

Rural Law Practice Grant PROGRAM INFORMATION

The Kansas Farm Bureau Legal Foundation Rural Law Practice Grant is a \$16,500 grant to help defray the educational costs of law school and to encourage new attorneys to locate their legal practice in rural Kansas. The grant furthers the mission of the KFB Legal Foundation to provide legal information and advocacy to farmer and rancher members, unlocking their potential and improving their quality of life in rural Kansas.

Who is eligible?: Law students in the fall semester before their anticipated graduation date, who intend to practice law in rural Kansas, can apply for the grant. Rural Kansas is defined as any county which is not one of the top 5 most populous counties in Kansas (*i.e.* not Johnson, Sedgwick, Shawnee, Wyandotte, or Douglas Counties).

How to apply: Applicants should complete the application and submit it along with a résumé, transcript and letter of recommendation, during the fall semester before their anticipated graduation date.

Deadline to apply: Applications for the grant are accepted on and between September 1 and November 1 of an applicant's final fall semester before their anticipated graduation date.

Details of grant award: Up to three (3) grant recipients will be selected each year. Grant selections will be at the discretion of The Kansas Farm Bureau Legal Foundation board, and will be based on completed applications received during the application period. Among other criteria, The Kansas Farm Bureau Legal Foundation board will be looking for applicants who can demonstrate a strong desire to live and work in rural Kansas, an understanding of the legal issues commonly faced by farmers and ranchers in rural Kansas, high academic achievement, as well as financial need. A copy of the evaluation rubric has been included for informational purposes.

Grant recipients will receive payment of the grant in three (3) equal installments. The first \$5,500 installment will be paid when a recipient has graduated, successfully passed the bar examination, and begun the practice of law in rural Kansas. The second and third installments will be paid following proof of recipient's continued practice of law in rural Kansas for 12 and 24 months, respectively.

Questions?: Any questions should be directed to:

Terry Holdren, CEO and General Counsel
The Kansas Farm Bureau
2627 KFB Plz
Manhattan, KS 66503
785-587-6000
holdrent@kfb.org

Rural Law Practice Grant APPLICATION

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Instructions: Applicants should complete this application form and submit it, along with a résumé, letter of recommendation, and law school transcript, online [at this site](#),¹ on or between September 1 and November 1 of their final fall semester prior to their anticipated graduation date.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Applicant's full name:

Mailing street or PO address:

City:

State:

Zip code:

Telephone #:

Email address:

☐ mobile

☐ landline

Law school attending:

Anticipated graduation (MM/YY):

City you intend to practice in:

LIST OF 3 REFERENCES:

Name:

Title/position:

Mailing address:

Telephone #:

Email address:

☐ mobile

☐ landline

Name:

Title/position:

Mailing address:

Telephone #:

Email address:

☐ mobile

☐ landline

Name:

Title/position:

Mailing address:

Telephone #:

Email address:

☐ mobile

☐ landline

¹ <https://form.jotform.com/kfbforms/rural-law-practice-grant>

Include an essay in the space below describing your interest in practicing law in rural Kansas and how that could positively impact the community where you plan to practice, along with information about your financial need for grant assistance. (Do not exceed the space provided below.)

Rural Law Practice Grant APPLICATION EVALUATION RUBRIC

EVALUATION CRITERIA (400 POINTS)	POINTS	POINTS TOTAL
RURAL PRACTICE (150 points)		
- Applicant plans to practice in rural Kansas (JO, SG, SN, WY, or DG counties are ineligible) (60 pts max) - Consider, for example, whether they plan to practice in a county adjacent to the most populous counties (listed above), and whether they plan to practice in the western 2/3 of the state		/150
Applicant demonstrated need for additional attorneys in the type of law they anticipate practicing (private v. public, civil v. criminal, etc.) (45 pts max)		
Applicant has background and understanding of agriculture and the issues facing rural Kansans (e.g. participated or participates in production agriculture, participated in youth agriculture programs, received an agricultural degree, etc.) (45 pts max)		
ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE (100 points)		
GPA – GPA*20 (80 points max)		/100
- Extracurricular participation during law school (20 pts max) - Consider the applicant's participation in extracurricular activities such as clubs, certificate programs, internships, or legal clinics that enhanced their academic experience to better prepare them for the rural practice of law		
FINANCIAL NEED (50 points)		
Applicant has demonstrated financial need, including student debt, and / or lack of other available sources to supplement their income as an attorney in rural Kansas		/50
ESSAY AND REFERENCE LETTER (100 points)		
Well-articulated essay supporting their application (60 pts max)		/100
Strong letter of recommendation from a persuasive source with experience or knowledge of the applicant's abilities and desires to return to rural Kansas, and / or the need for more attorneys where they intend to practice (40 pts max)		
TOTAL EVALUATIVE SCORE (400 points)		/400
APPLICANT RANK AMONG ALL APPLICANTS (there can be no ties)		

REFERENCES may be checked for the 3 top candidates (after rubric completion by evaluation committee). If there are some reference concerns, additional consideration should be exercised by the evaluation committee before an offer of grant is made.