



January 26, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

Each year, the Central Illinois Women's Bar Association partners with the Sangamon County Bar Association to award the Judge Jeanne E. Scott Scholarship. This scholarship is a discretionary award given to a current or aspiring law student from the central Illinois area. Please find enclosed the 2025 application for distribution to your qualifying students. The scholarship is open to students of all sexes and gender. All applications must be submitted by March 31, 2025. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Erin Wilson Laegeler
Vice President
Central Illinois Women's Bar Association
ciwba@ciwba.org

Judge Jeanne E. Scott Scholarship

Award

One \$2,000 scholarship will be awarded in 2025. This scholarship is nonrenewable and funded by the Central Illinois Women's Bar Association (CIWBA) and the Sangamon County Bar Association (SCBA). This is a discretionary monetary award to be used for school expenses.

Application Process

1. Fill out the entire enclosed application form.
2. Write an essay, of a maximum of two (2) pages in length, on one of the provided prompts. The essay must be typewritten in 12-point Times New Roman font and double-spaced with one-inch margins. Include your name in the upper right-hand margin.
3. Obtain two letters of recommendation. Only one may be from a professor, counselor, or administrator. Neither may be from a relative. All letters must indicate the full name of the candidate being recommended. Applicants should fill out the information for the two recommenders asked to write letters in the space provided on the enclosed form. The recommenders shall email their letters directly to the CIWBA.
4. Provide your most recent school transcript. A certified copy is not required.
5. Submit your application packet by **March 31, 2025**, via email to ciwba@ciwba.org with the subject line: "CIWBA Scholarship".

Eligibility

1. To apply, you must be:
 - a. A student enrolled in an accredited two- or four-year college or university in the spring semester of 2025, intending to go to law school; OR
 - b. A graduate of a two- or four-year college or university applying to attend an accredited law school, or set to attend an accredited law school in the fall semester of 2025; OR
 - c. A student enrolled in an accredited law school in the spring semester of 2025.
2. To apply, you must have been a resident of one of the following Illinois counties when you graduated high school:

Adams, Brown, Calhoun, Cass, Champaign, Christian, Clark, Coles, Cumberland, DeWitt, Douglas, Edgar, Ford, Fulton, Greene, Hancock, Iroquois, Jersey, Livingston, Logan, Macon, Macoupin, Mason, McDonough, McLean, Menard, Montgomery,

Morgan, Moultrie, Peoria, Piatt, Pike, Sangamon, Schuyler, Scott, Shelby, Tazewell, Vermilion, or Woodford.

Judging

The CIWBA Scholarship Committee will consider the application materials of all applicants. The award will be based upon the written essay, school transcript, school and community activities, and letters of recommendation. The recipient will be an individual with involvement in their community, interest in and commitment to the law, and an interest in becoming an active participant in the Central Illinois legal community.

APPLICATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

County of Residence at High School Graduation: _____

Undergraduate School: _____

Major: _____

Minor (if applicable): _____

GPA: _____

Graduate or Law School (if applicable): _____

Program (if applicable): _____

GPA: _____

Extracurricular Activities: _____

Community Involvement and/or Volunteerism: _____

You may include another page if additional space is needed to list the requested information.

RECOMMENDERS

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Relationship to the Applicant: _____

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Relationship to the Applicant: _____

ESSAY

Name: _____

Prompt Number: _____

Select one of the following prompts and use this page as a coversheet to your essay response.

1. Judge Jeanne E. Scott was the first woman to become a Sangamon County Circuit Court judge and the first female appointee to the federal bench in the Central District of Illinois. Describe the specific skills and abilities you believe female attorneys bring to the legal community and how these skills and abilities benefit the community, including the clients and coworkers of female attorneys or those practicing before female judges.
2. The CIWBA seeks to foster mentorship and networking to support the success, sustainability, and full participation of women in the local legal community and beyond through meaningful relationships. Describe what has inspired you to pursue a career in the legal field and someone that has been an ally and mentor in support of your goal to become an attorney.
3. Describe one aspect of the legal system you would change and explain why you would change it.