

JOHN HENNESSY LEGAL SCHOLARSHIP



Background

John Edmund Hennessy was born in 1940 and started work in the Crown Solicitor's Office in 1957. Admitted as a solicitor in 1965, he was appointed Assistant Crown Solicitor, Civil Law Branch, in 1980 where he worked until he was appointed as Acting Magistrate in 1996 and Magistrate in 1997. John then served on the Legal Aid Review Committee as the Attorney General's nominee for 17 years. He retired on 31 January 1999 and died on 13 February 1999.

John served the Attorney General's Department, the profession and the administration of justice for more than 40 years, combining the highest professional standards as a solicitor with a long and dedicated service to the public. In response, the GSC has decided to honour his service by sponsoring the Legal Scholarship.

Scholarship overview

The John Hennessy Legal Scholarship is designed to support public sector solicitors to undertake:

- a research project into legal systems in another jurisdiction outside NSW and use this information to make recommendations to improve the NSW legal system (at the commonwealth, state or local level)
- specialist accreditation
- specialist continuing legal education; or
- further postgraduate study (maximum 12 months).

The scholarship, which covers travel, study or other approved expenses up to a maximum of **\$10,000**, is open to both individuals and groups.

Scholarship report

The successful applicant/s is expected to submit the written report to the GSC within six months of receiving the grant, which details the outcome of the research or study, including benefits achieved (this time period may be extended by the GSC where appropriate). The report should be around 1,000 words, the original work of the successful applicant, and of a professional, externally-publishable standard. It may be published in the *LSJ* and/or the Government Lawyers Newsletter and must not have previously been published.

The report must not contain any information that breaches privacy or confidentiality obligations. Reports that do so may be rejected or the GSC may require that they be revised.

Additionally, it is expected that the scholarship winner will present the report at the annual Government Solicitors Conference.

Who can apply?

The scholarship is open to current members of the Law Society of NSW with a valid Practising Certificate, who are also NSW-based federal, state or local government solicitors or associate members of the Law Society of NSW, excluding students.

The scholarship winner will be awarded at the full discretion of the GSC. If no applications of sufficient merit are received, the GSC may determine not to award the scholarship. The decisions of the GSC are final.

How to apply

1 June
Applications open

1 August
Applications close

3 September
Successful applicants will be announced at the Government Solicitors Conference.

Further information

For further assistance or information, please contact:

Policy & Practice Department
The Law Society of New South Wales
T: (02) 9926 0202

E: governmentlawyers@lawsociety.com.au

APPLICATION FORM

Candidates for the scholarship need to supply the following information to the Government Solicitors Committee.

Part 1 - Proposal

Needs to include:

- executive summary: a brief synopsis of your research project or study
- estimated budget/costs: include a breakdown of relevant costs
- timetable: for completing the research/study
- subject experience/interest: outline your specific experience/interest in the topic
- research projects also need to include:
 - the relevance and potential benefit of the project to the NSW legal system
 - the potential for the project to produce improvements in the operation of the NSW legal system
- conclusion: highlight the benefits, including to the public sector

APPLICATION FORM

Part 2 - Referees

Submit the details of two referees:

Referee one

Name:
Occupation:
Address:
Phone number:
Email address:

Referee two

Name:
Occupation:
Address:
Phone number:
Email address:

Part 3 - Acknowledgement

- By ticking this box I acknowledge that I have read and understood the information above and, in particular, that the final report of the successful applicant will be made public. By ticking this box I also:
- Warrant that the research project, should I be successful, will be my own original work and will not breach any legal or contractual privacy or confidentiality obligations; and
 - Indemnify The Law Society of New South Wales for any loss, damage or costs it might incur in connection with any publication of my research project; and
 - Authorise The Law Society of New South Wales to publish my research project as determined by the GSC.

Signature:

Date:

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SUBMIT APPLICATION