

Markowski-Leach Scholarships

2020-21 Academic Year Applicant Conditions and Requirements

APPLICATION PROCESS AND DEADLINE:

- All applications for 2020-21 academic year awards must be received by the Markowski-Leach Scholarships Committee, via this web portal, no later than 11:59 PM Sunday, **April 5, 2020**.
- Applications will be reviewed by the Committee and awardees will be selected in early May. Notification will be sent to all applicants about the status of their applications by the end of May.
- Status inquiries can be made by e-mail to info@mlscholarships.org.

PURPOSE:

The Markowski-Leach Scholarship Fund was established under the terms of a bequest from the estate of Mr. James Leach in memory of Mr. Leach and Mr. Thomas Markowski. The purpose of the fund is to provide scholarship awards to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) persons attending San Francisco State University, Stanford University, University of California at San Francisco, University of California at Berkeley, or University of California Hastings College of the Law as undergraduate or graduate students.

According to the terms of the bequest, award recipients will be determined by the Scholarship Committee to be:

"...likely to make a substantial contribution to society, thereby enhancing society's perception of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people as well as increasing the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer community's self-esteem."

Study in LGBTQ-related fields is not required. Successful candidates will demonstrate leadership and a commitment to excellence in their service, employment, or scholastic endeavors as out and visible LGBTQ persons.

- "Commitment to excellence" is meant to include dedication to enhancing personal effectiveness in the pursuit of ideals for the benefit of oneself and others.
- "Leadership" is not limited to holding a significant leadership position in a work group, organization, or club (not necessarily LGBTQ-focused). In addition to holding a leadership position, "leadership" is meant to include things such as defining a situation in a revelatory manner, holding a position of guidance, forging consensus, coalition building, or being a dynamic force for change.
 - Endeavors cited need not be limited to LGBTQ-related activities.

Successful candidates will further demonstrate dedication to a goal that will allow them to contribute to the betterment of society. Visibility as an out lesbian, gay, bisexual,

transgender, or queer person is considered crucial to the possibility of the successful candidate becoming a role model for other LGBTQ people.

AWARD:

The award for the 2020-21 academic year will be \$2,000. This amount will be divided by the number of terms (2 or 3) in the recipient's school year. Award checks will be sent to recipients' Financial Aid Offices and will be credited to recipients at the beginning of each term.

ELIGIBILITY:

The eligibility rules governing the competition for The Markowski-Leach Scholarships include the following:

- Applicants shall self-identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer persons.
- Applicants shall, by their completion of and submission of the scholarship application, certify that they are LGBTQ.
- Recipients must be enrolled as undergraduate or graduate students at San Francisco State University, Stanford University, University of California at San Francisco, University of California Hastings College of the Law, or University of California at Berkeley during the academic year in which the award will be disbursed. Applicants need not be enrolled at the time of application, however, which will occur in the spring preceding the award year. The scholarship application may be submitted by students whose acceptance into a program at one of these schools is pending, though the scholarship can only be awarded if the student actually matriculates.
- Recipients must be enrolled in a program that leads to an undergraduate degree, a graduate degree, or to a state teaching credential during the academic year in which they receive the scholarship.
- Undergraduate recipients must be enrolled full-time as defined by their institution for each term in which they receive an award. Graduate recipients must be deemed by their schools to be enrolled and must demonstrate progress toward their degree during the award period.
- Academic performance:
 - All undergraduate recipients must have earned a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 in all prior college-level coursework.
 - High school students applying for admission will be considered eligible upon admission to an affiliated University.
 - Graduate recipients must be eligible to enroll in a graduate program as defined by their school.
 - Recipients must meet all satisfactory academic progress requirements normally applied by the institution for its federal, state, and institutional financial aid programs.

- **Note: Academic transcripts need not be provided. The Financial Aid Office at the student's campus will verify eligibility.**

COMPLETING AND SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION:

Applicants must meet all material submission requirements and deadlines that are included in the annual announcement of the competition. It is expected that an applicant must provide the following documents to be considered for the award:

- Completed and digitally signed Application with general demographic information.
- Written Personal Statement describing how the student meets the requirements of the scholarship program as described in the Application Form.
- Names and contact information of two references to support assertions made in the candidate's statement. **Actual letters of reference are not required with the application.**
- Any other documents subsequently requested by the Scholarship Committee.
- Applications are to be submitted through this web portal.
- Applicants must inform the Scholarship Committee of changes of address or enrollment status. Failure to notify the Committee of any changes may affect Scholarship disbursement. Notification can be made via e-mail to info@mlscholarships.org
- By their signature on the acceptance letter, award recipients agree to the use of their names and general information in news releases and promotional information about The Markowski-Leach Scholarships.
- The Scholarship Committee shall have responsibility for interpreting these policies, making decisions regarding the competition, and for candidate selection.

Questions may be sent via e-mail to: info@mlscholarships.org or directed to the campus contact person as indicated below:

San Francisco State University
Dennis Santos, Student Financial Aid dsantos@sfsu.edu

Stanford University
Jeff Shelby, Financial Aids shelby@stanford.edu

University of California - Berkeley
Bill Brockett and Lar Bryer info@mlscholarships.org

University of California Hastings College of the Law
FinancialAid@uchastings.edu

University of California – San Francisco
Jerry Lopez, Student Financial Aid Jerry.Lopez@ucsf.edu