

Major Scholarships: Graduate Diploma in Law 2018

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

Please read the following information carefully then complete the application form

General

The Middle Temple interviews every applicant for a scholarship who has applied for a place on the GDL and satisfies the criteria for applications. Decisions on who receives a scholarship are made on merit as outlined by these criteria:

a) **Intellectual ability:**

the ability to conduct legal research and give written advice, as demonstrated by performance in school and university examinations, the interview and, where appropriate, other experience;

b) **Motivation to succeed at the Bar:**

knowledge of the profession and the Courts, and steps taken to acquire the personal skills required of a Barrister;

c) **Potential as an advocate:**

both in oral and written skills;

d) **Personal qualities:**

those required by members of the Bar include self-reliance, independence, integrity, reliability, and the capacity to work effectively with clients, colleagues and chambers staff.

In determining the size of individual awards, interviewing panels take applicants' individual financial circumstances into account, although it is highly unlikely that the scholarship will cover the full cost of your year attending the GDL. The size of individual awards will not be published.

Please note that you can only apply to one Inn. You do not need to be a member of the Inn at the time of application, but you will need to join before being paid any scholarship which you may be awarded.

Part-time students can apply for a scholarship in the November of the year before they start the first year or before they start the second year. If an award is made before the start of the part-time course, half of the award will be paid in each year. Full-time students have to apply before they begin the course. Applications cannot be made once the full-time course or the second year of the part-time course has begun.

Overview of Relevant Dates

If you do not receive one of the emails detailed below it is your responsibility to contact us. If you change your email address, please make sure you let us know.

4.00pm, Friday 4 May 2018	Closing date for submission of application form.
4.00pm, Friday 18 May 2018	Closing date for submission of references.
By Friday 18 May 2018	You will be emailed and asked to confirm that you still wish to proceed with the application. If we do not receive a response from you, you will not be allocated an interview.
By Friday 15 June 2018	Notification of interview date and time will be sent by email.
Thursday 28-29 June 2018	Interviews – you must be available to attend an interview on at least one of these dates.
By Friday 20 July 2018	Notification of the outcome of your interview will be sent by email.

The Application

To make your application, please complete the following form. The application window will close at **4.00 pm on Friday 4 May**.

Please follow the instructions on the application form carefully. Do not submit a CV, certificates or any other documents with your application – they will not be passed on to the interview panel. Please **do not** send applications by post or email, whilst in previous years they may have been accepted, applications sent in this format will automatically be rejected.

You will receive confirmation of receipt of your application by email. If you do not receive an email within 2 weeks of submitting your application, please contact us. It is your responsibility to ensure your application is submitted on time. If in doubt contact us at scholarshipapplications@middletemple.org.uk

The Financial Means Form

Prior to your interview you will be asked to complete a financial means form. You will be required to submit this two weeks prior to interview. If you do not submit a financial means form you will not be able to attend your interview.

The References

Two references are required to support your application, one of which must be from an **academic referee**. Neither may be supplied by a member of your close family. If you have difficulties obtaining an academic reference before the closing date, please contact the Scholarships Officer.

Once you have completed your application, you will be emailed a link that you must forward to your referees so they can upload your reference to us. References must be submitted by 18 May. Candidates who fail to supply two references may not be interviewed.

References must be submitted directly by the referees, either in hard copy or by email to scholarshipapplications@middletemple.org.uk by **Friday 18th May**.

No award will be paid out unless two references have been received. It is your responsibility to ensure that these are provided – we do not contact referees on your behalf.

The Interview

All candidates who satisfy the application criteria and have applied for a place on the GDL will be interviewed. If you have received an offer of a place on the course you do not need to accept it in order to be interviewed. If you have not applied for the GDL you will not be interviewed.

Interviews will be held during the period of **Thursday 28 to Friday 29 June**, and **on those dates only**, unless an applicant has a valid reason for not attending, for example illness. In these cases you may request to be considered for interview at the time of the CPE/GDL scholarship interviews.

The Inn is prepared to reimburse reasonable travel expenses for candidates travelling from outside the M25 to attend the interview, up to a maximum of £65 per candidate. Please note that reimbursement will only be permitted to candidates travelling from outside the M25 by coach or train. Further details are available on the Middle Temple website. Expense claim forms will be available in the interview waiting room. Tickets/receipts must be provided.