Approved Charitable Contributions for Sections

Sections are entities of the Bar created to further the OSB mission to serve justice and the public interest by promoting respect for the rule of law, improving the quality of legal services, and increasing access to justice.

Sections may donate section funds to charitable causes or organizations only with prior approval of the Chief Executive Officer, upon a showing that the donation will further the bar’s statutory mission, does not commit bar funds to issues that are divisive or result in creating factions within the profession, and otherwise complies with law. OSB Bylaw 15.701.

Sections may contribute section funds to the Campaign for Equal Justice, and are encouraged to do so. The OSB House of Delegates has called for 75% of OSB Sections to contribute to the Campaign for Equal Justice as one way to support adequate funding for legal services for low-income Oregonians.

The Campaign for Equal Justice is the support arm for Oregon’s legal aid programs, which consist of three non-profits: Legal Aid Services of Oregon and the Oregon Law Center (statewide programs); and the Center for Non-Profit Legal Services (Medford). Oregon’s legal aid programs also support numerous pro bono programs including the Statewide Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic, the Domestic Violence Project, the Senior Law Project, the Family Law Pro Se Facilitation Clinic, and the Bankruptcy Clinic.

The following charitable organizations have been approved for section donations under OSB Bylaw 15.701:

Campaign for Equal Justice (Legal Aid Services of Oregon is included)
Clackamas Women’s Services Legal Empowerment Accelerator Program (“LEAP”)
Classroom Law Project
Guardian Partners
Lewis & Clark Law School, Public Interest Law Project
Opportunity for Lawyers in Oregon (OLIO)
Oregon Lawyer Assistance Foundation (OLAF)
Oregon Minority Lawyers Association (OMLA), Bar Exam Grants
Oregon Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts (OVLA)
St. Andrews Legal Clinic
Senior Citizens Council of Clackamas County
Smart Reading, Lawyers for Literacy Program
The Commons Law Center
University of Oregon School of Law, Oregon Law Students Public Interest Fund
Willamette Law School, Willamette Public Interest Law Project

Sections may make donations to charitable organizations, governmental entities or the OSB Diversity & Inclusion Department to fund scholarships or stipends for law students or recent law school graduates only with the prior approval of the Chief Executive Officer. Any approved scholarships or stipends must be administered by the charitable organization, governmental entities, the OSB Diversity & Inclusion Department, or another third party. No scholarship or stipend may be awarded based on an applicant’s status as a member of a protected class.