

2026 Piedad and Raul Castro Scholarship Application

The EBLRLA Scholarship Fund invites eligible candidates to apply for the **Piedad and Raul Castro Scholarship**, an annual \$5,000 scholarship funded by the **Honorable Arturo Castro**, Judge with the Superior Court of Alameda County, in honor of his parents.

“This scholarship is dedicated to my parents, who, alongside countless other immigrant families, personify the perseverance, sacrifice, and selflessness of those who are dedicated to advancing future generations, with no thought or expectation of personal gain. By giving back in their names, the spirit of their sacrifices will live on, supporting young minds who are equally dedicated to making the world a better place.” – Judge Arturo Castro

The **Piedad and Raul Castro Scholarship** will be awarded to an outstanding law student to assist them with expenses related to preparing for the California Bar Exam and transitioning to formal practice as an attorney. Judge Castro will not be involved in the selection process.

Eligibility Criteria:

1. Graduation from law school by spring 2026;
2. Registered for the July 2026 California Bar Exam;
3. Significant ties to, or expects to practice in, the East Bay (Alameda and/or Contra Costa Counties);
4. Demonstrated financial need; preference will be given to students who do not already have all of their bar exam study expenses covered by another funding source;
5. Demonstrated commitment to employing the law to advance social justice; and
6. Demonstrated academic success and potential to succeed as a future lawyer.
7. Member of the East Bay La Raza Lawyers Association. (Dues are only \$1 for law students: www.eblrla.org/join.)

The EBLRLA Scholarship Fund aims to support as many deserving law students as possible. While all eligible applicants are encouraged to apply, priority will be given to applicants who have not already received a scholarship from the EBLRLA Scholarship Fund.

Application Instructions:

Email this completed application form and the requested supporting documents, preferably as a single PDF file, to ebrlasf@gmail.com with “2026 Castro Scholarship [Your Name]” in the subject line. All applications will be kept confidential by the EBLRLA Scholarship Fund review committee and will be destroyed when no longer necessary. If you have any questions, please email ebrlasf@gmail.com.

Due Date: Sunday, June 14, 2026, 11:59 PM Pacific. Late applications will not be considered.

2026 Castro Scholarship Application Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Law School: _____

Graduation Date (Month and Year): _____

Are you a first-generation college graduate? Yes _____ No _____

Are you a first-generation law student? Yes _____ No _____

How did you hear about this scholarship? _____

Have you previously received an EBLRLA Scholarship? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, year(s) awarded and amount(s): _____

Do you have an offer for post-bar employment? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, employer and anticipated monthly income: _____

Is an employer or other entity providing you with a bar exam stipend? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please specify the amount(s) and what expenses it will cover (e.g., exam registration, bar review course, housing, transportation, living expenses, etc.).

Application Documents Checklist:

- **Resume.** Two-page maximum.
- **Essay.** Two-page maximum. Address how you fulfill the purpose and criteria of this scholarship and why you should be awarded the Piedad and Raul Castro Scholarship. We are interested in your background, financial need, hardships or barriers overcome, past efforts to advance social justice, particularly during law school, and future plans as a lawyer.
- **Law School Transcript.** Unofficial copies are acceptable. Enrollment and grade point average are subject to verification.
- **Financial Aid Printout.** Obtain a financial aid printout from your law school student account or financial aid office. The printout should include the calculation of your need, as well as the loans and grants already received.
- **Other Proof of Financial Need.** Include any other supporting documentation to verify your financial need, including other loan debt (e.g., undergraduate, graduate, private loans, etc.).
- **Optional:** Should you feel it necessary, you may also attach a supplemental 300-word maximum statement about your financial need and how this scholarship would assist you.

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Certification Statement

All of the information submitted in this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that if I make a false statement or misrepresentation in this application, I will be disqualified from consideration and will be required to return or repay any money received.

I further agree that if I am awarded a scholarship, the East Bay La Raza Lawyers Association (“Association”) and EBLRLA Scholarship Fund (“Fund”) may use my name, image, likeness, and biographical information at a future event and in its publications for recruitment, advocacy, public relations, and research purposes unless I request to opt out.

- By checking this box, I request to opt out of the Association and Fund using my name, image, likeness, and personal identifiable information at a future event and in its publications.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____
(type or sign your name)