

S T A T E B A R O F M I C H I G A N

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

PIPELINE PROGRAMS GUIDE

CONNECTIONS TO THE LEGAL PROFESSION

**WE CAN,
WE WILL,
WE MUST**

PIPELINE PROGRAMS GUIDE

The following information was collected using a data tool developed by the Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee to enhance resources available to members of the State Bar of Michigan and the public. We are collecting information about programs designed to assist students and others considering the legal profession. Across the state there are a number of successful “pipeline” programs that offer information and education about the legal profession to prospective law students, bar examinees, and others who have an interest in pursuing a legal career. By gathering information about these programs in one place, we plan to act as a clearinghouse and a resource to everyone seeking information or assistance.

Additionally, we hope to instigate more collaboration among programs and greater opportunities to replicate successes. Please help us by sharing information about any pipeline programs you are involved with or forwarding this link to the appropriate person and help us build an evolving database for the state.

SUBMIT A PIPELINE RESOURCE

A data collection tool intended to improve State Bar of Michigan resources by gathering information about programs designed to assist students and others considering the legal profession.

<http://www.michbar.org/diversity/pipeline>

For more information contact:

Greg Conyers
Director of Diversity
(517) 346-6358
gconyers@mail.michbar.org

PIPELINE PROGRAMS GUIDE

Summer Legal Institute

http://www.jtb.org/index.php?submenu=Summer_Legal_Institute&src=gendocs&ref=DetroitSLI&category=Summer_Legal_Institute

Just the Beginning—A Pipeline Organization

Partnered with: Western Michigan University Thomas M. Cooley Law School, Just the Beginning Foundation

The Summer Legal Institute consists of classroom lectures on substantive information, logic and critical thinking exercises, writing and oral advocacy in mock trial environments, panel discussions of judges and attorneys, and field trips to area law firms, government offices, and courthouses. Practical information about preparing for college, securing financial aid, and succeeding in higher education are other highlights of the program.

Program Contact:

Laura Ramsey
312-258-4868
lramsey@jtb.org

Program offers: Education on the profession

Participant Type: High school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Open to the public, national
- High school students

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Dores McCree Day

University of Michigan Law School

Partnered with: High school students from Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Detroit, Lansing, Flint, Benton Harbor and/or Grand Rapids, Michigan Law's Black Law Students Alliance (BLSA)

Michigan Law's Black Law Students Alliance (BLSA) has hosted Dores McCree Day to afford underrepresented high school students from Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Detroit, Lansing, Flint, and Grand Rapids the opportunity to learn about law careers. Participants toured the law school, had lunch with MLaw students, and interacted with professors. The event is named for Dores McCree, who was a beloved staff member at Michigan Law who mentored and provided career counseling to minority students.

Program Contact:

Michigan Law's Black Law Students Alliance (BLSA)
mblsa-leaders@umich.edu

Program offers: Education on the profession

Participant Type: High school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Defined to an institution
- High school students

Financial Information:

- Free

Active Timeframe: Yearly—spring and/or fall

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The Street Law Program

<http://www.streetlaw.org/en/home>

Street Law develops classroom and grassroots programs that educate students and communities about law, democracy, and human rights. Some of our initiatives bring us directly into classrooms and neighborhoods. However, the majority of our efforts, including our popular professional development programs, are focused on training others—individuals and organizations—to become effective Street Law educators. Our approach is practical, relevant, and experiential, blending legal content with innovative hands-on teaching strategies that actively engage students and program participants in the learning process.

Program Contact:

Street Law
(301) 589-1130
(301) 589-1131 fax

Program offers: General civic education, high school and college prep, CLE, education on the profession, moot court/mock trials, mentoring/advising, networking

Participant Type: Other

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Open to the public, national
- Other

Financial Information:

- Free

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Law School Admission Council Discover Law Program

www.discoverlaw.org

Wayne State University Law School
Partnered with: LSAC

From January 15–March 15, Wayne Law hosts programs (mock trials, mock negotiations, law day speakers, etc) geared toward high school, community college, and early college students from underrepresented backgrounds. The Discover Law campaign is a resource provided by LSAC to help increase the diversity of the legal profession. Participating law schools host programs during these two months in support of the Discover Law campaign.

Program Contact:

Contact: Felicia Thomas
(313) 577-3997
f.thomas@wayne.edu

Program offers: General civic education, high school and college prep, education on the profession, LSAT prep, study skills, tutoring, or other academic support, moot court/mock trials, mentoring/advising, networking

Participant Type: High school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Limited
- High school students

Financial Information:

- Free

Active Timeframe: Yearly

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Teaching Law in High School

Wayne State University Law School

Partnered with: Neighborhood Legal Services and Wayne Law

Current law students elect to take TLHS in the winter term. There is a classroom component and then students are assigned to teach in a Detroit high school using the Street Law, Inc. curriculum.

Program Contact:

Justin Long, Professor
justin.long@wayne.edu

Program offers: General civic education, college prep, education on the profession, LSAT prep, study skills, tutoring or other academic support, mentoring/advising

Participant Type: High school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Defined to an institution
- High school students

Financial Information:

- Free

Active Timeframe: Yearly—winter or fall

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Detroit Public Schools Middle and High School Mock Trial Tournaments

Wayne State University Law School

Partnered with: Neighborhood Legal Services and Wayne Law

Students from six middle schools and four high schools compete in an annual mock trial tournament. The law school hosts a trial prep workshop and law student interns are welcome to help judge, mentor, or coach the teams.

Program Contact:

Contact: Felicia Thomas

(313) 577-3997

f.thomas@wayne.edu

Program offers: Education on the profession, moot court/mock trials, mentoring/advising

Participant Type: Grades 5-9 or intermediate school

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Limited
- Grades 5-9 or intermediate school

Financial Information:

- Free

Active Timeframe: Yearly—spring

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Warner Norcross & Judd Minority Scholarship for Law School

<http://www.wnj.com/About-Us/Diversity/Minority-Scholarships-and-Applications>

Warner Norcross & Judd LLP

Warner Norcross & Judd sponsors an annual Minority Scholarship Program that awards \$5,000 to a minority law school student. Winners are selected by the Grand Rapids Community Foundation. Applications become available on January 1. Completed applications for the next scholarship must be received by April 1 each year.

Program Contact:

Ruth Bishop
Grand Rapids Community Foundation
rbishop@grfoundation.org

Program offers: Scholarships/financial assistance

Participant Type: College graduates

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Open to the public, state
- College graduates

Financial Information:

- Scholarships available

Active Timeframe: Yearly—winter

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Warner Norcross & Judd Minority Scholarship for Paralegals and Legal Secretaries

<http://www.wnj.com/About-Us/Diversity/Minority-Scholarships-and-Applications>

Warner Norcross & Judd LLP

Warner Norcross & Judd sponsors an annual Minority Scholarship Program that awards \$2,000 to a student studying for a career as a paralegal/legal assistant and \$1,000 for a student studying to become a legal secretary. Applications become available on January 1. Completed applications for the next scholarship must be received by April 1.

Program Contact:

Ruth Bishop
Grand Rapids Community Foundation
rbishop@grfoundation.org

Program offers: Scholarships/financial assistance

Participant Type: High school graduates

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Open to the public, state
- High school graduates

Financial Information:

- Scholarships available

Active Timeframe: Yearly—winter

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Warner Norcross & Judd LLP LSAT Preparation Course Scholarship

<http://www.wnj.com/About-Us/Diversity/Minority-Scholarships-and-Applications>

Warner Norcross & Judd LLP

Each year, Warner Norcross & Judd LLP awards scholarships to minority college students in their junior or senior year to attend a Kaplan LSAT preparation course. The scholarships, each valued at up to \$1,500, will give minority students interested in attending law school a jump-start on the Law School Admissions Test. Applications become available on January 1. Completed applications for the next scholarships to be awarded must be received by April 30.

Program Contact:

Ms. Robin Keith
Community Relations Manager
Warner Norcross & Judd LLP
111 Lyon Street, NW, Suite 900, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503
rkeith@wnj.com

Program offers: LSAT prep

Participant Type: High school graduates

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Open to the public, state
- High school graduates

Financial Information:

- Scholarships available

Active Timeframe: Yearly—winter

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3Rs Program

<http://grbar.site-ym.com/?116>

Grand Rapids Bar Association

Partnered with: The Grand Rapids Bar Association Managing Partners Diversity Collaborative

The 3Rs Program calls upon a team of volunteers to attend social studies classrooms for seven separate sessions between November and May of each school year to work with small groups of students to accomplish the following goals:

- Improve understanding of and respect for the rule of law and our Constitution
- Increase interest in civic and governmental issues
- Provide practical career counseling to focus students on their potential beyond high school
- Improve the "pipeline" of minorities flowing into legal careers in the region

Program Contact:

Kimberly Coleman
kimc@grbar.org

Program offers: General civic education, education on the profession, mentoring/advising

Participant Type: High school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Defined to an institution
- Currently only in Ottawa Hills High School. Hoping to open it up to the whole of GRPS in the near future
- High school students

Financial Information:

- Free

Active Timeframe: Yearly—winter

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Minority Clerkship Program

<http://grbar.site-ym.com/?page=68>

Grand Rapids Bar Association

Partnered with: The Grand Rapids Bar Association Managing Partners Diversity Collaborative

The program is designed to offer minority law students an opportunity to participate in summer clerkship/associate programs with Grand Rapids law firms and other legal employers. Law students who have completed their first year are invited to apply for the program if they attend a Michigan law school or if they are native to the Grand Rapids area and attended high school or college here—in other words, those who might realistically be encouraged to return to Grand Rapids to practice law.

Program Contact:

Kimberly Coleman
kimc@grbar.org

Program offers: Clerkship

Participant Type: Law school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Open to the public, national
- Law school students

Financial Information:

- Free

Active Timeframe: Yearly—fall

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Davis-Dunnings Bar Association Pipeline Opportunities

www.davisdunningslaw.com

Davis-Dunnings Bar Association

- Mentorship
- Otis M. Scholarship Banquet
- Bar Passage Program
- Student Outreach

Program Contact:

Takura Nyamfukudza
executiveboard@davisdunningslaw.com

Program offers: Mentoring/advising, networking, scholarships/financial assistance, bar passage program

Participant Type: Law school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Limited
- Membership required for mentorship and scholarship application
- Law school students
- Membership required for mentorship and scholarship application

Financial Information:

- Free, Low cost

Active Timeframe: Year-round

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Judicial Externship Program

www.wolverinebar.org

Wolverine Bar Association/Wolverine Bar Foundation

JEP seeks to increase the representation of minority law school graduates among the ranks of clerks working in the federal judiciary. The JEP Committee achieves this goal by helping well-qualified minority law students gain valuable experience as federal judicial externs in the United States District Court for Eastern District of Michigan.

Program Contact:

Jehan Crump-Gibson, Esq.
wolverine.bar.assn@gmail.com

Program offers: Internship or externships

Participant Type: Law school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Defined to a specific minority group
- Law school students

Financial Information:

- Free, stipend offered

Active Timeframe: Yearly—summer

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Minority Bar Passage Program

www.wolverinebar.org

Wolverine Bar Association/Wolverine Bar Foundation

Partnered with: D. Augustus Straker Bar Association runs the winter program

The Minority Bar Passage Program (MBPP) is designed to improve bar passage rates of minority law school graduates sitting for the Michigan Bar Exam. Through weekly examinations, a mock bar examination, group sessions, and lectures by local attorneys, the MBPP provides assistance in the areas of: (1) essay writing skills/strategy; (2) test taking skills/strategy; (3) time management; and (4) stress management.

Program Contact:

Jehan Crump-Gibson, Esq.

wolverine.bar.assn@gmail.com

Program offers: Bar passage program

Participant Type: Law school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Defined to a specific minority group
- Law school students

Financial Information:

- Low cost

Active Timeframe: Yearly—summer

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Summer Clerkship Program

www.wolverinebar.org

Wolverine Bar Association/Wolverine Bar Foundation

The Summer Clerkship Program (SCP) Committee coordinates the WBA's annual summer clerkship program, which is designed to increase the number of minority attorneys employed as partners, associates, in-house counsel, and similarly well-respected positions within the legal community. The SCP places students at law firms and corporations in the metropolitan Detroit community in furtherance of the program's goals.

Program Contact:

Jehan Crump-Gibson, Esq.
wolverine.bar.assn@gmail.com

Program offers: Clerkship

Participant Type: Law school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Defined to a specific minority group
- Law school students

Financial Information:

- Free
- Paid position

Active Timeframe: Yearly—ummer

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Scholarship Program

www.wolverinebar.org

Wolverine Bar Association/Wolverine Bar Foundation

The scholarships available for minority law students include the Wolverine Bar Foundation Scholarship and the Damon J. Keith Award and Scholarship. The award winners are typically recognized in the spring/summer. The type of scholarship offered and the award amounts vary each year. Applications are typically due by year-end.

Program Contact:

Jehan Crump-Gibson, Esq.
wolverine.bar.assn@gmail.com

Program offers: Scholarships/financial assistance

Participant Type: Law school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Defined to a specific minority group
- Law school students

Financial Information:

- Free

Active Timeframe: Yearly—spring

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Pipeline Committee

www.wolverinebar.org

Wolverine Bar Association/Wolverine Bar Foundation
Partnered with:

The Pipeline Committee is responsible for developing educational programming targeted at middle-school students and creating initiatives to ensure a pathway to success in the legal and other professional fields. We also provide mentoring and volunteer services to Detroit grade schools.

Program Contact:

Jehan Crump-Gibson, Esq.
wolverine.bar.assn@gmail.com

Program offers: Education on the profession, study skills, tutoring or other academic support, mentoring/advising

Participant Type: Grades 5-9 or intermediate school

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Defined to a specific minority group
- Grades 5-9 or intermediate school

Financial Information:

- Free

Active Timeframe: Year-round

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Mentorship Program

www.wolverinebar.org

Wolverine Bar Association/Wolverine Bar Foundation

Partnered with University of Michigan Law School's Black Law Student Association

The program is designed to:

- Help BLSA law students bridge the gap between law school and the “real-life” practice of law
- Foster professionalism and collegiality among members of the bar and law students
- Help law students achieve career success
- Provide students greater insight into the practice of law and increase the students’ network in the legal community

Program Contact:

Jehan Crump-Gibson, Esq.

wolverine.bar.assn@gmail.com

Program offers: Mentoring/advising, networking

Participant Type: Law school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Defined to a specific minority group
- Law school students

Financial Information:

- Free

Active Timeframe: Yearly—fall

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Law Students Reception

www.wolverinebar.org

Wolverine Bar Association/Wolverine Bar Foundation
Partnered with: D. Augustus Straker Bar Association

The Law Students Reception Committee hosts an annual mixer that provides an opportunity for law students to meet and network with judges and attorneys who practice in Wayne and Oakland counties.

Program Contact:

Jehan Crump-Gibson, Esq.
wolverine.bar.assn@gmail.com

Program offers: Education on the profession, networking

Participant Type: Law school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Defined to a specific minority group
- Law school students

Active Timeframe: Yearly—fall

PIPELINE PROGRAMS GUIDE

MLK Oral Advocacy Competition

www.wolverinebar.org

Wolverine Bar Association/Wolverine Bar Foundation
Partnered with: D. Augustus Straker Bar Association

The annual competition is designed to promote the written and oral communication skills of high school juniors and seniors. The program provides both mentorship and financial support to the competitors in support of their educational goals.

Program Contact:

Jehan Crump-Gibson, Esq.
wolverine.bar.assn@gmail.com

Program offers: Education on the profession, moot court/mock trials, mentoring/advising

Participant Type: High school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Defined to a specific minority group
- High school students

Active Timeframe: Yearly—winter

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Ms. JD Pre-law Program

<http://ms-jd.org/programs/pre-law/>

Michigan State University College of Law

Ms. JD is non-profit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to the success of aspiring and early career women lawyers. Over the past two years, Ms. JD has branched out and created a Pre-Law Program aimed at providing pre-law students with the resources they need to make an informed decision as to whether law school is the right path for them. In addition to a weekly blog series on preparing for law school and navigating elements of the application process, Google Hangouts On Air, Twitter chats, and in-person panel events will provide pre-law women across the country with direct access to the Ms. JD Board of Directors, the Ms. JD Fellows, and the greater Ms. JD community of law students and legal professionals.

Program Contact:

prelaw@ms-jd.org

Program offers: Year-round conference or classes, CLE, education on the profession, LSAT prep, study skills, tutoring or other academic support, moot court/mock trials, mentoring/advising, networking, scholarships/financial assistance, internships or externships, job shadowing

Participant Type: College graduates

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Open to the public, national
- College graduates

Financial Information:

- Free

Active Timeframe: Year-round

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Damon J. Keith Youth Civil Rights Conference and Damon J. Keith Scholarship

<http://law.wayne.edu/keithcenter/programs/youth-civil-rights.php>

<http://law.wayne.edu/keithcenter/djk-scholarship.php>

Wayne State University Law School

Each year, the Keith Center welcomes nearly 100 urban and suburban high school students to campus for a daylong conference on how race and community impact civil rights. The conference increases students' awareness of what school and community life look like for their peers and uses this awareness as a framework for building community across metro Detroit. Wayne Law students and volunteers from community-based organizations lead the day's workshops.

Students are also provided with information regarding college readiness and how to prepare for a career in the law. Participants are also advised of the Damon J. Keith Scholarship, a full tuition scholarship, available for graduates of Detroit public schools who are admitted to the law program. The scholarship is also available for graduates of historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) and Hispanic serving institutions (HSIs).

Program Contact:

Contact: Felicia Thomas
(313) 577-3997
f.thomas@wayne.edu

Program offers: Civic education, education on the profession

Participant Type: High school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Invitation only
- High school students

Financial Information:

- Free

Active Timeframe: Yearly—winter

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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