

# AccessLex Institute® Celebrates 10-Year Anniversary of Grant Programs and Over \$24.5 Million Awarded



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**AccessLex Institute** →

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WEST CHESTER, Pa., June 11, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- **AccessLex Institute®**, the largest nonprofit organization in legal education, is proud to celebrate the **10-year anniversary of its grant programs**. Over the past decade, AccessLex has awarded **over \$24.5 million** across 362 research initiatives and intervention efforts based on empirical approaches to enhancing legal education and the law profession.

"The AccessLex grant programs are an integral component of our ongoing quest to increase access, affordability, and value for aspiring lawyers," stated Christopher P. Chapman, President and CEO of AccessLex Institute. "I can't believe it's been a decade since we made our first grants to law schools where I personally, out of necessity, handled all aspects of the grant process – from application to grant agreement execution. I am thankful to our AccessLex team, our Board of Directors, and the many people from our member law schools who helped us mature into the professional grant operation that works so well today."



Through the **Diversity Pathway Intervention** Grant Program, the **Bar Success Intervention** Grant Program, and the **Bar Success Research** Grant Program, as well as the invitation-only **Directed Grants** Program, AccessLex is firmly committed to contributing personnel, expertise, and financial resources to advance practical research in the field of legal education.

Diversity Pathway Intervention Grants support ongoing programs eager to expand the opportunities and inroads they can afford aspiring lawyers whose backgrounds are underrepresented in the legal profession.

The Bar Success Intervention Grant Program funds programs designed to help students most at-risk of not passing the bar achieve increased bar exam passage rates, while the Bar Success Research Grant Program funds rigorous, empirical studies of the bar exam, such as bar exam performance predictors, test design, effective preparation strategies, and similar methodologies. Both programs are **aimed at increasing collective understanding of the bar exam** to inform well-designed, scalable, and replicable bar exam success programming.

The Directed Grants Program enables AccessLex to support innovative and impactful projects, including the efforts of state Supreme Courts as they consider reforms to their bar admission processes.

AccessLex Institute's grant programs were each born of a need to foster a culture of rigorous empirical inquiry into legal education and bar admission. The mission is to encourage investigation of important topics that have salience to the experiences of aspiring lawyers.

"We have supported researchers exploring important theoretical questions, practitioners running programs aimed at fostering inclusive student success, and bar regulators reviewing the means by which they determine competence to practice law," said Aaron N. Taylor, Senior Vice President and Executive Director of the AccessLex Center for Legal Education Excellence®. "Findings yielded by these efforts have contributed vital knowledge and brought about needed reforms. We are proud of the role we have played in **helping cultivate a vibrant research culture** that is positively impacting aspiring lawyers and the profession they hope to enter."

Learn more about AccessLex Institute's grant programs [here](#).

AccessLex Institute is a nonprofit organization committed to helping talented, purpose-driven students find their path from aspiring lawyer to fulfilled professional. In partnership with its nearly 200 member law schools, improving access and positively influencing legal education have been at the heart of the Company's mission since 1983. Learn more about how AccessLex is empowering the next generation of lawyers at [\*\*AccessLex.org\*\*](https://www.accesslex.org).

# AccessLex Institute Awards Nearly \$300,000 in April MAX Grand Prize Scholarship Drawing



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NEWS PROVIDED BY  
**AccessLex Institute** →  
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WEST CHESTER, Pa., April 25, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- AccessLex Institute® is proud to announce April's MAX by AccessLex® Grand Prize Scholarship winners! Law students attending AccessLex member law schools won scholarships toward their law school tuition. One student from Loyola University Chicago School of Law, Stetson University College of Law, and Roger Williams University School of Law won \$40,000 scholarships, and \$25,000 scholarships were awarded to students at Lewis & Clark Law School, Elon University School of Law, University of Oregon School of Law, UCLA School of Law, and University of Dayton School of Law.

MAX is a central offering of AccessLex, the largest nonprofit in legal education, along with the Company's academic and bar success programs and research, policy, and diversity initiatives. **Available at no cost** to the nearly 200 American Bar Association-approved nonprofit and state-affiliated law schools, MAX by AccessLex® provides law students with comprehensive financial education.

With in-person and online learning options, Accredited Financial Counselors available for individual coaching, and **nearly \$400,000 in yearly scholarship incentives**, MAX exists to prepare aspiring lawyers for their financial futures. Recognizing this impact, the Association for Financial Counseling and Planning Education selected MAX for the **2022 Outstanding Educational Program Award**.

"As a first-generation law student, MAX by AccessLex® has empowered me to take control of my financial future through informed decision making," said Mia Bartolomei-Negron, Stetson University College of Law 2L and \$40,000 April MAX Grand Prize Scholarship winner. "The course and online webinars allowed me to assess my current financial state and set realistic financial goals for a successful future. I could not recommend MAX by AccessLex® enough."

Since 2017, MAX has awarded **\$2.2 million in scholarships** and equipped over **80,000 students** with financial literacy tools – from paying for law school to planning for retirement and every step in between. Completing online courses and attending virtual or in-person MAX Events automatically enters students into scholarship drawings, which are held annually in November, February, and April. On May 1, one 1L student will be awarded the \$50,000 Hannah R. Arterian Memorial Scholarship, now in its second year.

"We know that scholarships make such a difference in the lives of these students, and we love nothing more than showing up to campus to surprise the MAX Grand Prize Scholarship winners each April," said Jennifer Schott, Vice President, Center for Education and Financial Capability®. "As we work with students throughout the year, they tell us that the MAX program gives them 'peace of mind' as they navigate the financial investment of law school and life – and that's exactly why we created the program seven years ago."

Learn more about **MAX by AccessLex®**.

### **About AccessLex Institute:**

AccessLex Institute is a nonprofit organization committed to helping talented, purpose-driven students find their path from aspiring lawyer to fulfilled professional. In partnership with its nearly 200 member law schools, improving access and positively influencing legal education.



# AccessLex Institute Introduces Newest Grant Program: Admission Innovation Project



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NEWS PROVIDED BY

**AccessLex Institute** →

Sep 12, 2024, 09:00 ET

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WEST CHESTER, Pa., Sept. 12, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- AccessLex Institute<sup>®</sup>, the largest nonprofit organization in legal education, is pleased to introduce the **Admission Innovation Project**. This new program supports and funds efforts by law schools to implement and assess **novel approaches to selecting first-year students**. Through the Admission Innovation Project (AIP), law schools will collaborate with AccessLex researchers to design rigorous studies on the impact of admission frameworks that **deemphasize the role of standardized tests**.

"The Admission Innovation Project is an unprecedented opportunity for law schools to engage in rigorous exploration of the determinants of law school success," said Aaron N. Taylor, Senior Vice President and Executive Director of the AccessLex Center for Legal Education Excellence<sup>®</sup>. "As we all seek more insight about the factors that best predict success, particularly in light of *Students for Fair Admissions*, AccessLex wants to encourage and support empirical inquiry that positively impacts the accessibility and value of legal education."

AIP proposals will be considered on a rolling basis. Applicants will submit a letter of inquiry (LOI), and **AccessLex will partner with up to three applicants to develop the full scope of their proposals.**

Partnership and collaboration are the cornerstones of the AIP. AccessLex will provide comprehensive support throughout the life of the project, up to 24 months.

Since 2014, AccessLex Institute has **awarded over \$24.5 million across 362 grants.** Through the **Diversity Pathway Intervention** Grant Program, the **Bar Success Intervention** Grant Program, and the **Bar Success Research** Grant Program, as well as the invitation-only **Directed Grants** Program, AccessLex Institute is firmly committed to supporting empirical research into issues of access, affordability, and value of legal education.

Learn more about AccessLex grant programs [here](#).

#### **About AccessLex Institute:**

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SOURCE AccessLex Institute



January 14, 2025

# AccessLex Institute Partners with Equal Justice Works to Lead PSLF Coalition

GRANTS · POLICY AND ADVOCACY



West Chester, PA – January 14, 2025 – AccessLex

Institute®, the largest nonprofit organization in legal education, is proud to announce a new **partnership with Equal Justice Works**, a nonprofit focused on public service legal careers, to further the goals of the **Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Coalition**. Throughout the partnership, AccessLex will provide Equal Justice Works with grant funding and ongoing support to manage and lead the coalition.

AccessLex Institute's financial and in-kind support will further Equal Justice Works' mission of helping legal professionals fulfill their passion for justice in the public service sector. Over the course of the partnership, both organizations will focus on promoting and improving the program through the PSLF Coalition.

“We are excited to partner with Equal Justice Works to harness the strength of the Coalition and its membership to educate more borrowers about the program. We will also urge policymakers to protect PSLF and enact common sense changes that enhance the program's effectiveness,” said Nancy Conneely, Managing Director of Policy at AccessLex Institute.

As a founding member, **AccessLex has been part of the PSLF Coalition since its origination in 2017.**

The Coalition comprises over 100 organizations united in the goal of advocating for education, accessibility, and awareness of the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program. The PSLF program,



AccessLex is proud to be a leading PSLF advocate for the past ten years and into the future.

Independently and as part of the Coalition, **AccessLex is committed to educating both policymakers and borrowers about the purpose and value of the PSLF program.** Advocating on behalf of borrowers and young legal professionals is one of the many ways in which AccessLex empowers the next generation of lawyers.

Learn more about AccessLex Institute [policy and advocacy initiatives](#).

Since 2014, AccessLex Institute has **awarded over \$26.4 million in grant funding.** Learn more about AccessLex [grant programs](#).

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EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION OF LAWYERS®

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