



2025 Lavender Law® Student Travel Grant Fund

Description:

The National LGBTQ+ Bar Foundation has established a **need-based grant program** to assist LGBTQ+ law students with travel expenses to and from our annual Lavender Law® Conference and Career Fair. Lavender Law® is the largest LGBTQ+ legal conference in the country with over 2,000 attendees and 200+ recruiters attending annually. These need-based grants will give LGBTQ+ law students the opportunity to be part of our outstanding Career Fair, celebrate LGBTQ+ success in the legal profession while participating in unparalleled programming, and meet and network with other LGBTQ+ law students, lawyers, and judges throughout the country. We will fund as many grants as possible on a rolling basis through the spring, with priority given to LGBTQ+ law student applicants who meet all eligibility criteria, apply before March 15, 2025, and those who will be 1Ls or 2Ls in fall of 2025 or who have not previously attended Lavender Law®.

Applicants will only be eligible for one of the four types of aid this grant offers, and aid is not guaranteed. Applicants will be able to rank their type of needs-based aid on the application form. Based on the applicant's financial need, their travel requirements, and availability of the grant's funds, each recipient of the **2025 Lavender Law® Student Travel Grant Fund** will receive **one** of the following:

- **Two-night stay at a hotel** within walking distance to the conference host hotel.
- Reimbursement of up to **\$500 for additional travel expenses.**
- Reimbursement of up to **\$250 for additional travel expenses.**
- Reimbursement of up to **\$100 for additional travel expenses.**

This grant is funded in part by National LGBTQ+ Bar supporters who specifically want to make it easier for LGBTQ+ law students to attend Lavender Law®. Our supporters recognize that LGBTQ+ law students are integral to a successful Lavender Law® and the future of the LGBTQ+

movement; as current activists on your campus and future lawyers, you are our next generation's advocates to push back and continue the fight for full recognition of all people's civil rights, personal privacy, and bodily autonomy. The LGBTQ+ legal community at Lavender Law® is a tight knit and passionate cohort; as an LGBTQ+ law student and future lawyer, we want to ensure you are welcomed and supported by our community and hope to ease the financial burden for you to do so.

Criteria:

1. Applicants must be actively enrolled as a full-time or part-time student in good standing at an ABA-accredited law school at the time application is submitted, or, if a rising 1L in the summer of 2025, be able to confirm admission at an ABA-accredited law school by the time the grant is accepted.
2. Applicants must be a member of the LGBTQ+ community.
3. Applicants must be law student members of the National LGBTQ+ Bar Association (please reach out to judi@lgbtqbar.org if financial assistance is needed for membership.)
4. Applicants must affirm that they are not receiving full funding for travel to the Lavender Law® Conference & Career Fair by their law school or other source.
5. Applicants must affirm that but for an award from the 2025 Lavender Law® Student Travel Grant Fund, attendance at the Lavender Law® Conference & Career Fair would be a significant financial burden.
6. Applicants must be enrolled in law school at the time of the conference - July 28 - 30, 2025 (i.e., applicants graduating in winter 2024 or spring 2025 are ineligible; applicants planning to enroll in fall 2025 who have not been admitted to an ABA-accredited law school by the the the grant is awarded are also ineligible.) **Priority will be given to rising 1Ls, 2Ls and those who have not yet attended a Lavender Law® Conference and Career Fair.*
7. Applicants must show a commitment to advancing LGBTQ+ equality and diversity.
8. Applicants must not have been a previous recipient of the Lavender Law® Student Travel Grant Fund.

Application Process:

1. A fully completed grant fund application must be submitted no later than **May 1, 2025 (priority will be given to those who apply by March 15, 2025)**. No extensions will be granted, and the National LGBTQ+ Bar reserves the right to reject any incomplete or untimely application.
2. Receipt of the application will be acknowledged by email.
3. All applicants are encouraged to become student members of the Bar and to register for Lavender Law (which is free for student members) no later than the time of application, to expedite decision-making. Please reach out to judi@lgbtqbar.org if financial assistance is required to become a student member.

4. The National LGBTQ+ Bar's Awards Committee will meet in late March to review applications submitted by March 15, and thereafter will periodically make decisions on a rolling basis as possible given available funding, with final decisions made by **June 1, 2025**.
5. All applicants will be notified via email of the Awards Committee decision by **June 1, 2025**. Once notified, successful applicants will be required to provide **proof of law school enrollment and proof of Lavender Law® registration, and to confirm intent to attend the Conference for at least two of the three days**.
6. The National LGBTQ+ Bar will book a two-night stay for each recipient at a hotel within walking distance to the conference venue OR request receipts for reimbursement (based on the recipient's grant type.)
7. Recipients **will attend the 2025 Lavender Law® Conference and Career Fair** in New York City, from July 28 - 30, 2025. Attendance will be confirmed when the recipient's badge is scanned for at least three programs per day for two days or when the recipient submits a completed Career Fair Bingo Card while still on site.
8. *All approved travel expenses' receipts for reimbursement (if applicable) must be submitted to programs@lgbtqbar.org no later than **August 31, 2025**.
9. Recipients will be reimbursed no later than **September 30, 2025** for approved travel expenses up to the amount of their grant total.
10. Any taxes due on the awarded funds are the responsibility of the student grantee.

*Approved travel expenses **include** those which would otherwise be incurred by the student and not covered or reimbursed by another funder, including lodging, plane tickets, bus tickets, train tickets, taxis/ride shares to or from the Conference hotel or from the airport/station to the hotel where the recipient is staying, parking (street or garage), and car gas & e-charging expenses specifically for travel to/from New York City for purposes of attending the 2025 Lavender Law® Conference and Career Fair. Approved travel expenses **DO NOT include** meals, drinks, conference clothing and/or dry cleaning services, printing and other miscellaneous office services (including resume or cover letter printing), taxis and/or rideshares unrelated to conference activities, car expenses unrelated to conference activities, and additional hotel room charges (room service, etc.). **The National LGBTQ+ Bar Foundation reserves the right to reject any travel expenses not outlined above, as well as incomplete or untimely reimbursement documents (receipts).**

Application:

Basic Info/Demographics

*Email

First Name in Use

Last Name in Use

**Recipients will be asked a follow up question in June: If your name in use differs from the name that will show on your proof of enrollment, legal ID to check into your hotel, or that is on the account to which you will need to deposit reimbursed funds, please notify us so that we can reconcile our records and issue your funds in that name. For purposes of this application you need only share your name in use.*

*Pronouns. Select all that apply.

*Law School

*Anticipated Graduation (Month/Year)

*Have you ever attended a Lavender Law® Conference and Career Fair in any capacity?

Yes, as an attendee.

Yes, as an intern, extern, or volunteer.

Yes, as both an attendee and intern/extern/volunteer.

No.

Are you a law student member of the National LGBTQ+ Bar?

Yes

No

I don't know

*City/State **where you anticipate traveling to/from for Lavender Law®**

*How would you describe your sexual orientation? Select all that apply.

*How would you describe your gender identity? Select all that apply.

*Please indicate the racial category or categories with which you primarily identify. Select all that apply.

*I attest that I (click all that apply):

- Am actively enrolled as a full-time or part-time student in good standing at an ABA-accredited law school.
- Am a member of the LGBTQ+ community.
- Am not receiving full funding to travel to the Lavender Law® Conference and Career Fair from another source, and that attendance at the conference without an award from the 2025 Lavender Law® Student Travel Grant Fund would be a significant financial burden.

- If selected as a recipient, will register and attend the 2025 Lavender Law® Conference and Career Fair in New York City from July 28 - 30, 2025, and will be admitted to/enrolled in law school at the time of the conference (i.e., applicants graduating in spring 2025 as well as students expecting to start law school later than fall of 2025 are ineligible.)

Open Ended and Resume

*Ranking: In the space below, please rank your choices of financial aid from 1-4, with 1 being your top choice.

- **Two-night stay at a hotel** within walking distance to the conference host hotel. (NOTE: Applicants selected for this grant will be required to provide a credit card number to the Bar, and will be charged one night's stay if they are a no-show or do not notify the Bar by July 21, 2025 that they cannot attend.)
- Reimbursement of up to **\$500 for additional travel expenses not reimbursed by another funder.**
- Reimbursement of up to **\$250 for additional travel expenses not reimbursed by another funder.**
- Reimbursement of up to **\$100 for additional travel expenses not reimbursed by another funder.**

*Statement of Financial Need and Rankings: This grant is a need-based award. In 500 words or less, please submit a brief statement describing your financial need and how your top choice and/or choices will benefit you the most. Be sure to include how your finances would be negatively impacted should you not receive this grant, where you are traveling to/from for Lavender Law®, whether you are also requesting funding from another organization/your law school and when you will know whether that is approved, and what your other sources of income, not including student loans, are expected to be around the time of the 2025 Lavender Law® Conference and Career Fair.

*Personal Statement: In 500 words or less, please submit a brief statement describing what you are excited for and hope to gain from attending the 2025 Lavender Law® Conference and Career Fair. Your statement should include a brief biography in addition to your summer and/or post-graduation career goals and plans. Please include any and all recent LGBTQ+ movement experience and goals (LGBTQ+ student group participation, internships, externships, other volunteer work, etc. either here or on your resume).

*Please attach your current resume.

Acknowledgment

By submitting this grant application, I hereby affirm that all the information in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. **I hereby consent that my name in use, photo (headshot), name of law school, and year of study may be used in 2025 and in the future by the National LGBTQ+ Bar Association and Foundation** for any purpose deemed necessary to publicly acknowledge grantees, and to promote the Lavender Law® Student Travel Grant Fund and the National LGBTQ+ Bar Association and Foundation more broadly.

I hereby acknowledge that, if selected as a grant recipient, I must provide proof of law school enrollment and proof of Lavender Law® registration and agree to attend Lavender Law®. **I understand that this award is contingent on my attendance; I acknowledge that if I fail to attend Lavender Law® I will be required to return any award monies to the National LGBTQ+ Bar Foundation if such monies were paid out. I also agree to notify the National LGBTQ+ Bar immediately if my ability to attend Lavender Law® changes between the date of submission of this application and the date the Conference begins.**

I also acknowledge that approved travel expenses **include** those which would otherwise be incurred by the student and not covered or reimbursed by another funder, including lodging, plane tickets, bus tickets, train tickets, taxis/ride shares to or from the Conference hotel or from the airport/station to the hotel where the recipient is staying, parking (street or garage), and car gas & e-charging expenses specifically for travel to/from New York City for purposes of attending the 2025 Lavender Law® Conference and Career Fair. Approved travel expenses **DO NOT include** meals, drinks, conference clothing and/or dry cleaning services, printing and other miscellaneous office services (including resume or cover letter printing), taxis and/or rideshares unrelated to conference activities, car expenses unrelated to conference activities, and additional hotel room charges (room service, etc.). **The National LGBTQ+ Bar Association reserves the right to reject any travel expenses not outlined above, as well as incomplete or untimely reimbursement documents (receipts).**

*By typing my name in use and the date below, I affirm I read and fully understand the Acknowledgment above.