELLE LLP TO OBTAIN FROM MY LAW SCHOOL THE INFORMATION NECESSARY TO CONFIRM MY FINANCIAL NEED. I FURTHER AUTHORIZE THE APPROPRIATE OFFICE AND/OR INDIVIDUAL AT MY LAW SCHOOL TO CONFIRM SUCH FINANCIAL NEED AT THE REQUEST OF ZELLE LLP.

Signature of Applicant

Date