Frequently Asked Questions

What is the **Raising the Bar in D.C. Campaign**?

The Campaign is an initiative launched by the D.C. Access to Justice Commission that provides special recognition to law firms that support local legal services providers. The Campaign establishes revenue-based benchmarks for law firm donations to legal services providers with the goal of substantially increasing financial support for organizations serving indigent residents. Because the benchmarks are based on revenue, the recognition levels are accessible to firms of all sizes and a wide range of firms, from large, multinational firms to solo practitioners, are honored each year.

What are the benchmark levels?

The levels are 0.110% of D.C. office revenue for platinum recognition, 0.090 % for gold and 0.075% for silver. The following chart can give you a rough estimate of the giving level required at different revenue levels:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benchmark Levels</th>
<th>D.C. Office Revenue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Platinum</td>
<td>0.110%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>0.090%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver</td>
<td>0.075%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How do I determine if my firm is eligible for recognition?

First, calculate the donations made by your firm to the eligible organizations on the attached list during the campaign year. Only donations to these organizations — each of which has as a core mission the provision of direct legal services to low- or moderate-income District residents — count toward meeting the benchmark level. Cash donations, donation of attorneys’ fees, and sponsorship of fellowships at the organizations on the attached list all count. The value of pro bono work, the value of loaned associates, in-kind donations made by the firm, and donations made by individual attorneys do not count. Firms may only count contributions to the D.C. Access to Justice Commission once they have reached the silver level through donations to one or more of the other listed organizations. In other words, donations to the Commission may only be counted to move a firm up a level – either from the silver to the gold level, or from the gold to the platinum level.
Second, calculate your firm’s D.C. office revenue. Revenue is calculated as an average of the preceding three years (e.g., for donations made in 2019, firms would look at the average of D.C. office revenue in 2018, 2017, 2016). The firm is not required to release to the Commission its revenue calculations or its method of calculating what revenue is attributed to the D.C. office. Firms take different approaches to this calculation.

Third, you will calculate your firm’s recognition level. If your firm’s giving represents 0.075% of its D.C. office revenue or higher, it is eligible for recognition at the silver level; 0.090% or higher at the gold level; and 0.110% or higher at the platinum level. The Commission’s Executive Director, Nancy Drane (contact information below) is available to answer questions and assist in the calculations.

What happens if the firm qualifies?

We ask each qualifying firm to submit a pledge form to the Commission’s Executive Director, Nancy Drane (contact information below) as soon as it determines its eligibility, so that we can include the firm in our ongoing Campaign listing and any related press materials. The Commission also honors all participating firms at an annual event in the Spring following the campaign year (i.e., firms eligible in 2019 will be celebrated in Spring 2020). The reception always features a prominent speaker and receives press coverage. Previous events have included remarks by U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder, the Honorable David Tatel, U.S. Secretary of Labor Thomas E. Perez, U.S. Solicitor General Donald B. Verrilli, Jr., Principal Deputy Assistant U.S. Attorney General Vanita Gupta, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Chair Catherine E. Lhamon, D.C. Attorney General Karl Racine, Chief Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby, Chief Judge Robert Morin, D.C. Mayor Vincent Gray, and the Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton, who’ve each congratulated the firms for their leadership and support of local legal services providers. In 2018, D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser issued a proclamation celebrating the success of the Campaign.

Does the firm need to submit any documentation?

The Campaign is run on an honor system and firms are not required to provide their revenue or donation amounts to the Commission. However, the Commission does require firms to provide confidential information about its giving levels to Ernst & Young so that it can in turn provide aggregate data to the Commission. Specifically, firms are asked to provide Ernst & Young with their total amount of giving and what level of recognition this represents for the firm. Ernst & Young releases to the Commission only the total amount of giving by all participating firms. This allows the Commission to quantify the aggregate amount of money donated under the Campaign. The firm is not required at any time to provide information about its revenue or the amounts donated to individual providers. A reporting form is provided to participating firms in the early part of the year following the campaign year (i.e., firms will receive the 2019 reporting form in early 2020).

What other firms are participating?

Because of an ongoing pledge process, the list continues to grow. Forty-three firms participated in 2018. An historical listing of participating firms is attached.

Who can I contact with questions?

Contact the Commission’s Executive Director, Nancy Drane, nancy.drane@dcaccessstojustice.org, or 202-736-8334.
The Raising the Bar in D.C. Campaign - Eligible Recipient Organizations

| Advocates for Justice and Education | Human Rights First – D.C. Asylum Legal Representation Project |
| Amara Legal Center | Kids in Need of Defense (KIND) D.C. Office |
| Archdiocesan Legal Network | Legal Aid Society of D.C. |
| Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center | Legal Counsel for the Elderly |
| Ayuda | Mid-Atlantic Innocence Project |
| Bread for the City Legal Services | Mil Mujeres Legal Services |
| Break the Cycle D.C. Legal Services Project | Neighborhood Legal Services Program |
| CAIR Coalition | Network for Victim Recovery of D.C. (NVRDC) |
| CARECEN | Open City Advocates |
| Catholic Charities Immigration Network | Quality Trust for Individuals with Disabilities |
| Children’s Law Center | School Justice Project |
| Christian Legal Aid of D.C. | Tahirih Justice Center |
| D.C. Access to Justice Commission¹ | Tzedek D.C. |
| D.C. Affordable Law Firm | UDC Law Summer Public Interest Fellowship Program |
| D.C. Bar Foundation | University Legal Services |
| D.C. Bar Pro Bono Center | Washington Area Lawyers for the Arts (WALA) |
| D.C. Crime Victims Resource Center | Washington Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs |
| D.C. Law Students in Court | Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless |
| D.C. Volunteer Lawyers Project | Whitman Walker Legal Clinic |
| DV LEAP (Domestic Violence Legal Empowerment Appeals Project) – DC Project | |
| First Shift Justice Project | |

¹ Firms may only count Contributions to the Commission once they have reached the silver level through donations to one or more of the other listed organizations. Donations to the Commission may only be counted to move a firm up a level – either from the silver to the gold level, or from the gold to the platinum level.
The Raising the Bar in D.C. Campaign – 2018 Leadership Circle

PLATINUM LEVEL DONORS

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
Arent Fox LLP
Arnold & Porter
Boies Schiller Flexner LLP
Crowell & Moring LLP
Delaney McKinney LLP
DLA Piper LLP (US)
Eversheds Sutherland (US) LLP
Jones Day
KaiserDillon PLLC
Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP
Katz, Marshall & Banks, LLP
Kirkland & Ellis LLP
Klein Hornig LLP
Law Offices of Andrea Ferster

Law Office of Cecily E. Baskir, LLC
Law Office of Sara Kropf PLLC
Law Offices of Andrew Marks PLLC
Law Offices of Gary N. Horlick
Lippman, Semsker & Salb LLC
Lowenstein Sandler LLP
Orr Immigration Law Firm PC
Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP
Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP
Sidley Austin LLP
Steptoe & Johnson LLP
The Morrison & Foerster Foundation
The Piorkowski Law Firm, PC
Zuckerman Spaeder LLP

GOLD LEVEL DONORS

Beveridge & Diamond PC
Buckley LLP
Covington & Burling LLP
Matalon & Nathani, LLP
Mayer Brown LLP
Miller & Chevalier Chartered
Relman, Dane & Colfax PLLC
Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale & Dorr LLP

Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP
Cuneo Gilbert & La Duca, LLP
Dentons US LLP
Epstein Becker & Green, P.C.
Latham & Watkins LLP
Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP

SILVER LEVEL DONORS
The Raising the Bar Campaign – Participating Firms (2011-2018)

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP

Arent Fox LLP

Arnold & Porter

Benach Collopy LLP

Beveridge & Diamond PC

Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP

Buckley LLP

Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP

Covington & Burling LLP

Crowell & Moring LLP

Cuneo Gilbert & LaDuca, LLP

Delaney McKinney LLP

Dentons US LLP
Gold 2017; Silver 2018, 2016; Platinum 2015

DLA Piper LLP (US)

Dykema Gossett PLLC
Gold 2017, 2016; Platinum 2015, 2014

Epstein Becker & Green, P.C.

Eversheds Sutherland (US) LLP

Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Gold 2016; Platinum 2015; Silver 2014; Platinum 2013

Jenner & Block LLP

Jones Day

KaiserDillon PLLC
Platinum 2018, 2017

Kalijarvi, Chuzi, Newman & Fitch, P.C.
Platinum 2017

Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP
Platinum 2018; Gold 2017

Katz, Marshall & Banks

Kirkland & Ellis

Klein Hornig LLP
Latham & Watkins LLP

Law Offices of Andrea Ferster

Law Offices of Andrew Marks PLLC

Law Office of Cecily E. Baskir, LLC

Law Offices of Gary N. Horlick

Law Office of Sara Kropf PLLC

Lippman, Semsker & Salb LLC

Lowenstein Sandler LLP
Platinum 2018, 2017

Matalon & Nathani, LLP

Mayer Brown LLP

Miller & Chevalier Chartered

Orr Immigration Law Firm

Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP

Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP
Silver 2018

Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP

Regan Associates, Chartered

Relman, Dane & Colfax PLLC

Richards Kibbe & Orbe LLP

Sidley Austin LLP

Steptoe & Johnson LLP

Stradley Ronon Stevens & Young LLP
Silver 2017, 2016; Gold 2015, 2014

The Morrison & Foerster Foundation

The Piorkowski Law Firm PC

Weisbrod Matteis & Copley PLLC

Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP

Zuckerman Spaeder LLP