

15th Annual National Black Pre-Law Conference

Q1. Applicant Information

Name (first and last)	Valencia Scott
Email address	vgscott@ucdavis.edu
Phone number (xxx) xxx-xxxx	9166137521
Name of Department/ Unit/ Student Organization	Black Pre-Law Students Association
What is your role or position within the Department/ Unit/ Student Organization?	Director of External Affairs

Q3. Event/ Program Information

Name of the Event/ Program	15th Annual National Black Pre-Law Conference
Date(s) of Event/ Program	11/08-11/11/2019
Location	Harvard University: Cambridge, MA
Estimated Attendance (if applicable)	15 Students
Funding request amount from COSAF (Student Programming Fund) (\$x,xxx)	24,573.47
TOTAL event/ program budget (\$x,xxx)	26,573.47

Q4. Please provide a detailed description and purpose of the event/ program.

As a Black student initiative at UC Davis, the Black Pre-Law Students Association (BPLSA) is committed to providing resources and assistance to help the members of our diverse community excel academically. As an organization that also consists of predominately first-generation minority college students, we also actively work to provide all of our members with opportunities that will increase their chances of being competitive in their pursuit of a legal career. The National Black Pre-Law Conference, similarly, has a vision to "provide a powerful forum to help increase the numbers of excellent, strategic and competitive African American law school applicants, students and graduates nationwide." For the past 14 years, this conference has provided Black Pre-Law students with extensive preparation and exposure to the rigors of the law school application process via workshops, keynote speakers, application sessions, and tours of some of the nations top law school programs. Link to Conference Information: <https://blackprelawconference.org/> The Black Pre-Law Students Association believes that attendance at this conference would be an exceptional opportunity for its members, and would like to extend the opportunity to our community as well. This year, we piloted our first-ever Mentorship Program in collaboration with the Black Law Students Association (BLSA) at King Hall. The response was overwhelming, with 40 individuals applying within the week of the application period. Each student will now be paired with a law student mentor, who will serve as a source of resource and personal support as our students work to maintain an high level of academic success while at UC Davis, and successfully matriculate into law school after graduating. Our organization has decided to continue the Mentorship Program for the 2019-2020 school year, and would like to extend the opportunity for 15 mentees to attend the 15th Annual National Black Pre-Law Conference in November of 2019. Through an application process created by our board in collaboration with BLSA, selected students would be able to attend this conference - fully funded. Our organization also understands that support is continual and must extend past the conference. In order to support the selected mentees, we would like to provide all 15 with each of the "PowerScore LSAT Bible" LSAT study books, in addition to fully funding them to participate in the low-cost LSAT course offered at UC Davis. Black Pre-Law Students Association would conduct extensive intake and follow-up with each mentee selected to attend the conference. Our request for funding is outlined below: 1. Transportation - The conference is hosted at Harvard University, located in Cambridge, MA. Transportation to and from the airport, in addition to funding for round trip flights to and from the conference would be needed. Because we will not be on the premises of the conference, funding would also be requested so that we can provide attendees with discretionary funds to be allocated to fees needed for Uber, lyft, taxi, and/or public transportation (i.e. METRO) to and from the conference site. It is important to consider that many members of our organization are first-generation, low-income, minority students. Access to resources for travel funding - especially as college students - can be extremely limiting. As an organization, BPLSA works to remove as many barriers as possible for all of our members. We do not want any selected mentee to be unable to attend this event because of financial reasons. 2. Registration - Event registration is completely free. 3. Lodging - The conference takes place from 11/08-11/11/2019. Selected mentees would be scheduled to arrive 11/07, the day before the conference commences. Flights back home would be scheduled for 11/11, the evening after the conference ends. The length of this conference requires lodging for all members. We want all of our Black students to be/feel safe and secure so that they can maximize the conference experience, safe and efficient lodging arrangements are of the utmost importance to us. Again, we do not want a student's inability to attend or stay for the full duration of the conference be due to financial reasons, and we would like to fully accommodate every student who is selected to attend.

Q24. Please enter estimated attendance numbers of who will benefit from this event/ program.

Students	15
Staff	
Faculty	
UCD Community Members	
Unknown	
Other (please specify and include number)	

Q6. Has your Department/ Unit/ Student Organization put on this event in the past?

- Yes
- No
- Uncertain

Q7. Please provide the following information on the previous event(s).

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

Q16. Who is the target audience of the event/ program? (e.g. students, program participants, users of a specific service)

There are currently 1,096 Black/African American undergraduate students enrolled at UC Davis. We are comprised 4% of the university population, which is the second-lowest population after Native American students. A majority of our Black Pre-Law Students Association members identify as Black/African-American (as we collectively term: members of the African Diaspora), in addition to being first-generation and low-income students. The mission of our organization is to "uplift, educate, and empower students African diaspora by providing information, resources, mentorship, and service opportunities to advance their pursuits of a legal career." Thus, members who identify as a part of the African Diaspora, first-generation, and/or low-income would be the target audience.

Q17. What will be learned? (i.e. acquired knowledge, skills or abilities, a new awareness/ sensitivity/ perspective, an adopted practice)

The mission of the National Black Pre-Law Conference is "to provide a high-quality, comprehensive national event designed specifically for aspiring Black lawyers. Its purpose is to provide them with access to empowering information, resources, and contacts that will assist them in the challenging journey ahead in pursuing admission into law school, success in the law school experience and on the bar exam, and beyond." The conference is "designed to help [students] prior to beginning their law school careers so they can have the key "insider" information and encouragement they need to help them to better understand what it really takes to be successful in their quest to become lawyers." The conference includes intensive application workshops, panels, law school class sit-ins, tours of some of the nation's most prestigious law school programs, law information fairs, and networking events. This immersive and extremely informative experience will help students selected to attend acquire knowledge about the law school application process and develop a stronger professional and academic networking skill set. Many of the opportunities provided by this conference would be expensive and inaccessible to our community otherwise. This exceptional opportunity for BPLSA mentees to attend would provide everyone with a new level of awareness regarding the law school process, and give them an rare opportunity to see themselves represented in one of the least diverse professional and academic fields.

Q18. What program, activity, or service will be provided? (e.g. six-week training program, instructional class or activity, structured community program that exposes students to new ideas and experiences)

All 15 students selected will be fully funded to attend the National Black Pre-Law Conference at Harvard University from 11/08-11/11. All associated travel, transportation, and lodging fees would be covered. Students will also receive a set of BPLSA/UC Davis attire to maintain a professional and unifying presence at the conference. Students will also receive a free set of LSAT test preparation materials (the "PowerScore Bible Series), in addition to being fully funded to take the low-cost CampusPrep LSAT course at UC Davis when they return.

Q19. How will the learning be shown or what does the learning look like? (e.g. demonstrated knowledge of course material, change in behavior, a practiced skill, a task achieved)

Students selected to attend will be a part of our BPLSA Board and our BLSA/BPLSA 2019-2020 Mentorship Program Cohort. Upon returning, the student cohort will be requested to put on one event or workshop for other members of the Mentorship Program to highlight important skills and/or information they obtained while at the conference. This way, information would be disseminated throughout the organization for members who did not attend the conference. We would consider all students who attended the conference to also be training to become future Board Members and leaders in our organization for the upcoming year. Funding for LSAT preparation materials and courses would also provide continual support for students to manifest what they learned in preparation for law school admissions.

Q25. How does the event/ program provide services that are of growing interest to students? (if applicable)

Diversity in legal education has been a growing topic of interest in the U.S. Within the Black/African-American community, the inequities in undergraduate retention and graduation rates continue affect the number of qualified students who can get admitted to - and afford - law school. While this is both a national and systemic issue, BPLSA would like to do what it can to foster higher rates of retention and law school admission in our own Black Aggie community. We believe this begins with extensive exposure to various law-school preparation resources, mentorship, and community building. Group attendance at the National Black Pre-Law Conference would encompass all of this. See: "The Legal Field is Diversifying, but Not at the Top" https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2017/11/27/the-legal-profession-is-diversifying-but-not-at-the-top/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.d688ce72c01c "Diversity in the Legal Profession, from Rhetoric to Reality" https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2017/11/27/the-legal-profession-is-diversifying-but-not-at-the-top/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.d688ce72c01c

Q26. How does the event/ program foster diversity? (if applicable)

There are currently 1,096 Black/African American undergraduate students enrolled at UC Davis. We are comprised 4% of the university population, which is the second-lowest population after Native American students. A majority of our Black Pre-Law Students Association members identify as Black/African-American (as we collectively term: members of the African Diaspora), in addition to being first-generation and low-income students. The National Black Pre-Law Conference understands that there continue to be barriers to access for Black/African-American students in higher education, and that these inequities persist in legal education. By working to provide comprehensive information to students who may be disadvantaged in their pursuit of a legal education, the Conference aims to help increase the representation of the diverse Black/African-American population in the legal field.

Q27. How does the event/ program provide crucial services to students? (if applicable)

This program is a crucial service to students because it provides access to exceptional law school preparation resources that may not be available to them otherwise. LSAT test preparation, law school tours, and admissions preparation are expensive, and present a substantial barrier to many first-generation, low-income, minority students who aspire to a legal career. At BPLSA, we believe that all students should know that getting admitted to law school is a possibility for everyone, and we want to eliminate as many barriers for students as possible.

ESTIMATED BUDGET

Title of Proposal: Black Pre-Law Students Association attendance to the National Black Pre-Law Conference
 Unit/Event/Program/Student Organization: Black Pre-Law Students Association

Item		ESTIMATED COST	SUB-TOTAL
A. Lecture / Entertainment: Honoraria / Performers			
1.	N/A	\$ -	
2.	N/A	\$ \$0.00	
3.	N/A	\$ \$0.00	
4.	N/A	\$ \$0.00	
5.	N/A	\$ \$0.00	\$0.00
B. Publicity: Flyers / Posters / Ads / Mailing / Printing			
1.	N/A	\$ \$0.00	
2.	N/A	\$ \$0.00	
3.	N/A	\$ \$0.00	
4.	N/A	\$ \$0.00	
5.	Publicity and application for the conference will be funded and disseminated by BPLSA	\$ \$0.00	\$0.00
C. Food: Refreshments, Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner (Include cost per person)			
1.	N/A	\$ \$0.00	
2.	N/A	\$ \$0.00	
3.	N/A	\$ \$0.00	
4.	N/A	\$ \$0.00	
5.	plimentary continental breakfast and lunches. Dinner per diem for students will be provided by fund	\$ \$0.00	\$0.00
D. Decorations / Props			
1.	N/A	\$ \$0.00	
2.	N/A	\$ \$0.00	
3.	N/A	\$ \$0.00	
4.	N/A	\$ \$0.00	
5.	N/A	\$ \$0.00	\$0.00
E. Facility: Room Rental / Room Setup Fees / Equipment Rental / AV			
1.	N/A	\$ \$0.00	
2.	N/A	\$ \$0.00	
3.	N/A	\$ \$0.00	
4.	N/A	\$ \$0.00	
5.	N/A	\$ \$0.00	\$0.00
F. Travel: Transportation / Parking / Lodging			
1.	15 round trip flight (SMF --> Boston Int'l) + Kimpton Lowe Hotel (check in: 11/07, check-out: 11/11	\$ \$15,653.40	
2.	y Transportation Funds (public transportation, uber/lyft, taxi) (5 groups of 3 people, allocated \$100	\$ \$500.00	
3.		\$	
4.		\$	
5.		\$	\$16,153.40
G. Other			
1.	1/4 BPLSA/UCD Logo Zip (15)	\$ \$767.07	
2.	BPLSA/UCD Pullover (15)	\$ \$253.74	
3.	BPLSA/UCD Polo (15)	\$ \$668.91	
4.	LSAT PowerScore Bible Series (15 of each series)	\$ \$1,855.35	
5.	UCD/CampusPrep LSAT Course (15 people)	\$ \$4,875.00	\$8,420.07
			\$24,573.47
Other Funding Sources: Income / ASUCD / Dept & Club Contribution			
Ticket Sales	N/A	\$	
Registration Fees	Conference registration is free	\$	
Program Advertising Sales	N/A	\$	
Merchandise Sales (T-shirts, etc.)	Pending Fundraising goal	\$ \$100.00	
Club Contribution	Pending Fundraising goal	\$ \$1,000.00	
ASUCD Contribution	TBD: grant application submission pending	\$ \$1,000.00	
Other	TBD: External grants submission pending	\$ \$2,000.00	\$4,100.00
Total Expenses \$24,573.47 Less Total Income \$4,100.00 Amount Requested From COSAF: <u>\$20,473.47</u> *			
* Must match the amount requested on the application.			

