

# 2020 YOUTH & THE LAW SCHOLARSHIP



## **Family Law Office of Eric Michael Vallillee Post-Secondary Youth and the Law Scholarship**

### Requirements/Eligibility

- Accepted to and attending an Ontario post-secondary institution in the fall (may include university either in a full-time program or as a special student, accredited college, or professional/graduate program either as a first year or returning/upper-year student) and demonstrated eagerness/dedication to their education and future.
  - o Proof of acceptance to the school required (acceptance letter or enrolment confirmation).
- Demonstrate a history of having overcome a personal challenge as a youth with the Canadian or a provincial justice system which could include having been in conflict with the law (criminal charges), a personal experience of involvement with a Children's Aid Society/Family Services, homelessness, or other difficulties with social or justice systems.
  - o This will be demonstrated by answering several questions and providing a short personal essay.
- Most recent transcript or report card, if available, or a written summary of the applicant's schooling history if no transcript or report card is available.
- Demonstrated financial need.
- Fully completed application form with the required personal essay.
- Applicant must apply themselves (a third party cannot nominate the applicant) in order to demonstrate personal initiative and dedication to their education and future.
  - o If an applicant has a disability that prevents them from filling out the application themselves, another person may assist them in completing the form, however the answers must be in the applicant's own words.
- Cannot be a current or former client of Eric Vallillee, or associated with any current litigation that our office is involved in!

### Optional

- Optional personal references can include lawyers, community members, religious leaders, teachers, police officers, social workers, or anyone else the applicant would like to submit. If no references are available, the applicant can still apply.

### NOT Required

- Do not need to have graduated from high school – if the student is enrolling directly in a university or college program, or taking courses as a special student at college or university to gain entry to a university program, they are eligible.

### Selection Process and Publication of Successful Applicant

- All applications received by the deadline stated below will be evaluated by the staff of the Family Law Office of Eric Michael Vallillee for completeness, and an applicant who has met all of the eligibility criteria, who shows a legitimate history of having overcome a personal challenge with the justice/social systems in Canada will be selected based on the quality of their written submission.
- If references are provided, we may contact the references to validate their authenticity.
- The selected applicant will be notified in writing and/or by telephone, and arrangements will be made to provide their scholarship directly to them. The selected applicant is encouraged to use their award for tuition, books/supplies, or living expenses while at school.
- Due to the possible existence of publication bans and to maintain the confidentiality of our applicants due to the sensitive nature of many of their experiences, we only ask that applicants consent to the publication of their initials and the type of program (university/college/law school/similar) if they are selected as the recipient of this year's scholarship. We will not publish your full name or the name of your school if you are selected.
- We will maintain records of applications for a period of time in order to maintain the integrity of the selection process, and we will not release your personal information other than your initials and type of school program to any third parties unless compelled to do so by law (with notice to you). You must understand that even though you are sending your information to a law office, none of this information is covered by solicitor-client privilege or confidentiality since you are not seeking legal advice by applying to this scholarship. Providing information to our office in support of your application does not create a solicitor-client relationship between you and our office.

**Application Deadline: 11:59 pm Eastern Time (Toronto/London, ON) on Monday, August 3, 2020.**

**Applications accepted online using the Google form provided, or in written form via e-mail to [eric.v@valaw.ca](mailto:eric.v@valaw.ca), or by mail/courier, but must be received by the deadline at:**

**Family Law Office of Eric Michael Vallillee  
Suite 440  
200 Queens Avenue  
London, ON N6A 1J3**

**We suggest that you not try to drop your application off in person as our office building's front doors are currently locked due to COVID-19, and our office hours are also currently reduced.**