Background

Touro Law Center has a long-standing commitment to support its graduates who choose to pursue careers in the public interest. Consistent with this commitment, the Law School has created a Loan Repayment Assistance Fund. The Fund has been designed to offer graduates, who work full-time in the public interest, assistance with the repayment of loans used to finance their legal education. Because the endowment for the program is still relatively small and we expect applications to be relatively high, initial awards will, of necessity, reflect financial reality. Grants to recipients may be no more than $1,000 to $2,000 per year, but have been as high as $3,000 to $4,000 per year. As the endowment grows the grants awarded will be adjusted accordingly.

Who Qualifies

Touro Law Center graduates who work full time (35 hours or more each week) in public interest legal employment whose annual salary does not exceed $55,000 per year. Public interest legal employment, for purposes of this Program, is defined as legal work performed while engaged in poverty law, civil rights law or charitable organization representation. This definition includes legal work affecting broad areas of public concern including the legal rights of consumers, the elderly, minorities, the poor, and groups whose legal rights are not otherwise adequately represented and who traditionally lack access to the courts.

Poverty law includes legal services in civil and criminal matters on behalf a client who lacks the financial resources to compensate private counsel.

Civil rights law includes legal representation involving the rights of an individual in whom society has a special interest in protecting.

Charitable organization representation includes legal service to charitable, religious, civic, governmental and educational institutions in matters in furtherance of their organizational purpose, where the payment of customary legal fees would be otherwise inappropriate or impossible.

Any Touro Law graduate may apply regardless of his/her year of graduation. Prior award recipients are eligible to apply in subsequent years. Debt qualifying for loan repayment awards consist of all educational debt financed through the Law School Office of Student Financial Services (Stafford, LAL, LSL, etc.).

To Apply

In the initial years of the program grants will be awarded on a competitive and need basis. Applications (form attached) should be made annually by December 1 for consideration in the fall and disbursement by the first quarter of the following year. A short essay addressing the applicant’s commitment to public interest law and need for loan repayment assistance is required. The Law Center reserves the right to ask for a copy of the applicant’s most recent federal income tax form, a letter from the employer stating position and current salary, copies of bills for all loans listed on the application, and copies of the most recent canceled checks sent in payment for all loans listed on the application.
Name: ___________________________       Class Year: ___________________________

**Home Information:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address:</th>
<th>Phone:</th>
<th>E-mail:</th>
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**Employment Information:**

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<tr>
<th>Business/Firm Name:</th>
<th>Address:</th>
<th>Phone:</th>
<th>Fax:</th>
<th>Business E-mail:</th>
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Year of Initial Employment: ____________  Annual Compensation: ____________

Briefly describe your current responsibilities:

**Briefly describe your law school activities:**

**Personal**  

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<tr>
<th>Marital Status:</th>
<th>List Children and their ages:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single</td>
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<tr>
<td>Married</td>
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Is Spouse Employed:  Yes  No

If Yes, Spouse’s place of Employment: ___________________________

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<tr>
<th>Home: own</th>
<th>rent</th>
<th>live with parents</th>
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**Please list all Touro Law Center student loans/initial amounts/balances:**

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Please describe in 300 words or less your commitment to public interest law, and why this grant will facilitate your continuing to work in public service.

All information on this application will be kept in strict confidence. However, the Law Center can require supporting documentation including your most recent federal income tax form and/or a letter from your employer, copies of bills for all loans listed on the reverse side of this application and copies of the most recent canceled checks sent in payment of all loans listed.

Applications should be submitted to the Alumni Office by December 17, 2012 to:

Touro Law Center
Alumni Office
225 Eastview Drive
Central Islip, NY 11722
Attn: Kristin Matthews
Fax: (631) 761-7069

Or respond via e-mail by December 17, 2012 to:

alumni@tourolaw.edu