

EASTERN PANHANDLE BAR ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE FOUNDATION
2026 SCHOLARSHIP

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Eastern Panhandle Bar Association Charitable Foundation is a charitable foundation, incorporated since 2014, whose purposes include cultivating the science of jurisprudence, promoting reforms in the law, facilitating the administration of justice, elevating the standard of integrity, honor and courtesy in the legal profession and cherishing the spirit of camaraderie among the members of the Eastern Panhandle Bar Association, a professional organization of attorneys practicing in the Counties of Berkeley, Jefferson and Morgan in the State of West Virginia. In doing so, the Foundation seeks to involve and encourage our surrounding community in pursuing these endeavors and accomplishing these ideals. Three scholarships will be awarded, each in the amount of \$1,000, to be paid directly to the recipient's post-secondary institution.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. The applicant must be a high school senior or home-schooled equivalent, who resides in Berkeley, Jefferson, or Morgan County, West Virginia, and who is planning to attend a post-secondary educational program immediately after graduation from high school.
2. The applicant must have a grade point average of not less than 3.0, or its equivalent for a home-schooled applicant, as verified by a high school transcript or its equivalent for a home-schooled applicant.
3. The applicant must submit a completed and typed official application form (attached).
4. The applicant must submit two letters of recommendation from adults not related to the applicant, such as teachers, school officials and/or community leaders.
5. The applicant must submit verification of current enrollment by a school official.
6. The applicant must submit a current high school transcript.
7. The applicant must provide a list of extra-curricular and community activities, including volunteer and/or paying activities, in which he/she has participated since high school, including duration of activity and positions held, if applicable. Be sure to include any jobs held during high school.
8. The applicant must provide an **original** typewritten essay as directed on the application form. Please do not submit a school essay. Please sign and return the Essay Verification regarding AI usage.
9. The applicant must briefly state his/her plans following graduation from high school, including potential areas of study or area(s) of interest he/she wishes to pursue in post-secondary education. The applicant must include how receiving this award would impact his/her education going forward. **This is in addition to the essay portion.**

ONLY COMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED.

Supporting documentation not requested *will not be considered*. All applications and supporting information become the property of the Eastern Panhandle Bar Charitable Foundation. Winning applicants may be asked to provide a photo of himself or herself for publication.

Applications must be **e-mailed** no later than ***Monday, March 16, 2026*** to:

Logan G. Burke – Lburke@burkeandschultz.com

It is your responsibility to ensure that the application has been received. If you would like an acknowledgement, please ask for one.

Please include **EPBCF Scholarship Application** in the subject line.

Any questions may be directed to:

Logan G. Burke
304-263-0900
Lburke@burkeandschultz.com

EASTERN PANHANDLE BAR ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE FOUNDATION
2026 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Full Name:

Mailing Address:

Telephone Number:

Email Address:

Date of Birth:

Parent/Guardian:

Name and Address of Current High School:

Anticipated Post-Secondary Institution:

Anticipated Major/Course of Study:

Please briefly tell us about yourself and how this scholarship would impact you. Please also state your plans following high school and your interests.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

Please provide a list of extra-curricular and community activities, including volunteer and/or paying activities, in which you have participated since high school, including duration of activity and positions held, if applicable. Be sure to include any jobs held during high school.

ESSAY TOPIC:

Forty years ago, the Supreme Court held in *New Jersey v. T.L.O.*, 469 U.S. 325 (1985), that the Fourth Amendment's prohibition on unreasonable searches and seizures applies to the conduct of public school officials. Based on the facts of the case, the Court upheld as reasonable a warrantless search of a student's purse by school officials. Almost 30 years later, the Supreme Court held in *Riley v. California*, 573 U.S. 373 (2014), that cell phones generally cannot be searched without a warrant.

How do *T.L.O.* and *Riley* impact the search of a student's cell phone by school officials on public school grounds, and how would you protect a student's rights while balancing the school's responsibility to maintain a safe and effective learning environment?

NO USE OF AI OR OTHER GENERATIVE OR ASSISTIVE PROGRAMMING

Use of artificial intelligence (“AI”) or any other generative or assistive programming (e.g., ChatGPT, Google AI Overview, Gemini, etc.) in drafting your essay or completing this scholarship application is strictly prohibited. Should the Scholarship Committee determine that AI or any other prohibited programming has been used, it will result in the immediate disqualification of the applicant.

Please include the attached verification with your essay as part of your application.

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ESSAY VERIFICATION

I, _____, hereby verify that I did not use artificial intelligence (“AI”) or any other assistive programming (*e.g.*, ChatGPT, Google AI Overview, Gemini, etc.) in drafting my essay submitted as part of my application for an Eastern Panhandle Bar Association Charitable Foundation (“EPBCF”) scholarship. I understand and acknowledge that use of such programming is strictly prohibited and will result in my disqualification from consideration by the EPBCF Scholarship Committee.

Name

Date