



THE HONOURABLE SOCIETY OF
THE INNER TEMPLE

Notes from Scholarships Application Q&A Session – 23 April 2024

Deadlines and Next Steps

Application form submission deadline: 1pm Friday 3rd May

Reference deadline: 5pm on Friday 17th May.

Inner Temple offers interviews to all applicants. Interviews will be held on Friday 14 June 2024 (online – from approx. 3pm-9pm) and Saturday 15 June 2024 (in-person at Inner Temple). You are asked to indicate on your application form, which format of interview you would like to attend.

After the application submission deadline, you will be asked to:

- Book your interview slot - May
- Complete a contextual recruitment form – May
- Complete a financial assessment form – May/June

These will be allocated as tasks on the scholarships portal and full instructions will be provided.

Scholarships Criteria

There are 4 criteria for GDL Scholarships, these are:

- **Academic performance** - Evidenced by academic performance at university or academic potential shown through improvements at each academic stage.
- **Advocacy Potential** - Deploys precise and well-reasoned arguments, with clarity and fluency. Can demonstrate persuasiveness and conviction, can tailor style to the audience.
- **Professionalism and Interpersonal Skills** – Ability to build productive working relationships, treat people with courtesy and respect regardless of their background or circumstances. Responds appropriately to those from diverse backgrounds and to the needs and sensitivities created by individual circumstances.
- **Motivation** – A very high level of commitment to a career at the Bar, together with a sound understanding of the profession and any current intended area(s) of practice. Being adaptable and flexible by being self-aware and self-directed.

Degree results and industrial action

- We are aware that some people may have been affected by industrial action last year and so may not have their final degree mark, or are missing module marks as a result.

- If you have been affected by this, please list your degree result as ‘pending’.
- The next question asks for module mark breakdown; please include the module results which you have received but note that other results are pending due to industrial action.
- Once you get your degree/module results, send us a message us on the scholarship portal and we can update this on your form.

Work Experience Section of the Application Form

- In the work experience section, any paid legal work (for example paralegal work, clerking etc.) should be listed under ‘Legal Work Experience’.
- If your legal experience was unpaid, as well as mini-pupillages, mentoring, marshalling, or another legal scheme, this would be listed as ‘Other Legal Experience’.
- All non-legal work should be listed under ‘Non-legal Work Experience’.
- You can list up to 5 entries under each title (legal work experience, non-legal work experience and other legal experience).
- If you have more than 5 examples of ‘other legal experience’ you can list multiple (for example mini-pupillages) in one entry.

References

- When you save the referee information on your application form, an automatic email is sent to the referee, asking them to submit their reference to us.
- Referees receive a link to an online form to complete for the reference. There will be guidance for the referee on this page.
- Referees are asked to comment on each of the scholarships criteria
- When you log in to the scholarship portal, there is a ‘references received’ counter (circled in red on the screenshot below), so you can see how many of your referees have submitted their reference to us. If they haven’t submitted the reference, please chase them.

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Welcome back, Georgina Bar
Course 2023TEST

Applicant id [REDACTED]

Cohort 2023

Level of entry Scholarships

Course Bar Course Scholarship

References Received 1

Your Application is
100%
complete

Submit Application

Submit Another Application

Supporting Information Section of the Application Form

It is important that you answer the questions in the Support Information section, thoroughly. Your answers in this section are used to assess part of your application.

Practice area and plans for pupillage

It’s fine to say you are undecided on a practice area, it makes sense for where you’re at in your journey if you don’t know for certain. It’s good if you can identify a few areas of law you are interested in and why.

Plans for pupillage – if you are interested in a specific area of law, or specific chambers, you can detail this here. E.g. ‘planning to apply to X chamber this January’.

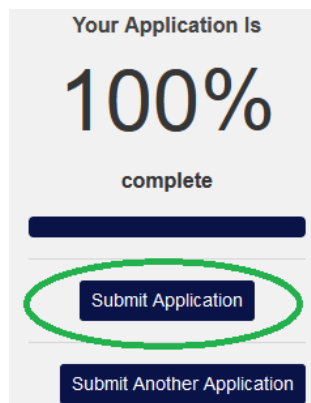
If you know the areas of law you’re interested in, do some research into chambers which practice in that area and recent cases they may have had.

Further Information Section of the Application Form

When answering the questions about 'Other relevant information', you can include anything which you feel is relevant to your application and the scholarships criteria, which you have not mentioned elsewhere in the form.

Technical questions about the application form

- Where a box says, 'max limit: 1000', this means characters, not words. Wherever it says a number, it means character limit (including spaces). When you start typing an answer, in the box, you should see a character counter appear, directly under the question: this lets you know how many characters you have left.
- After you submit the application form, it can't be amended. However, in the interview, you will be asked if there is anything you've done since that you would like to address (e.g., Additional legal work experience).
- Always click 'save' at the bottom of the page, before moving onto the next section – unfortunately the form does not auto-save your answers.
- If you are applying for a scholarship for the second time, there is a question for that on the form, but the panel won't see any previous applications.
- Doesn't matter what order you put work experience in the form, it gets put in chronological order automatically for us.
- **If you have started to complete your application form, and you are trying to access it again, when you log on to the portal, you need to click the 'Submit Application' button (circled in green on the screenshot below). This will take you back into the application form, where you can review and edit your answers.**
- When you are ready to submit the form, click through to the final section of the form, where you will be asked to agree to the declaration, and will be able to submit.



Preparing for the interview

- In May, there is a pre-interview briefing meeting which will be held online. Details of this will be sent to you in advance.
- Ahead of the interview, re-read your application form!
- Ask tutors/friends/ family to practice interview style questions with you.
- It is important that you request any reasonable adjustments in the 'Interview Requirements' section of the application form.

Other Information

RARE/contextual recruitment information is considered after the interview process. The Inn collates the final marks for all candidates, then the contextual information is added. The interview panel does not see it.

A full list of awards on offer can be found on our website - <https://www.innertemple.org.uk/becoming-a-barrister/scholarships/gdlawards/>