Frequently Asked Questions about Scholarship Awards
2015 -2016

The University of Minnesota Law School is pleased to make an outstanding legal education accessible to students through scholarship support. Students receiving scholarship funds should ensure they understand the conditions under which scholarships are renewed, and the impact of certain enrollment changes that may trigger reduction or require repayment of scholarship funds. Please carefully review the information in this F.A.Q. and consult with Kate Snowdon in the Office of Admissions (ksnowdon@umn.edu) with any scholarship questions. All scholarship policies are subject to change.

1. **What is the total amount of scholarship funding I can receive over the course of my law school education?**
   a. Scholarship awards are made under the assumption that you will be enrolled as a full-time student (with at least 12 credits of enrollment) for six semesters at the University of Minnesota Law School.
      i. Scholarship funds are split evenly between six semesters and cannot be combined to increase one semester’s allocation. Scholarship allocations cannot exceed the intended semester’s value.
      ii. Scholarship funds cannot retroactively be added to a previous semester.
   b. Your total allocated scholarship support award will not exceed three times your annual award, even if you do not complete all your requirements within the anticipated three years and enroll for additional terms.
      i. For example, a student with a $10,000 annual scholarship award would be eligible for up to a total of $30,000 over the course of her legal education at the Law School.
2. **What if I am one of the few students to receive a full tuition award?**
   a. Students that receive a full tuition scholarship during their first year will be awarded the same amount of scholarship funds during their 2L and 3L year, as long as they maintain a 2.5 grade point average. The amount for full tuition scholarships does not increase with any tuition or fee changes.

3. **What happens if my residency status changes after my first year of law school?**
   a. Only non-resident to resident full tuition scholarships may be adjusted with changes to residency status.

4. **What happens to my scholarship if I take a leave of absence?**
   a. Your scholarship is not guaranteed if you take a leave of absence. You will be reconsidered for scholarship when you return to school. We reserve the right to reevaluate and re-award your scholarship when you return.

5. **In what circumstances might I be required to repay my scholarship award?**
   a. If you withdraw from classes mid-semester after tuition refund deadlines have passed, you will be required to repay some or all of the scholarship you received for that semester.
   b. Refund and drop/add deadlines are posted on the Law School’s website at: [http://www.law.umn.edu/current/deadlines.html](http://www.law.umn.edu/current/deadlines.html). Your responsibility to repay scholarship funds for a mid-semester withdrawal rises inversely with the tuition refund schedule set by the University. For instance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Refund Percentage as set by the University</th>
<th>Scholarship amount owed back to the University of MN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>25%</td>
<td>75%</td>
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<tr>
<td>0%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   c. If you withdraw from classes BEFORE the 100% tuition refund deadline, you won’t be responsible for scholarship repayment but should contact...
Kate Snowdon at ksnowdon@umn.edu in the Office of Admissions as soon as you know you will be leaving classes.

d. The Admissions Office may waive the repayment requirement only in cases where the withdrawal was due to a significant health or medical issue of the scholarship recipient or immediate family member.

e. If you complete the semester by completing your exams, you do not need to pay back the scholarship amount.

6. Does my scholarship cover summer courses?
   a. Depending on the amount of your award, you could use scholarship funds to cover U of MN summer courses. You would need to send a request to the Admissions Office that you would like to use your scholarship funds towards your summer credits. If you do not inform the office before classes start, the funds will remain dispersed during your fall and spring semesters evenly.
   
   b. Summer allocation amounts will reduce your scholarship award for the following semester. Your remaining scholarship cannot be divided between semesters.
   
   c. You will need approval from the Dean of Students Office if you plan to take a reduced credit load (or graduate early) in a future semester.
   
   d. **Note about summer courses:** Fees are not covered for summer classes. Scholarship funds only cover tuition and cannot exceed the cost of the tuition for the credits enrolled.

7. Does my scholarship cover courses taken abroad or through another law school?
   a. Scholarships are applied only for full-time students tuition and fees incurred through the University of Minnesota Law School.
   
   b. Scholarship funds do not cover tuition or expenses for students enrolling in foreign or domestic study away programs, through another ABA-accredited law school or foreign institution.
   
   c. All scholarship funds are forfeited for the semester the student is studying away. This includes any students taking a small amount of credits at MN Law, but the majority of their credits are at another institution.

8. Does my scholarship cover credits from another graduate program at the U of MN?
   a. You are able to use your scholarship funds for up to 6 credits from another graduate program at the U of MN as long as you are taking
credits that will be counted toward your JD degree. Please inform Kate Snowdon in the Office of Admissions of your plans (in writing) when you register for other graduate programs.

9. What happens to my scholarship if I enroll in a dual or joint degree program?
   a. Law School scholarships may be used for Law School study, only. The manner in which a combined degree student draws from scholarship support varies depending on the career enrollment structure, but in no cases will scholarship funds exceed the total tuition charged under the Law Career in a given semester.
   b. Under Single Career enrollment, students are only eligible for scholarships, fellowships, or other support via the Career school in a given semester. In other words, students may receive Law scholarship funds only in semesters in which they are enrolled in the Law Career. The Admissions Office allocates scholarship support to student accounts in which students are enrolled in the Law Career. Scholarship allocation in a given semester will not exceed one half (50%) of the annual scholarship amount, and students may not draw scholarship funds above and beyond what would normally be allocated to a student enrolled over 6 semesters in the JD program. Scholarship funds cannot be combined to increase one semester’s allocation. Partner programs make independent determinations of students’ eligibility for support through that program in semesters when a student is taking non-law coursework under the Law Career.
   c. Under Dual Career enrollment, students may be eligible to receive scholarship, fellowship, and assistantship support in both careers in a given semester
      i. Law Scholarships: After a student has completed the 1L year, the Admissions Office calculates a per-credit scholarship rate (see example below). Scholarship support will then be applied to Law classes each semester on a per-credit basis, not to exceed the total Law tuition and fees charged in a given semester, though the allocation of scholarship support on a per-credit basis may in some cases exceed one half of the annual scholarship allocation. It is important that students finalize their enrollment as early as possible each semester to ensure the correct calculation of Law tuition and fees and correct allocation of per-credit law scholarship funds.
Dual Career Enrollment Per-Credit Scholarship Example:
$20,000/year or $60,000 total for 3 years at full time status
$60,000 divided by 88 credits (to graduate from MN Law) = $682/credit

ii. *Partner program support:* Partner programs devise their own policies for applying support in any semester of enrollment in non-law credits. Students should consult an advisor in the partner program to determine how support from the partner program will be allocated.

10. **What happens to my scholarship if I’m no longer considered a full-time student at the Law School?**
   a. Your scholarship will not be disbursed if you are enrolled less than a full-time student at the law school. If you receive approval to enroll for less than full-time from the Dean of Students, you will need to contact Kate Snowdon in the Office of Admissions before the start of the semester to request the partial disbursement of your award. A percentage of your scholarship will be calculated and applied to your account by the Admissions Office, depending on the number of credits taken (example below). Admissions will then manually update the scholarship disbursement database. Students studying away are not eligible for partial scholarship awards.

   $20,000/year or $60,000 total for 3 years at full time status
   $60,000 divided by 88 credits (to graduate from MN Law) = $682/credit

11. **Am I required to write a thank you note for my scholarship?**
   a. The law school greatly appreciates our generous donors who fund law school scholarships. Writing thank you notes is a professional courtesy that all scholarship students should be familiar with. Your award letter will inform you if you need to write a scholarship thank you note. Details will be provided in the letter. Failure to write a letter could result in scholarship withholdings.

12. **Can my scholarship award name change throughout the year?**
   a. It is possible that your award name could change throughout the year. If your scholarship changes to another scholarship name, you will be notified and informed if a thank you letter is required. Failure to write a
letter could result in scholarship withholdings.

13. **What should I assume when making plans that could impact my scholarship?**
   a. Please do not assume anything. Contact the Office of Admissions with questions before you finalize any decisions as it could affect your scholarship allocation.