



The Inter-Pacific Bar Association ('IPBA') is pleased to announce that it is accepting applications for the IPBA Scholarship Programme, to enable practicing lawyers to attend the IPBA's Twentieth Annual Meeting and Conference, to be held in Singapore from May 2 to May 5, 2010 (www.ipba2010.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 organizing 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 organization in respect of law and business within Asia with a membership of over 1,400 lawyers from 65 jurisdictions around the world. IPBA members include the majority of lawyers practicing in the Asia-Pacific region, as well as lawyers practicing 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 practicing in the Asia-Pacific region. In addition to plenary sessions of interest to all lawyers, programs are presented by the IPBA's twenty-one specialist committees. The IPBA Annual Meeting and Conference provides an opportunity for lawyers to meet their colleagues in the Asia-Pacific region 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 (twice), Sydney (twice), Taipei, Singapore, San Francisco, Manila, Kuala Lumpur, Auckland, Bangkok, Vancouver, Hong Kong, New Delhi, Seoul, Bali, Beijing, and Los Angeles. Next year the conference will be held in Singapore from May 2 to May 5, 2010.

What is the IPBA Scholarship Programme?

The IPBA Scholarship Programme was originally established in honour of the memory of M.S. 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 programme is also intended to endorse the IPBA's mission to develop the law and its practice in the Asia-Pacific region.

Who is eligible to be an IPBA Scholar?

There are two categories, as listed below, under which eligibility can be obtained:

[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 **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 does one apply to be 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 **October 31, 2009**. Application forms are available either through the IPBA website (www.ipba.org) or at the IPBA Secretariat.

Please forward applications to the IPBA Secretariat at:

Roppongi Hills North Tower 7F Telephone: +81-3-5786-6796

6-2-31 Roppongi, Minato-ku Facsimile: +81-3-5786-6778

Tokyo 106-0032, Japan E-mail: ipba@tga.co.jp

What happens once a candidate is selected?

The following procedures will apply after selection:

1. The Secretary-General 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 opening of the IPBA Annual Conference. Unsuccessful candidates will also be notified.
2. Airfare and accommodation will be arranged and paid for by the Singapore Conference Host Committee and/or 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.

Acknowledgment

The IPBA wishes to acknowledge with thanks the Singapore Ministry of Law for its sponsorship of the Scholarship Programme for the IPBA 20th Annual Meeting and Conference to be held in Singapore (www.ipba2010.org).