

Guidance notes on how to apply for a College of Law Bar Professional Training Course (BPTC) Scholarship award.

The topic for your submission should be “**The modern Bar: diverse and open to all. Discuss.**”

To help get you thinking about this, here are a few thoughts:

- In the last decade, the number of pupillage vacancies has declined by around 35%.
- Competition is fierce, thus enabling Chambers to cherry-pick the very best students.
- The cost of an undergraduate education is set to soar in 2012. Will this further disadvantage those from less affluent, less traditional backgrounds?
- Will the proposed Bar admissions test help or hinder the diversity of those entering the profession?

To enable you to best present your thoughts on this subject, we will accept entries in a number of different formats.

You could choose to present this in the form of **an essay** (guidance word count: 1,000 words) or you may prefer to submit a **short-video** presentation (guidance time for video: 5 minutes) or in **another digital format** such as an animation or a powerpoint or prezi presentation.

Equally, we will accept submissions in any other format that you choose to present (our judging panel will have access to a PC and not Macs so please bear this in mind).

As you will see from the judging criteria below, the panel will not be assessing your ability to present a visually impressive submission or skilful execution in your chosen format. This means that an essay submission has the same chance of winning as a submission in any other format. The choice of format is simply to give you the chance to showcase your passion and expertise in the subject matter.

All entries will be judged by a panel comprising College of Law and external legal professionals. This will be judging work on your ability to demonstrate the following professional skills which are required of modern barristers:

- Communication skills
- Creative thinking
- Analytical thinking
- Commercial awareness
- Knowledge of the subject matter

To be considered for one of the BPTC scholarships, please e-mail your submission together with your name, e-mail address and contact telephone number before the closing deadline date to bptcscholarship@lawcol.co.uk or if you prefer you may post it to: c/o Andrew Lamberti, BPTC Scholarship, The College of Law, Braboeuf Manor, Guildford, GU3 1HA.