



The Law Society of Alberta - Viscount Bennett Scholarship

Supporting Post-Graduate Studies in Common Law

The Right Honourable Viscount Bennett, PC, KC, LLD, DCL, sought to encourage a high standard of legal education, training and excellence. In 1943, he established a trust fund with 100 shares of Royal Bank stock, valued at \$100 per share. The value has increased significantly, allowing the Viscount Scholarship Selection Committee (Committee) to award up to three scholarships annually.

AWARD

1. An award of up to \$20,000 may be paid annually to provide for post-graduate studies in an institution of higher learning, in common law, approved by the Committee.
2. If, in the opinion of the Committee, no suitable application is received, no award will be made.
3. Up to three awards may be made annually if, in the opinion of the Committee, there is justification based on the eligibility requirements.
4. Applicants may apply multiple times but can only receive the award once for the degree they are pursuing.
5. Requests to defer payment of an award (as a result of the applicant starting their studies at a later date) may be considered by the Committee.
6. If a request to defer is granted it will be subject to such conditions as deemed appropriate by the Committee.
7. All payments made are subject to repayment should the student not proceed with their degree as planned.

ELIGIBILITY

8. Applicants must be law graduates or members of the Law Society of Alberta, ordinarily resident in, or if not presently resident in, then with an express intention to return to Alberta.
9. Awards will be made by the Committee based primarily on the academic excellence displayed by the applicant in both university and law school. The Committee may also have regard for the applicant's:
 - a. Degree of involvement in law school, in university, in community and in legal affairs;
 - b. Financial need;
 - c. Other scholarships or awards.

APPLICATION

10. Applications are to be sent either by courier or email to:

Elizabeth J. Osler, KC – CEO & Executive Director
c/o Catherine Bennett, Executive Assistant
Law Society of Alberta
700, 333 – 11 Avenue SW
Calgary, Alberta
T2R 1L9



Email: VBS@lawsociety.ab.ca

Telephone: 403.229.4700

The application should include:

- a. Vitae of personal and professional information, including applicant's current and likely future connection to Alberta;
- b. Electronic or mailed official university transcripts (pre-law and law school), submitted directly by the university;
- c. List of awards and prizes, if applicable;
- d. A list and status of other award/scholarship applications;
- e. Three originally signed letters of references, at least two of which must be academic, submitted by the reference via mail or email;
- f. The name of the institution(s) where application has been made for post-graduate study;
- g. Description of research plan and proposed course of study;
- h. Description of future plans;
- i. Evidence of financial need, including proposed budget; and
- j. Any other relevant information.

Note: To be clear, electronically submitted references and transcripts must be sent directly from the reference or university. **These documents will not be accepted if the applicant submits them on behalf of another person or institution.**

11. Letters of application must be postmarked no later than May 1, 2024.

Application information will be shared with the members of the Committee only.