



The Inter-Pacific Bar Association (IPBA) is pleased to announce that it is accepting applications for the IPBA Scholarship Programme, to enable practising lawyers to attend the IPBA's 22nd Annual Meeting and Conference, to be held in New Delhi, India, from 29 Feb to 3 Mar 2012 (www.ipba2012.org).

What is the Inter-Pacific Bar Association?

The Inter-Pacific Bar Association is an international association of business and commercial lawyers with a focus on the Asia-Pacific region. Members are either Asia-Pacific residents or have a strong interest in this part of the world. The IPBA was founded in April 1991 at an organising conference held in Tokyo attended by more than 500 lawyers from throughout Asia and the Pacific. Since then, it has grown to become the pre-eminent organisation in respect of law and business within Asia with a membership of over 1400 lawyers from 65 jurisdictions around the world. IPBA members include a large number of lawyers practising in the Asia-Pacific region and throughout the world that have a cross-border practice involving the Asia-Pacific region.

What is the Inter-Pacific Bar Association Annual Meeting and Conference?

The highlight of the year for the IPBA is its annual multi-topic four-day conference. The conference has become the 'must attend event' for international lawyers practising in the Asia-Pacific region. In addition to plenary sessions of interest to all lawyers, programmes are presented by the IPBA's 21 specialist committees. The IPBA Annual Meeting and Conference provides an opportunity for lawyers to meet their colleagues from around the world and to share the latest developments in cross-border practice and professional development in the Asia-Pacific region. Previous annual conferences have been held in Tokyo, Sydney, Taipei, Singapore, San Francisco, Manila, Kuala Lumpur, Auckland, Bangkok, Vancouver, Hong Kong, New Delhi, Seoul, Bali, Beijing, Los Angeles and Kyoto. Our most recent annual conference in Kyoto in April 2011 attracted over 800 delegates, despite the devastating earthquake that occurred the previous month.

What is the IPBA Scholarship Programme?

The IPBA Scholarship Programme was originally established in honour of the memory of MS Lin of Taipei, who was one of the founders and a Past President of the IPBA. Today it operates to bring to the IPBA Annual Meeting and Conference lawyers who would not otherwise be able to attend and who would both contribute to, and benefit from attending, the IPBA Annual Conference. The Scholarship Programme is also intended to endorse the IPBA's mission to develop the law and its practice in the Asia-Pacific region. Currently, the scholarships are principally funded by a group of lawyers in Japan to honor IPBA's accomplishments in the 20 years since its founding.

During the conference, Scholars will enjoy the opportunity to meet key members of the legal community of the Asia-Pacific region through a series of unique and prestigious receptions, lectures, workshops and social events. The programme aims to provide Scholars with substantial tools and cross-border knowledge to assist them in building their careers in their home country. Following the conference, Scholars will enjoy a three-year IPBA membership and will be invited to join a dedicated social networking forum to remain in contact with each other while developing a network with other past and future Scholars.

Who is eligible to be an IPBA Scholar?

There are two categories of lawyers who are eligible to become an IPBA Scholar:

[1] Lawyers from Developing Countries

To be eligible, the applicants must:

- (a) be a citizen of and be admitted to practice in Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Myanmar, Mongolia or the Pacific Islands;
- (b) be fluent in both written and spoken English (given this is the conference language); and
- (c) currently maintain a cross-border practice or desire to become engaged in cross-border practice.

[2] Young Lawyers

To be eligible, the applicants must:

- (a) be under 35 years of age at the time of application and have less than five years of post-qualification experience;
- (b) be fluent in both written and spoken English (given this is the conference language);
- (c) have taken an active role in the legal profession in their respective countries;
- (d) currently maintain a cross-border practice or desire to become engaged in cross-border practice; and
- (e) have published an article in a reputable journal on a topic related to the work of one of our committees or have provided some other objective evidence of committed involvement in the profession.

Preference will be given to applicants who would be otherwise unable to attend the conference because of personal or family financial circumstances, and/or because they are working for a small firm without a budget to allow them to attend.

Applicants from multi-national firms will normally be considered only if they have a substantial part of their attendance expenses paid by their firm.

How to apply to become an IPBA Scholar?

To apply for an IPBA Scholarship, please obtain an application form and return it to the IPBA Secretariat in Tokyo no later than **31 October 2012**. Application forms are available either through the IPBA website (www.ipba.org) or by contacting the IPBA Secretariat in Tokyo.

Please forward applications to:

The IPBA Secretariat

Roppongi Hills North Tower 7F

6-2-31 Roppongi, Minato-ku

Tokyo 106-0032, Japan

Telephone: +81-3-5786-6796 Facsimile: +81-3-5786-6778

E-mail: ipba@tga.co.jp

What happens once a candidate is selected?

The following procedure will apply after selection:

1. IPBA will notify each successful applicant that he or she has been awarded an IPBA Scholarship. The notification will be provided at least two months prior to the start of the IPBA Annual Conference. Unsuccessful candidates will also be notified.
2. Airfare will be agreed upon, reimbursed or paid for by, and accommodation will be arranged and paid for by the IPBA Secretariat after consultation with the successful applicants.
3. A liaison appointed by the IPBA will introduce each Scholar to the IPBA and help the Scholar obtain the utmost benefit from the IPBA Annual Conference.
4. Each selected scholar will be responsible to attend all of the Conference and to provide a report of his/her experience to the IPBA after the Conference.

Please provide this information to any qualified candidate. Thank You.