



Just The Beginning Foundation Summer Legal Institute – Chicago, IL

Monday, July 22 – Saturday, August 3, 2013

Advanced Program Monday, August 5 – Friday, August 9, 2013

Hosted by The John Marshall Law School

OVERVIEW

Just The Beginning Foundation (JTBF) is a nonprofit service organization dedicated to improving the legal system in the United States. We take pride in preserving and honoring the legacy of minorities in the federal judiciary. JTBF seeks to develop and nurture an interest in the legal profession among young people from various socioeconomic, ethnic and cultural backgrounds underrepresented in the legal profession. We also strive to support our scholars' continued advancement, with a long term goal of increasing diversity in the federal courts, and the legal profession as a whole.

The **JTBF Summer Legal Institute** (SLI) is an exciting ten-day program designed to introduce high school students to the legal system, expose them to careers in the legal field, and provide them with the practical tools necessary to achieve their educational goals. Students work with judges, lawyers and law students on legal reasoning, case analysis, writing skills and techniques, and negotiation and oral argument exercises. In addition, students and their parents/guardians/mentors will receive college preparatory advice on topics such as preparing for standardized tests, completing applications, and securing financial aid.

Following the ten-day Summer Legal Institute, students have the option to attend the **Advanced Summer Legal Institute**, a five-day program challenging students with legal writing, oral advocacy, and team building activities. Students interested in developing leadership skills may also apply for the **Illinois State Bar Association Law & Leadership Cohort**. The ISBA Cohort meets an additional hour most days of the three week program to prep students toward leadership in the legal field and their communities.

SLI PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Summer Legal Institute (SLI) is a ten-day legal immersion program located at The John Marshall Law School (315 S. Plymouth Court) in Chicago. **The program is free to all students!** Public transportation passes are available to students who express a need. **Housing is not available.** Students traveling from a distance further than the metro area are required to arrange for their own housing accommodations. The program runs from Monday, July 22 – Saturday, August 3, 2013. The final program day on August 3rd, includes a closing ceremony with activities for parents and guardians. The SLI includes interactive lessons such as: logic and critical thinking exercises, writing and oral advocacy workshops, instruction from guest speakers, and field trips to area law firms, corporations, government offices, and courthouses.

Students who participate in the SLI will:

- Study the legal system, and how it works
- Build leadership, and teamwork skills
- Analyze selected cases, debate legal issues, and participate in both a mock trial, and an oral argument
- Learn what it takes to become a lawyer
- Develop contacts with legal professionals, and organizations that provide scholarships, internships, and mentors
- Gain insight into the college admissions process, and learn about financial aid resources

We recognize that the involvement of adult role models is critical to a student's educational success. Therefore, we invite parents/guardians/mentors to attend the closing ceremony on Saturday, August 3, 2013. Attendees will learn the steps involved in helping students navigate the process of taking standardized tests, applying to college, exploring financial aid resources, and working toward the ultimate goal of attending law school.

ADVANCED SLI PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Advanced Summer Legal Institute is a five-day program held immediately following the SLI. Advanced SLI scholars focus on improving their writing skills and techniques, and preparing for the college admissions process. Students will further build their critical thinking, teamwork, and networking skills throughout the week. The Advanced SLI concludes with a group presentation and a writing skills assessment. Students must complete the SLI prior to attending the Advanced SLI.

ILLINOIS STATE BAR ASSOCIATION LAW & LEADERSHIP COHORT

The Illinois State Bar Association Law & Leadership Cohort will focus on interactive games, focused projects, and detailed assignments designed to develop leadership skills, qualities, and abilities. To complete the leadership training, the Cohort may have an extended schedule on some days of the program. Students are required to attend the SLI and Advanced SLI as a prerequisite to this program.

LOCATION

The SLI will be based at The John Marshall Law School (315 S. Plymouth Court) in Chicago. The Law School is near the CTA Jackson Blue, and Red Line stations, several Metra stations, and bus lines.

COST AND SUPERVISION

The SLI is free to students! Transportation to the law school on the first day of the program is the responsibility of each student. Public transportation passes will be provided at the end of the first day. The Law School is near the CTA Jackson Blue, and Red Line stations, several Metra stations, and bus lines.

Law students and JTBF employees will supervise participants and provide guidance throughout the program. Phone contact may be limited at times during the day. Please feel free to contact 312-258-4868 with any questions.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The SLI/LLI is open to students who will be high school freshman, sophomores, juniors, or seniors in the fall of 2013. Enrollment is limited to 65 students. To apply, please submit each of the following by May 10, 2013:

1. **Completed Application Form (Pages 5-6 of this document)**
2. **Completed Letter Of Recommendation Form (Page 7 of this document) OR a Separate Letter Of Recommendation**
3. **Statement Of Interest. On a separate piece of paper, please submit a typewritten essay of no more than 300 words. Tell us about yourself and discuss why you would like to participate in this program. Be sure to include your full name on the statement.**
4. **Current Transcript**

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE ON MAY 10, 2013

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE REVIEWED

Completed application packets should be sent to:

By email: lramsey@jtbf.org

By mail: Laura Ramsey
Program Director

Just The Beginning Foundation
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 6600
Chicago, IL 60606

For further information, call 312-258-4868 or visit us at www.jtbf.org

Please complete the checklist below before submitting your application:

- Application Form** with Signatures
- Letter Of Recommendation Form** or Separate Letter Completed by a non-family member
- Statement Of Interest** typed on a separate page (300 word limit)
- Current Transcript**

APPLICATION FORM

Please type or print clearly, using black or blue ink

Name		
Print or type responses in the text boxes below the questions. For example, type your name here.		
Home Address		
City, State, Zip Code		
Home Phone Number	Cell Phone Number	E-mail Address
Sex: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	Date of Birth (Month, Day, Year)	Year In School
High School		
High School Address		

The following questions will be saved anonymously and used for demographic purposes only:

Ethnic Identity (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaskan Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African-American <input type="checkbox"/> Latino / Hispanic <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	Are you eligible to receive free or reduced-cost school lunch? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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I am applying to attend the:

- SLI Program from July 22 - August 3
- SLI Program from July 22 - August 3 and the Advanced Program from August 5 - August 9
- Advanced SLI **only** from August 5 - August 9. I have participated in the SLI in a past year.
- Consider me for the Law & Leadership Cohort, I will attend the program from July 22 - August 9

I have participated in the JTBF Summer Legal Institute, JTBF Middle School Camp, or ISBA LLI before

Yes _____ (Year and specific program) No

I am interested in being matched with a volunteer mentor Yes No

Parent/Guardian Name(s)

Home Phone Number

Work Phone Number

Cell Phone Number

Parent/Guardian Signature (please sign above)

Date

If selected to participate, I agree to arrive on Monday, July 22, 2013, and to attend all program sessions except in case of emergency.

Student Signature

Date

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FORM

Applicant: Please give this form to a teacher, counselor, pastor, employer, etc. to complete. You may **NOT** be recommended by a relative. Your recommender may also submit a letter of recommendation instead of this form.

Name and Title:

Address and phone number where you can be reached:

Relationship to the applicant?

How long have you known the applicant?

Why do you believe the applicant should be selected to participate in the Summer Legal Institute?

(Attach a separate page if more space is needed)