**The Gary Williams/ Mary Jane McGinty Bar Passage Assistance Fund**

An unforeseen obstacle or financial difficulty should not impede your journey toward success in law school or bar licensure. If you are experiencing a financial barrier or emergency, applying for relief from the Gary Williams / Mary Jane McGinty Student Success Fund (the “Fund”) might help.

For purposes of this program, a “financial emergency” shall mean either (1) an unforeseen or reasonably unavoidable expense that could impede a student’s success in law school, or (2) an unforeseen or reasonably unavoidable expense that could impede a student’s ability to sit for or pass the Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam (the “MPRE”) or bar exam.

The number of students who can be served by the Fund is subject to the availability of funds. The Fund must be sustained by continual contributions from alumni, parents, faculty, staff and friends of College of Law.

**Expenses Covered by the MJM/GW Fund:**  Possible expenses covered by the Fund include, but are not limited to:

* Reimbursement or payment of fees related to registration as a candidate, application to take the bar, and other related filing fees associated with the bar exam or MPRE.
* Reimbursement or payment of fees associated with travel to and expenses at the bar exam, including but not limited to, gas, hotel accommodations, food, and supplies.
* Reimbursement or payment of costs associated with testing and diagnostic services for students or graduates documenting disabilities.
* Reimbursement or payment of costs associated with bar exam preparation classes for repeat bar takers.
* Reimbursement or payment of costs associated with medial or mental health services for students or graduates studying for the bar exam.
* Reimbursement or payment of costs associated with supplemental study aids for current students or graduates preparing for the bar exam.
* Reimbursement or payment of costs associated with rent or housing for graduates studying for the bar exam.
* Reimbursement or payment of costs associated with childcare for graduates studying for the bar exam.
* Reimbursement or payment of costs associated with tutoring for graduates studying for the bar exam, MPRE, or a law school exam.
* Reimbursement or payment of costs associated with any other expense reasonably calculated to assist students with their legal studies in law school or graduates with taking and passing the bar exam or MPRE.
* Reimbursement or payment of costs associated with any other financial barrier that may negatively impact a student or graduate’s success in law school, the bar exam, or any other licensing requirement.

**Eligibility:**

* Recipient(s) must be in good academic standing, with financial need.
* Recipient(s) must be enrolled at CM Law pursuing a Juris Doctorate (JD) or have graduated with their Juris Doctorate (JD), and be preparing to take the bar exam.

**Other Requirements**

* Applicants must complete an application in full and submit supporting documentation, including budget spreadsheet.
* Applicants must assume responsibility for any tax or financial aid consequences resulting from any award under this fund.
* If funds are used for any deposit for which the student is eligible for reimbursement, such as a BarBri book deposit fee, the Applicant must agree that the materials (such as Barbri written materials) and deposit be returned to Cleveland State University College of Law to reimbuse the Fund once the student becomes eligible for reimbursement.

**Application Process**

Students who are in need of financial assistance may submit an application and supporting documentation to the Assistant Dean for Student Success. Student Success will review the submitted applications and determine whether funding will be granted, as well as the appropriate funding amount.

Applicants may be required to meet with the Assistant Dean for Student Success, or his designate, to discuss their application.

**If you are currently receiving financial aid, be advised that receiving funding from this fund may affect your future aid packages and funds received may be taxed as income.**

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Full Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student ID #: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

CSU LAW Email:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Personal Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Current Address:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Are you currently receiving financial aid/scholarships? Yes or No
2. Have you received funds from this fund before? If yes, please list the date and amount.
3. What is the amount of funds you are requesting with this application? $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. **Please attach a statement that addresses each of the following:**
* Provide a summary of the reason why funds are needed and what the funds will be used for.
* Documentation should include estimates, copies of bills, receipts, legal notices, etc. (See also provision 5 below).
* Explain why the costs you have incurred might affect your ability to apply for or sit for the MPRE, the bar exam, or impact your success in law school.
* Describe your efforts to obtain assistance for these unexpected expenses through other resources.
1. **Please provide a monthly budget by completing the budget spreadsheet, as well as a summary of monthly expenses in support of your application.**

*I certify that the information I have provided is true and complete. I will notify the Assistant Dean of Student Success in writing immediately if after submission of this application there is any change in the information provided.*

*I understand that falsifying or withholding information in this application may result in a referral to the Honor Council or other appropriate body.*

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