

## THE NEW YORK BAR FOUNDATION 2026

### *The Honorable Judith S. Kaye Committee on Children and the Law Scholarship*

The New York Bar Foundation is pleased to announce **The Honorable Judith S. Kaye Committee on Children and the Law Scholarship** for 2026. The scholarship was established in 2017, through a special project of the Committee on Children and the Law of The New York State Bar Association.

#### **The Honorable Judith S. Kaye Committee on Children and the Law Scholarship**

The scholarship, valued up to \$2,500, will be awarded to selected students who will age out or have aged out of foster care with a permanency goal of Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA) and are enrolled in an accredited undergraduate or post-high school certificate program during the 2025-2026 academic year. Students must demonstrate a school-related financial need beyond tuition that is not being met by other sources. Students need not be a United States citizen to qualify.

1. The scholarship recipients will be announced no later than December 31, 2025.
2. The Committee on Children and the Law Scholars will be selected by a committee that includes representatives from The New York Bar Foundation and the NYSBA Committee on Children and the Law.

#### **Eligibility**

1. The scholarship is open to all students who will age out or have aged out of foster care in New York State with a permanency goal of APPLA and are enrolled in an accredited undergraduate or post-high school certificate program during the 2025-2026 academic year.
2. Students must be under the age of 26 years.
3. Students must be in good standing (2.5 or equivalent GPA) or provide a letter of recommendation by a professor or instructor that demonstrates they are working to improve their standing.
4. Students must be New York State residents.
5. Students must demonstrate a school-related financial need that is not being met by another source.
6. **The award funds may not be used to pay tuition costs.**

#### **Payment of Scholarship**

The scholarship will support a school-related expense within the student's 2025-2026 academic year. A check will be made payable and mailed to the student in February of 2026.

#### **Scholarship Application Requirements**

The applicant **must** include the following:

1. Completed application form.
2. Proof of enrollment (transcript, communication from registrar). Letter of acceptance not eligible.
3. An official or unofficial school transcript which documents the GPA. (Transcripts need not be official; finalists may be asked to provide official transcripts.)
4. If your GPA is below 2.5, provide a letter of recommendation from a professor or instructor that demonstrates you are working to improve your standing. (ONLY IF GPA BELOW 2.5)
5. Provide supporting documentation for the amount requested for the expense. (receipts, screen shots of proposed items, catalog pricing, etc.)

**Deadline and Submission**

All email submissions must be submitted by midnight, **Friday, December 5, 2025**.

**Judging**

Criteria for judging applications will be:

1. Content of application materials.
2. Demonstrated school-related need that is beyond student's resources.
3. Any other relevant factors.

**Mail to:**

Email to: [Ldorr@tnybf.org](mailto:Ldorr@tnybf.org)

Please include '**Hon. Kaye Scholarship**' in the subject line.

### **About THE NEW YORK STATE PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION ON JUSTICE FOR CHILDREN**

The New York State Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children was established in 1988 to improve the lives and life chances of children involved with New York courts. The Honorable Judith S. Kaye chaired the Commission for over 25 years, and it is now chaired by Hon. Karen K. Peters, former Presiding Justice of the New York State Supreme Court Appellate Division, Third Judicial Department. Its members include judges, lawyers, advocates, physicians, legislators, and state and local officials.

The Judith S. Kaye Scholarship was originally established by the Commission at the request of the Kaye family to honor former Chief Judge Judith S. Kaye's commitment to the Commission's mission. The Honorable Judith S. Kaye served as chair first as an Associate Judge of the New York State Court of Appeals and continuing through her years as Chief Judge and while Of Counsel at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP and Affiliates after her mandatory retirement.

The Honorable Judith S. Kaye Committee on Children and the Law Scholarship is a special project authorized by the Committee on Children and the Law of The New York State Bar Association and is administered through the New York Bar Foundation.

For more information about the Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children, go to

<http://www.nycourts.gov/justiceforchildren>

### **About the COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND THE LAW of the NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION**

The Committee on Children and the Law renders information and guidance to the Executive Committee, the legal community, and the public on the effect of existing laws and pending legislation impacting children, and the administration of juvenile justice and child welfare.

For more information about the Committee on Children and the Law, go to

<https://nysba.org/committees/committee-on-children-and-the-law/>

### **About THE NEW YORK BAR FOUNDATION**

Founded in 1950, The New York Bar Foundation is dedicated to aiding educational, direct legal services, and charitable projects aimed at meeting the law-related needs of the public and the profession. The Foundation solicits charitable contributions and provides funding for the following purposes:

- Increasing public understanding of the law
- Improving the justice system and the law
- Facilitating the delivery of civil legal services
- Enhancing professional competence and ethics

For more information about The New York Bar Foundation, go to [www.tnybf.org](http://www.tnybf.org)

## The Honorable Judith S. Kaye

For 25 years, three months and 19 days, Judith S. Kaye served as Judge of New York State's high court, the Court of Appeals, 15 of those years as Chief Judge of the State of New York. She was the first woman named to that bench. After her mandatory retirement, Judge Kaye joined Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom as Of Counsel in February 2009. Before her appointment, Judge Kaye was associated with Sullivan & Cromwell, IBM, and Olwine, Connelly, Chase, O'Donnell & Weyher, where she became that firm's first female partner. Her practice was essentially in the area of commercial litigation, supplemented by bar association and pro bono activities. She was a graduate of New York University School of Law (cum laude) and Barnard College.



Honorable Judith S. Kaye  
1938-2016

Judge Kaye wrote notable decisions on a wide array of constitutional, statutory, and common law issues. As Chief Judge she also left her mark on New York's courts as a creative reformer, centering on improvement in the jury system, the Commercial Division of the State Supreme Court, creation of streamlining procedures for permanency for children, and opening "problem-solving courts" to deal constructively with repeat offenders, offering services for drug treatment, mental health counseling and job training. She was the author of more than 200 publications, including articles on legal process, state constitutional law, women in law and professional ethics.

Judge Kaye served on numerous Boards, including the Board of Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, the American Arbitration Association, the Museum of Jewish Heritage, The International Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution ("CPR"), Volunteers of Legal Services and the Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children. She also received numerous awards recognizing her judicial and scholarly accomplishments, such as the New York State Bar Association's Gold Medal, the ABA Justice Center's John Marshall Award, the National Center for State Courts' William H. Rehnquist Award for Judicial Excellence, the American Bar Association Commission on Women in the Profession's Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Adoption Excellence Award.

Judge Kaye's many judicial accomplishments, landmark decisions and dissents, and glass ceiling breakthroughs are well documented. A substantial number of those accomplishments focused on the well-being of children and families. Judge Kaye's "passion," as she termed it, was her work to improve the lives of New York's children and families. Judge Kaye raised the stature of the "quintessentially important" Family Court by valuing the work of the judges, attorneys, court personnel and the myriad agencies and professionals that help families in times of crisis. Every time she had the opportunity to hear from young people themselves about their lives, their struggles, their dreams, she was invigorated – juiced – as she would say, with new determination to make a call, give a speech, convene a taskforce, travel across the state, any action that would open doors, change hearts and effect the change she knew we needed to make to truly improve the lives and life chances of New York's children. She chaired the New York State Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children for over 25 years, first as an Associate Judge of the New York State Court of Appeals and continuing through her years as Chief Judge and while at Skadden after her mandatory retirement.

2026

## The Honorable Judith S. Kaye Committee on Children and the Law Scholarship

The Honorable Judith S. Kaye Committee on Children and the Law Scholarship is a special project authorized by the Committee on Children and the Law of The New York State Bar Association. It is administered through the New York Bar Foundation originating with funds generated by the PJCJC Fund, Inc. – a 501(c)(3) entity of the New York State Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children.

### APPLICATION FORM

1. Name (first, middle initial, last):

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Mailing Address for receipt of check and correspondence:

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Email: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Please indicate the best method for contacting you:

\_\_\_ text \_\_\_ cell \_\_\_ email \_\_\_ phone

6. Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Foster care status (select one) MUST BE CURRENTLY IN FOSTER CARE OR AGED OUT OF FOSTER CARE (NOTE: Your foster care status will be verified with the New York State Office of Children and Family Services.) County of Foster Care Origination:

a. Currently in foster care in \_\_\_\_\_ County

b. Aged out of foster care from \_\_\_\_\_ County

8. Is or was your permanency goal Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA)?

a. Yes

b. No

- Please list the agency through which you were provided Foster Care. If more than one, please list the most recent. \_\_\_\_\_

- Please list the caseworker from your agency that you have worked with most recently. If available, please provide the contact information for that caseworker here:

- \_\_\_\_\_

- Do you know your Permanency Plan Goal? If so, what is it?

- \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_

- If you do know your stated goal from Court, is it Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA)?\* \_\_\_\_\_

- If you do not know, can you explain in your own words what the Court or agency has indicated for your future plans? (e.g., adoption, independent living)

- \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_

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- \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please note that APPLA needs to be your current or past Permanent Goal in order to qualify for the money in this scholarship.

9. Name of School you are attending or post-high school certificate program. (MUST BE ENROLLED IN AN ACCREDITED UNDERGRADUATE OR POST-HIGH SCHOOL CERTIFICATE PROGRAM AT TIME OF YOUR APPLICATION. (Note: You must provide proof of enrollment such as a transcript, communication from registrar (letter of acceptance is not acceptable).)

\_\_\_\_\_

10. School Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

11. Are you a Full-time student?

- a. Yes, Full-time student                      b. No, Part-time student

12. Are you a student in good standing (GPA 2.5 or greater)?

(NOTE: **You must provide an official or unofficial transcript with this application.** If your GPA is below 2.5, you must also provide a letter of recommendation from a professor or instructor that demonstrates you are working to improve your standing.)

- a. Yes    b. No

13. Are you receiving financial aid or other scholarships?

- a. Yes    b. No

13.a. If yes, please describe:

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14. What specific school-related expense other than tuition do you need help paying?

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15. What is the specific amount of this expense (no award will be more than \$2,500)?

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16. How did you determine the amount of this expense?

(NOTE: **You must attach invoices, catalog descriptions or other documentation that supports the amount requested.**)

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17. Do you have another source of assistance that could pay this expense?

- a. Yes    b. No

18. How will this assistance enrich your school experience or help you stay in school?

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**Certification**

**I hereby certify that all of the statements contained, and information provided in this application, and in the attachments hereto, are truthful, to the best of my knowledge, and that I meet the eligibility requirements for the 2026 The Honorable Judith S. Kaye Committee on Children and the Law Scholarship.**

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Where did you hear of this Scholarship Opportunity? \_\_\_\_\_