

RULES SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM



Asociación Interamericana de la Propiedad Intelectual
Inter-American Association of Intellectual Property
Associação Interamericana da Propriedade Intelectual



**University of
New Hampshire**
Franklin Pierce
School of Law

ASIPI'S SCHOLARSHIP
PROGRAM WITH
**THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW
HAMPSHIRE FRANKLIN PIERCE
SCHOOL OF LAW**
AND THE COMPETITIONS
FOR ACCESSING THEM

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1. OBJECTIVE

Within the framework of the institutional agreement executed on December 4, 2022, and its addendum dated June 10, 2025, between the Inter-American Association of Intellectual Property (hereinafter **ASIPI**) and the University Of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School Of Law (hereinafter **Franklin Pierce**), the latter agreed to grant a total of 6 educational scholarships per calendar year, for a term of 5 years (2025 to 2030).

The purpose of these regulations is to establish the framework for the scholarship competition through which applicants may apply for and obtain such scholarships.

The scholarship shall be awarded through the participation of an essay writing contest on topics of interest related to the study and development of Intellectual Property.

2. SCHOLARSHIPS

Franklin Pierce offers the following scholarships:

- a) One (1) annual Scholarship covering the full academic cost (*tuition*) for the *Franklin Pierce Hybrid JD (Juris Doctor) in Intellectual Property, Technology and Information Law*.
- b) Two (2) annual scholarships covering the full *tuition* for the *Master of Laws in Intellectual Property (LLM)* or the *Master's in Intellectual Property (MIP)*, hereinafter referred to as the **Master's**, to be chosen by the winner. This program can be taken in its residential version at the University, or in its virtual form at the student's choice.
- c) Three (3) annual scholarships covering the full *tuition* fee for the *Intellectual Property Summer Institute (IPSI)*.

Candidates should visit the **Franklin Pierce** website at <https://law.unh.edu/>, for more information about the educational programs for which they will be competing, particularly about the requirements that the winner must meet in order to be admitted. It is advisable for contest participants to start the admissions process for the program for which they are applying to meet the requirements, even if they do not ultimately win the scholarships.

3. FRANKLIN PIERCE'S CONTRIBUTION

Franklin Pierce agrees to grant a full scholarship covering the full cost of the tuition of the programs detailed in clause 2, to the winners of the competitions established in these rules (hereinafter "scholarship recipients").

Franklin Pierce will not assume any other responsibility in addition to the aforementioned.

4. ASIPI'S CONTRIBUTION

ASIPI shall not assume any travel or lodging expenses corresponding to the scholarship recipients for the in-person completion of their respective academic programs.

ASIPI shall assume all the necessary tasks for the organization of the contests, including the conformation of a jury for the revision of the submitted essays, choosing the winners with the participation of **Franklin Pierce**, notifying them, and providing all pertinent information and assistance to the participants and the eventual winners of the contest.

5. THE COMPETITIONS

There shall be two competitions, both with the requirements and deadlines set forth in Articles 8 and 11 of these rules.

One of the competitions will be to choose the winners of the IPSI scholarships and the other one will be for the winners of the **Master's** and **JD** scholarships.. Participants in the latter competition must expressly indicate in the submission letter whether they are participating in both programs or only in one of them and, if applicable, indicate which one.

In both cases, participants must comply with the requirements, obligations and commitments established for each of the program, as well as with the entry requirements established by **Franklin Pierce** for each of them.

6. COMMITMENTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF COMPETITION PARTICIPANTS AND SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

By submitting an essay and participating in the competitions governed by these Rules, applicants agree to the following commitments and obligations:

- 1) Participants may be either members or non-members of ASIPI. If a non-member is selected as a scholarship recipient or wishes to have their essay published by ASIPI, such applicant must accept the scholarship and immediately apply for membership in **ASIPI** by completing the corresponding application form and paying the applicable membership dues. If the applicant fails to do so within the mandatory period granted by **ASIPI**, the scholarship shall be awarded to the next-ranked applicant selected by the Qualifying Jury. In all cases, scholarship recipients must remain members of **ASIPI** throughout the duration of the academic program and for at least three (3) additional years following its completion.
Applicants who are not members of **ASIPI** must come from a country within the Americas. In addition, they may be invited to participate in an interview with members of ASIPI's Executive Committee.
- 2) The scholarship recipient must commit to be at **ASIPI's** disposal for any request that **ASIPI** may have regarding the scholarship and the academic program, as well as to present a report of his/her experience or consent to an interview at the end of the program.
- 3) Declare that they are financially able to meet all travel, lodging, and food expenses in cases where the Academic Programs call for on-site attendance in **Franklin Pierce** or where the academic activity is conducted on-site.
- 4) Assign to **ASIPI** all ownership rights of the essay submitted for the contest.
- 5) To comply with all the requirements established by **Franklin Pierce**, such as **TOEFL** or **IELTS** English test, student visa for the United States, etc..., having to make all the necessary arrangements for such purpose.
- 6) If possible, participants will begin the admission process with **Franklin Pierce** when submitting the essay and competing for the scholarships. By doing so, if the contestant is the winner, many steps would have been advanced making the process faster and easier.
- 7) The scholarship recipient is required to purchase health insurance for the duration of his/her stay when the academic program is in-person.

All this must be guaranteed and proven by the scholarship recipient, who must present the pertinent documentation to **ASIPI's** Executive Committee immediately after having been notified that he/she has been awarded the scholarship.

7. PROGRAM PREREQUISITES

- a) For the **IPSI** program, applicants must be lawyers or hold a degree in other professions, in which case they must demonstrate professional experience in intellectual property matters. For the **LLM** program, applicants must be lawyers. For the **MIP** program, applicants must hold a bachelor's degree in any profession. If applying for the **JD** program, applicants must have a bachelor's degree in any profession and demonstrate 3 years of professional experience in intellectual property, technology, and/or information.
- b) Applicants who are **ASIPi** members must have their membership dues fully paid and up to date, including the 2026 membership fee and, once due, the corresponding 2027 membership fee.
- c) Financially able to meet all travel, lodging, and food expenses in case of having applied for a program that requires in-person attendance.
- d) Apply for a student VISA for the United States in case the program in which the participant is enrolled is in-person and the scholar's stay requires it, in accordance with the immigration regulations of the United States.
- e) Comply with the English exams required by **Franklin Pierce** for the **LLM/MIP** and **JD (TOEFL or IELTS)**, with the passing grades required by each of them.
- f) The members of **ASIPi's** Executive Committee may not participate as well as those who are elected to be part of the Qualifying Jury.

8. WRITTEN ESSAY REQUIREMENTS

- a) **Topic:** Any topic related to Intellectual Property.
- b) **Length:** The required length is as follows:
 - **IPSI** - up to nine (9) pages,
 - **LLM-MIP** and **JD** - between 10 and 15 pages,

In both cases, the essays must be submitted according to the following format:

Sheet:	A4
Font:	Arial
Font size:	12
Paragraph:	Simple

- c) **Anonymity:** The essay should not have any mention of the author, in order to facilitate anonymity before the Qualifying Jury.
- d) **Unpublished:** Essays must be unpublished and written by the participant. They cannot have been submitted to other contests or published.
- e) **Language:** The essay should be submitted in English only.
- f) **Originality:** Special consideration will be given to the originality of the essay as well as the author's own ideas and concepts on the subject matter.
- g) **Use of artificial intelligence:** The use of artificial intelligence tools is allowed, as well as the use of other technologies, as consultation or research tools, but the use of artificial intelligence tools for the purpose of writing, editing, revising and/or translating the essay is prohibited. **ASIPI** has technological tools to detect such uses and reserves the right to disqualify any essay involved in any of these violations.
- h) **Submission letter:** Participants must submit a letter containing all their personal information, declaring under oath that the essay is their own work, original and unpublished, and expressly stating that they comply with all the requirements set forth in these rules and accept the obligations and commitments contained therein. In the same letter, they must indicate which academic program they are applying for, and in the case of the **Master's** programs, specify the program they are applying to and whether they will carry it out in-person or virtually.

Only in cases where the applicant works for a company that is a corporate member of **ASIPI**, an additional letter issued by the company must be submitted, stating that the applicant is employed there and that they are aware of this application.

9. CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

ASIPI shall open the scholarship competition registration process no later than July 30, 2026.

10. SUBMISSION OF ESSAYS

The essays must be sent via e-mail together with the submission letter to the **ASIPI** Secretariat no later than January 29, 2027, where it shall be verified that they comply with the requirements outlined in these rules.

When any essay does not meet the requirements, the author will be informed immediately and given 5 calendar days from the notification date to correct the error.

If the correction is not received within the aforementioned period, it will be assumed that the participant has withdrawn his/her application from the competition.

11. EVALUATION

The essays shall be submitted to a Qualifying Jury composed of three (3) or more members. All jurors shall be members of **ASIPI** and/or representatives of *Franklin Pierce* with recognized academic and professional experience in the field of Intellectual Property and shall be appointed by **ASIPI's** Executive Committee.

The Qualifying Jury shall select:

- At least six (6) essays for the IPSI competition, indicating the score assigned to each essay and the corresponding ranking order.
- At least six (6) essays for the **Master's** Program and **JD** competition, also indicating the score assigned to each essay and the corresponding ranking order.

For the **Master's** Program and **JD** competition, the applicant ranked first shall have the right to choose between the **JD** scholarship and the **Master's** Program scholarship.

If the first-ranked applicant selects the **Master's** Program scholarship, or has applied exclusively for the **Master's** Program, such right shall pass to the second-ranked applicant.

If both the first-ranked and second-ranked applicants choose the **Master's** Program scholarship, the third-ranked applicant shall be eligible only for the **JD** scholarship, even if he or she did not originally apply for that program. If the **JD** scholarship is not of interest to such applicant, **ASIPI's** Executive Committee shall decide whether the **JD** scholarship shall remain vacant or be assigned.

Should any selected winner decline or become unable to accept the assigned scholarship for any reason, the scholarship shall be offered to the next-ranked applicants selected by the Qualifying Jury in accordance with the order of merit established by their scores.

In the event of a tie, closely ranked scores, or disagreement among members of the Qualifying Jury, **ASIPI's** Executive Committee may require a personalized oral interview with the authors of the selected essays in order to enable the Jury to evaluate more thoroughly their motivations, understanding of the topic, and argumentative skills.

The deadline for the Qualifying Jury to submit the results of the preliminary selection shall be March 15, 2027. The results shall be communicated to **ASIPi's** Secretary.

Upon receipt of the results, the Secretary shall prepare an official report indicating the academic programs covered by the scholarships, the list of applicants in each competition, the scores awarded to each applicant, and the names of the winners in ranking order.

Following notification to and acceptance by the winners, and once the scholarships corresponding to each recipient have been determined, **ASIPi's** Secretary shall provide Franklin Pierce with the names and contact information of the scholarship recipients.

The **Qualifying Jury** may declare any competition wholly or partially void. A competition shall be declared wholly void if none of the submitted essays satisfies the minimum quality standards required to justify the award of a scholarship. A competition shall be declared partially void when an insufficient number of essays meet the standards necessary to fill all scholarships available under the competition.

12. NOTIFICATION OF WINNERS

ASIPi's Secretary shall communicate the names of the winners and the topics of the respective papers to the Executive Committee for its immediate approval. Subsequently, **ASIPi's** Secretary shall notify the winners no later than March 30, 2027.

13. NON-TRANSFERABILITY/ ACCEPTANCE OF WINNERS

Scholarships are non-transferable. Accordingly, if a winner is unable to participate in the academic program for which he or she has been selected, the corresponding scholarship may remain vacant or may be assigned to one of the authors of the alternate essays selected by the Qualifying Jury. Therefore, winners must confirm their participation in the corresponding academic program to **ASIPi's** Secretary no later than April 15, 2027.

If a winner is unable to participate, the scholarship shall be awarded to the author of the first alternate essay selected by the Qualifying Jury. If such author is also unable to participate, the scholarship shall be awarded to the author of the second alternate essay, or, if necessary, to the author of the third alternate essay. If no scholarship recipient can be selected from among the alternate essays, the competition shall be declared vacant.

Should any scholarship remain vacant, **ASIPI's** Executive Committee reserves the right to implement alternative mechanisms for awarding such scholarship to an **ASIPI** member.

14. ESSAYS

Once the essays have been returned by the Qualifying Jury, they shall remain at **ASIPI's** Secretariat, and **ASIPI** may dispose of them.

The winning essays, as well as the essay/s that the **Qualifying Jury** has considered deserving, shall be published in the works established by **ASIPI's** Executive Committee. As a condition of receiving the scholarships, all winners are required to sign assignments of rights to **ASIPI** and **Franklin Pierce**.

All the participants of the contest agree to refrain from publishing or otherwise exploiting the essays they have submitted for a period of two years as from the date on which the results of the contest are announced.

15. SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT'S CONTRIBUTION

The winners of the scholarships commit themselves to the following:

- a) To develop an essay that reflects what was learned in the Academic Program to which he/she acceded, which shall be submitted to **ASIPI's** Executive Committee for its approval. Likewise, in case the Executive Committee of **ASIPI** so determines, the possibility will remain open for the scholarship recipient to make a presentation in this regard during a future **ASIPI** Congress or Conference.
- b) To actively participate in **ASIPI** in whatever capacity the Executive Committee of **ASIPI** deems necessary and convenient, either by preparing written works, collaborating in a specific Committee/s, or by contributing to any activity tending to promote the development of Intellectual Property within the framework of the objectives established by **ASIPI**.
- c) To remain in **ASIPI** during the entire academic program to which he/she acceded, and three full years after its conclusion.

16. EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT

Prior to undertaking the academic program, the scholarship recipient shall sign an agreement with **ASIPI** in order to formalize compliance with the provisions established in these Rules and the assignment of his or her rights over the essay.



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