



ARIZONA BLACK LAW ENFORCEMENT EMPLOYEES (A.B.L.E)

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SCHOLARSHIP

SECTION 1 — SCHOLARSHIP OVERVIEW

Arizona Black Law Enforcement Employees (A.B.L.E.) is committed to cultivating the next generation of criminal justice leaders. We proudly support students who demonstrate academic excellence, leadership, integrity, and a commitment to strengthening community trust and advancing equitable justice.

This \$1,000 scholarship is awarded annually to high school seniors and college students pursuing degrees in criminal justice, criminology, law, legal studies, or related fields focused on the administration of justice. If awarded the scholarship, the funds will be given directly to the recipient and may be applied toward educational expenses such as tuition, books, transportation to and from school, course fees, and other school-related costs. This ensures students can use the award in the way that best supports their academic success and continued community impact.

SECTION 2 — ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must meet all of the following criteria:

- High school senior enrolled at an accredited high school OR college student enrolled full-time or part-time (minimum 6 credit hours) at an accredited two- or four-year college/university
- Arizona resident or currently attending school in Arizona
- Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher
- One letter of recommendation from a non-family member who can attest to your interest, involvement, or participation in multiple criminal justice, law, public safety, or justice-focused classes, programs, clubs, or activities at school
- 300–500 word essay (PDF)
- Digital headshot (JPEG)
- Signed photograph release
- Not an immediate family member of the ABLE Board or Steering Committee
- Previous recipients of this scholarship are not eligible to reapply

Application Submission:

*** Your completed application packet and all required documents must be emailed to arizonaable@gmail.com by **1159 hours on September 6, 2026** ***



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SECTION 3 — APPLICANT INFORMATION (Fillable fields)

Applicant's name:

Date of Birth:

Address:

Phone:

Email address:

If you are under 18 years old:

Parent/Guardian Name(s):

Parent/Guardian Phone Number(s):

SECTION 4 — ACADEMIC INFORMATION

School Name:

School address:

Cumulative GPA:

If a recent high school graduate:

High School Name:

Final HS GPA:

Current Classification

Freshman

Sophomore

Junior

Senior

Current or Intended Major:



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High School Seniors Only - Top Four Colleges (Indicate Applied/Accepted):

College/University	Applied	Accepted

SECTION 5 — SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIAL NEED

List all scholarships you have applied for or received:

Explain how receiving this scholarship will support your educational goals and financial needs:

SECTION 6 — WORK EXPERIENCE

Job title	Employer Name	Dates of Employment	Primary Responsibilities	Supervisor Contact (Name and phone)



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SECTION 7 - EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

List all extracurricular activities, clubs, organizations, sports, and leadership roles. Include years of involvement and positions held:

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SECTION 8 — COMMUNITY SERVICE

Organization Name	Dates	Description of Service	Supervisor Contact (Name & Phone)



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SECTION 9 — HONORS & ACHIEVEMENTS

List of honors, awards, and achievements:

Award name	Granting organization	Date received

SECTION 10 — CAREER GOALS & QUALIFICATIONS

Describe your specific career goals within the criminal justice field: *(Explain the steps you plan to take to achieve these goals and how you intend to positively impact your community and the justice system.)*

Describe the personal qualities, abilities, and experiences that make you a strong candidate for this scholarship *(Highlight traits that demonstrate leadership, integrity, resilience, and commitment to service.)*



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SECTION 11 — ESSAY REQUIREMENT

Write a 300-500 word essay addressing the following topic:

The criminal justice system includes law enforcement, the courts, and detention/prison systems — each facing challenges related to fairness, accountability, rehabilitation, and community trust. Choose one current issue affecting any part of the justice system (policing, courts, sentencing, detention centers, prisons, or reentry). Explain why this issue matters to you, what values guide your thinking about it, and how you believe a future criminal justice professional should approach creating positive, meaningful change.



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SECTION 12 — LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

Recommender Name:

Email:

Phone:

Title/Position:

The individual providing your letter of recommendation must submit a typed letter, on official letterhead, directly to **arizonaable@gmail.com**. The subject line must include your full name.

The recommendation letter should include the following:

- The recommender’s relationship to you and how long they have known you
- Specific examples of your involvement in multiple criminal justice, law, public safety, or justice-focused classes, programs, clubs, or activities at school
- Observations of your character, integrity, and reliability
- Observations of your leadership, initiative, and commitment to justice
- Your academic or professional strengths, including work ethic and follow-through
- Any notable contributions you have made to your school, community, or justice-related programs
- A clear statement explaining why the recommender believes you are a strong candidate for the A.B.L.E. Criminal Justice Scholarship

Acceptable recommenders include:

School counselor, teacher/professor, criminal justice instructor, employer, community service supervisor, program coordinator, or church leader.

SECTION 13 — PHOTOGRAPH RELEASE & CERTIFICATION

I certify that all information provided is true and accurate. I authorize ABLE to verify any information included in this application. If selected, I grant ABLE permission to use my name and photograph for organizational publications and marketing.

Applicant name: **Date:**

Applicant Signature:



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SECTION 14 — APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Completed and signed application
- 300–500 word essay
- Official high school transcript (if applicable)
- Official college transcript (if applicable)
- Proof of current college enrollment (schedule or verification letter)
- Letter of recommendation (sent directly)
- Digital headshot (JPEG)
- Digital signature on photograph release

SECTION 15 — SUBMISSION DETAILS

Email completed application packet to:

- arizonaable@gmail.com

Application Deadline:

- September 6, 2026, at 11:59 PM

Recipient Notification:

- September 14, 2026 (via email)

Awards Luncheon/Ceremony: September 25 at 12 pm

- Recipient or designated representative must attend
- The scholarship recipient, along with up to 2 guests may attend free of charge