



2026 Scholarship Application

LAW SCHOOL



RET. JUDGE MARY RUDD ROBINSON SCHOLARSHIP

Application Essay Prompt

In 2025, a federal court ruled that a Florida law imposing wealth-based barriers to restoring voting rights for formerly incarcerated individuals was unconstitutional. This decision highlights ongoing debates about the intersection of criminal justice, civil rights, and equal access to the ballot, particularly for communities disproportionately affected by felony disenfranchisement.

Prompt:

Discuss the legal and societal implications of laws that restrict voting rights for formerly incarcerated individuals. In your essay, consider the potential impact of such laws on marginalized communities, the principles of equal protection under the U.S. Constitution, and the role of the courts in safeguarding civil rights.

Requirements

- Be a rising 2L or 3L law student of African-American descent.
- Currently attending an accredited law school in the State of Florida.
- Have a minimum GPA of a 2.8 on the UNOFFICIAL transcript submitted at the time of application. (Ideal candidate will have demonstrated a solid academic performance during law school).
- Member or active involvement in a BLSA Chapter.
- Written communication demonstrated in completed Essay (750 words typed).
- Proof of leadership and community service involvement.
- Submission of a 4x6 photograph (HEADSHOT ONLY) that is clear and may be used for publication.
- 250-word biography that may be used for publication.

Important Dates

- **Application Deadline:** Friday, April 24, 2026, 11:59 PM.
- **Recipients Announced:** Friday, May 22, 2026

Application Packets

An application packet will be considered complete only if it includes: (i) an essay responding to the selected scholarship prompt; (ii) an unofficial transcript; (iii) a 4 × 6 headshot photograph; (iv) a 250-word biography; and (v) a list of leadership and community involvement. All materials must be submitted as a single PDF, except for the headshot photograph, which may be submitted as a separate attachment.

Submissions are due on **Friday, April 24, 2026**, to scholarshipstjreddickbar@gmail.com.