



**GRAY'S
INN**

GDL & Bar Course Scholarships: Reference policy

The Gray's Inn Scholarships Committee is committed to providing a programme which adheres to principles of fairness, reliability, validity, objectivity and transparency.

This guidance is intended to provide candidates and referees with information about providing a reference in support of a scholarship application.

We strongly recommend all candidates and read this information thoroughly before requesting and submitting a reference, respectively.

Overview

GDL and Bar Course Scholarship candidates can request two references to support their application.

Candidates must receive at least one reference to be eligible for a scholarship.

To request a reference, a candidate confirms contact details for a referee within their scholarship application. An email request will then be automatically sent to the referee.

Candidates are responsible for ensuring that a referee is willing to provide a reference, is aware of the relevant assessment criteria and has submitted a reference before the deadline.

Referee eligibility

A referee must meet the following conditions

- have known the candidate for at least six months before the relevant reference deadline
- have known the candidate in an academic or professional capacity
- not have a close family or personal relationship with the candidate
- submit a reference through our online application portal.

A reference that does not meet these conditions will not be considered.

Referees should ideally be a professional person or person of standing in a community.

Guidance

The reference form gives a referee the opportunity to provide evidence relating to each of the assessment criteria. A maximum word count is specified within the reference form.

A referee must be able to provide evidence relating to at least one of the assessment criteria.

Academic ability

Demonstrates the strong academic foundation necessary to succeed as a barrister.

Advocacy

Can develop a well-structured, succinct, grammatically correct, and persuasive argument. As a public speaker can communicate clearly, concisely, convincingly and persuasively.

Drive and determination

Possesses drive, determination and a strong work ethic to overcome adversity or achieve goals, whilst remaining calm when under pressure.

Problem solving

The ability to apply lateral and original thinking to solve problems and work with complex information to extract key information and facts to develop an argument.

Motivation to succeed

Demonstrates a clear interest in the Bar and has got the conviction and ambition to become a barrister. Has taken well considered steps to gain an understanding of the profession.