

## 2017 Academic Scholarship

LAPSWV offers an annual \$500 academic scholarship. Any LAPSWV member is good standing who is enrolled in a formal course study leading to a career as a legal assistant/paralegal.

The successful applicant must provide an official transcript evidencing attainment of at least a B average in the legal assistant/paralegal class(es) for the immediately preceding semester. In the case of new enrollees to the legal assistant/paralegal program, the successful applicant must provide an official transcript evidencing attainment of at least a B average in other college-credit classes qualifying the applicant for entrance into the legal assistant/paralegal program.

**Scholarship awards are to assist with the cost of tuition and books ONLY**, and will be made payable to the award recipient and the school in which he or she attends. The scholarship winner will be notified by email on or before May 15, 2017. The award will be presented at LAPSWV's Thirteenth Annual Seminar and Meeting.

**APPLICATIONS will be posted on April 1, 2017 and completed applications must be received by the LAPSWV Scholarship Committee on or before May 1, 2017.**

The following must accompany the Scholarship Application:

- An official transcript evidencing your attainment of at least a B average;
- A letter of recommendation from the director or a faculty member of the Legal Assistant/Paralegal Program; and
- A letter of recommendation from someone other than a member of the applicant's family (employer, teacher, friend, etc.).

## 2017 CLA/CP Scholarship

LAPSWV will award one CLA/CP scholarship in an amount up to \$250.00 (NALA Member) or \$275.00 (Non-NALA Member) at the LAPSWV Thirteenth Annual Seminar and Meeting. The scholarship recipient will be notified prior to the meeting and must be present to accept the award. The scholarship fee will be paid directly to NALA, and the recipient will have one (1) year from the date of the award to sit for the exam. The fee will be refunded to LAPSWV if the recipient does not sit for the exam within the one-year time requirement. **APPLICATIONS** will be posted on April 1, 2017 and completed applications must be received by the LAPSWV Scholarship Committee on or before May 1, 2017.

**Eligibility:** Applicants must be a LAPSWV member in good standing and meet the NALA eligibility requirements for one (1) of the following categories before applying for the CLA/CP Exam Fee Award:

### **Category 1:**

Graduated from a legal assistant program that is :

- a. Approved by the American Bar Association; or
- b. An associate degree program; or
- c. A post-baccalaureate certificate in legal assistant studies; or
- d. A bachelor's degree program in legal studies; or
- e. A legal assistant program which consists of a minimum of 60 semester hours of which at least 15 semester hours are substantive legal courses.

**Category 2:**

Possess a bachelor's degree in any field plus one (1) year of experience as a legal assistant. (Successful completion of at least 15 semester hours or substantive legal assistant courses in equivalent to the one (1) year legal experience.)

**Category 3:**

Possess a high school diploma or equivalent plus seven (7) years' experience as a legal assistant, plus a minimum of twenty (20) hours of continuing legal education completed within a two-year period prior to application for the examination. For more information, please visit [www.nala.org](http://www.nala.org) or contact Rhonda Swartz, ACP at [firstvicepresident@lapswv.org](mailto:firstvicepresident@lapswv.org).

## 2017 ACLA/ACP Certification

If you are a member in good standing with LAPSWV and currently a NALA certified legal assistant/paralegal, you are eligible to enter your name into the drawing for the ACP Scholarship award for \$250.00. Applications can be submitted in person at LAPSWV's Thirteenth Annual Meeting and Seminar. Recipient will be chosen by lottery drawing at the Annual Meeting and Seminar and applicant must be present to win.