Bakersfield College
Pre-Law Program Application Information

Bakersfield College has been selected by the State Bar of California to participate in the Community Colleges Pathway to Law School Initiative (CCPLSI), which provides a transfer-pathway for students to at least one of eight (8) participating law schools in California:

- UC Davis
- UC Irvine
- UC Berkeley
- UC Los Angeles
- Loyola Marymount
- Santa Clara University
- University of San Francisco
- University of Southern California

This initiative is sponsored by the State Bar of California’s Council on Access and Fairness (COAF). Students in the program will follow a sequence of required and elective courses (refer to the enclosed program pathway for specific courses), which combines eight (8) required courses for participation in this program, with the AA-T degree in Political Science (Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum - IGETC). Credits accumulated throughout this pathway are assured for transfer.

Students interested in applying for BC’s Pre-Law pathway must:

1. Complete the Interest Form, available at www.BakersfieldCollege.edu/PreLaw
2. Meet with Pre-Law Educational Advisor
3. Complete Pre-Law Application Form/Student Contract
4. Attach a one-page letter of interest with your application stating “Why do you wish to pursue a career in the legal field?”
5. Submit a completed Pre-Law Application form and letter to:
   - Pearl Urena, Pre-Law Educational Advisor
   - Center for Student Success, Level 1 (Counseling Office)
   - pearl.urena@bakersfieldcollege.edu
6. Create a Comprehensive Educational Plan with Pre-Law Advisor

For continuation in the Pre-Law program, students must:

- Attend 2 advising sessions with Pre-Law Advisor five weeks apart every semester.
- Work with the BC Advisor designated to advise Pre-Law Scholars
- Follow the designated sequence of courses
- Strive to maintain desirable 3.0 GPA
- Participate in related Pre-Law activities
- Agree and adhere to the Student Rights and Responsibilities (herein, ‘student contract’) enclosed in this application.

Student Support Services:

Pre-Law scholars will receive a variety of services, which may include:
• Pre-law activities
• Student advising and mentoring
• Debate competitions
• Statewide Law Day conference
• Legal writing competition
• Pre-law club
• Law school visits

• Advisement from law schools
• Service learning opportunities
• Internships
• Exposure to legal profession
• LSAT prep
• Assistance in the law school admission process
• Additional related law school activities
Bakersfield College Pre-Law Scholar Application Form

Contact Information
Name: ___________________________________ Date of Birth: _________________________________
BC Student ID: @00_______________________________ Current Major: ________________________________
Cell Phone: ___________________________________ Message Phone: _______________________________
Address/City/Zip: _______________________________________________________________________________
BC Email: ___________________________ ____________________@email.bakersfieldcollege.edu_________
Alternative Email: _______________________________________________________________________________

Race & Ethnicity
Ethnicity: With regard to your ethnicity, do you consider yourself Hispanic or Latino? [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] Decline to State
Race: Regardless of your answer to the question above, please select below one or more of the following groups in which you consider yourself a member?
[ ] American Indian or Alaska native [ ] Asian [ ] Black or African American
[ ] Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander [ ] White [ ] Decline to State
[ ] None of the above

Biographic Information
Do you consider yourself to be?
[ ] Heterosexual or Straight [ ] Lesbian [ ] Gay
[ ] Bisexual [ ] Decline to State [ ] Another Orientation

Citizenship/Residency Information
U.S. Citizenship Status. Please check one of the following:
[ ] U.S. Citizen [ ] Permanent US Resident [ ] None

Release Statements
I authorize the Pre-Law Program (i) to release my contact information to college campus and/or affiliates that may wish to contact me before and/or after I graduate from the Pre-Law Program; (ii) access and review my transcripts, Degree Progress and other academic documentation for counseling and statistical reporting purposes; (iii) use my name, photograph, and image in various promotional materials (website, social media, brochures, etc).
[ ] Check box to Acknowledge

RIGHTS and RESPONSIBILITIES of STUDENTS (PRE-LAW/COAF SCHOLARS)
A. Upon graduating from BC, and having fulfilled the academic expectations for BC’s Pre-Law program, student will achieve, and be qualified for, COAF Scholar status. Students may then identify themselves as “COAF Scholars” when applying to law school.
B. Counseling. Student must attend an orientation on the Community Colleges Pathway to Law School Initiative. Student must work with a designated Pathway Initiative Educational Advisor. Student must establish a Student Educational Plan.
C. Information-Sharing. Student must self-identify as a “COAF Scholar” participant in the Initiative to the State Coordinator, and agree to consent to the Coordinator’s release of information to Parties to the extent necessary
for Student to progress through the Initiative and consent to maintenance of general data necessary to assess
the program.

D. **Courses.** Student must successfully complete the required coursework delineated by Bakersfield College, which
is based on a defined set of “success factors” of effective lawyers. The intention of this Initiative is to align
criteria from the “success factors” with California Community College courses currently approved in
corresponding Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) areas in order to prepare Students
for law school and the legal profession prior to transfer. Advanced Placement (AP) credit for Statistics and
English may be granted pursuant to the local community college’s policy.

E. **Service/Civic Learning / College Success.** It is recommended that students complete the service/civic learning
and college success course. In addition or alternatively, students may work with the instructional faculty
champion for placement into law-related civic/service learning internships.

F. **Extracurricular Activities.** Student are encouraged to participate in various law-related activities and events
sponsored at the community college level, such as debate competitions, statewide Law Day conference, pre-law
club, law school visits, legal writing competitions, local county and affinity bars’ events, judges’ events, screening
of video “When You Dream … Community College Pathway to Law School”, and California Supreme Court oral
argument hearings. All students at participating community colleges are encouraged to participate in these
activities, whether or not students are qualified as “COAF Scholars”.

G. **Transfer and Admission to Undergraduate Institution.** While knowledge of which courses will transfer to an
institution is valuable, policies at each university (or even schools and majors within a university) may impose
additional admission requirements. In addition to completing the specified courses under the Initiative for
admission to the participating law schools, students must complete all pre-requisites for his/her major as
required by a participating undergraduate institution and must transfer successfully. Students are encouraged
to meet with transfer counselors and visit admissions and transfer websites for the participating undergraduate
institutions.

H. **Good Standing.** Students must at all times be in good academic standing as defined by each educational
institution that the student attends; must never be on academic probation or suspension or in violation of
student conduct codes; and must at no time fall below the standards of ethics or behavior that would bar
admission to the State Bar of California. Students should contact the State Bar of California, and/or the
equivalent licensing organizations in the jurisdiction(s) in which the student intends to practice, to determine
the applicable character, fitness, and other qualifications necessary for licensure. In addition to the above,
Student may at any point be removed from consideration under this Initiative by any or all of the participating
law schools for any of the following behaviors as determined by those participating law schools;
1. Academic misconduct
2. Unlawful misconduct
3. Employment misconduct
4. Financial misconduct
5. Any other reasons determined by a law school that would indicate that Student does not appear capable of
satisfactorily completing its educational program and being admitted to the bar.

I. **Application and Matriculation at Law School.** Student must complete the course work at the community college
level during and enroll in participating law school no later than Fall 2024. Students are required to complete the
law school application. Students must register with the Law School Admission Council and submit official
transcripts through the Candidate Assembly Service (CAS).

J. **No Obligation.** Any Student who does not meet the requirements for consideration as a “COAF Scholar” or who
is removed from the Initiative is not otherwise barred from seeking directly admission to any law school,
including all participating law schools. Likewise, students who meet all the requirements under this MOU are
not obligated to attend any of the participating law schools and may seek admission to other law schools or may decide not to pursue a legal career.

K. For acceptance and continuation in Bakersfield College’s Pre-Law program, I agree to participate in required Pre-Law activities. I also understand that by participating in this program, I will not have guaranteed admission to the universities or the law schools mentioned. However, I will be entering into a special agreement designed to prepare students for admissions into the aforementioned law schools.

I, ________________________________, acknowledge receipt and understanding of the student rights and responsibilities associated with the Pre-Law Scholars program at Bakersfield College. Further, I agree to abide by and adhere to the standards listed herein. I understand that failure to comply with these expectations may result in my immediate dismissal and revocation from the program.

____________________________________     _______________
Signature of Student Applicant       Date

Please submit your application to Pearl Urena, Educational Advisor, located in the Counseling Office (1st floor of the Center for Student Service Building, 1801 Panorama Dr., Bakersfield, CA 93305)