School Discipline Reform Scholarships

Loyola University Chicago invites applications for scholarships to participate in Loyola’s innovative Online School Discipline Reform Certificate program. This interdisciplinary certificate program is jointly offered by Loyola’s School of Education and School of Law. The program consists of four courses and eight credits and can be completed in one school year. This scholarship is for cohorts from schools and districts with a commitment to implementing restorative practices.

Program: The program builds skills of school personnel through completion of the following courses: (1) Restorative Justice, (2) System Consultation in School Discipline Reform, (3) Legal Issues in School Discipline, and (4) School Discipline Reform: Linking Law, Policy and Practice. Participants must attend a live virtual immersion seminar in equity, anti-racism, and restorative practices, which will take place on August 1, 3 and 5, 2020. There will also be a January 2021 seminar option.

Scholarship Focus: Scholarship recipients will (1) receive training in restorative practices, (2) develop and conduct a needs assessment related to school discipline practices in their school, (3) implement an applied restorative justice project, (4) draft or revise a school policy or procedure to support the effective implementation of restorative practices, and (5) develop and begin to implement a 3-5 year action plan to expand restorative practices in their school. This training directly benefits the scholarship recipients and the schools and districts they serve. Students will be asked to develop a case study of their school or district’s work to implement restorative practices to serve as a resource for other educators.

Selection criteria: School administrators or staff must apply in cohorts of two to six from the same school, district, or network. A limited number of scholarships are available for cohorts from:

- Catholic schools
- Public/charter schools and districts seeking to reduce their rates of exclusionary discipline and/or racial disproportionality in school discipline

Recipients will be selected for scholarships based on high poverty rates or other indicators of vulnerability among the student populations they serve, the need for reform of current discipline practices, and the commitment of their school, district, or network to implementing restorative practices.

Scholarship Benefits: Tuition in the program is reduced by two separate scholarships: (1) a $2,004 cohort scholarship offered to each student when two or more enroll in the program from the same school or district; and (2) a separate scholarship of up to $6,500 per student. With these scholarships, tuition for the certificate program is reduced to as low as $1,092 per student.

Application process:

- Visit LUC.edu/schooldiscipline to apply to the certificate program. In your essay, please indicate your specific interest in developing skills to implement and/or expand the use of restorative practices in your school or district. Each member of the cohort must submit a separate program application.
- A representative of the cohort must also submit a scholarship application here. The scholarship application includes (1) a description of how your cohort meets the selection criteria, and (2) an e-mail or letter from a district administrator, school principal or other appropriate personnel indicating the support of the district or school for the cohort to participate in the program and document the outcomes of the restorative work as a case study that can be shared.
- Apply for both the scholarship and the certificate program by July 1.

Visit LUC.edu/schooldiscipline or e-mail EdLaw-Institute@luc.edu for more information.