

# **Guide to Affiliating with the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division**

Thank you for your interest in affiliating with the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division (“ABA YLD”).

By affiliating with the ABA YLD your organization will reap many benefits, all at no cost to you, including:

1. Affiliate Assistance Team: The Affiliate Assistance Team is made up of experienced young lawyer bar leaders who are dedicated to helping affiliates requesting assistance via telephone consultations, on-site assistance (when appropriate), and written materials.

2. Subgrants: Each year the ABA YLD awards up to \$40,000 in public and member service subgrants to qualified affiliate projects. Funding priority is given to affiliates wishing to develop and implement programs providing unavailable law-related services to the public or programs proposing an innovative approach to filling a significant public need. Priority is also given to new affiliates and affiliates with smaller budgets.

3. National Conferences: During our spring and fall conferences and the ABA Midyear Meeting we provide practical “how-to” information on public service projects, bar leadership training, and professional development programming.

At all meetings the ABA YLD provides reimbursement for up to three attendees per affiliate (four if one is a minority or is a government or solo/small firm attorney), up to a maximum amount of \$200 per person, to help offset some of the travel costs.

4. The Affiliate: As an affiliate, your chair, chair-elect and staff member (where applicable) will receive *The Affiliate* newsletter. Published bimonthly, *The Affiliate* seeks to inspire bar leaders to undertake new and exciting projects. Articles highlight individual affiliate projects, members actively involved in public service, and innovative professional service projects of the ABA YLD and the affiliates nationwide. The publication also provides information on relevant upcoming events and meetings.

5. Awards and Recognition: The ABA YLD’s Awards of Achievement Competition provides national recognition to affiliates for their outstanding programs. It also offers them an opportunity to have their programs adopted by other organizations.

Applying for affiliation with the ABA YLD is simple and can be accomplished within a short period of time. Article III of the ABA YLD's Bylaws states that any lawyer organization may apply for affiliation with the ABA YLD, provided that the ABA YLD receives written certification that at least 75 percent of the petitioning organization's members are under thirty-six years of age or have been admitted to their first Bar within the last five years.

Affiliation procedures require that a lawyer organization submit the following to the ABA YLD thirty days before a Council Meeting:

1. a certified copy of a resolution adopted by the organization authorizing affiliation with the ABA YLD;
  2. a copy of any constitution, by-laws or articles of procedure of the organization;
  3. a petition signed by the presiding officer and secretary of the organization, which describes
    - (a) its organizational history;
    - (b) the size of its membership;
    - (c) the number and percentage of its membership under thirty-six years of age or who have been admitted to their first Bar within the last five years and
    - (d) the names, addresses, and terms of the section's officers
- Along with the documents you prepare, please include the contact information (including email) for your organization's officers and staff, the date new officers take office, and the size of your organization's budget.

Completed documents should be sent to:

Jennifer McQuillan  
ABA YLD  
321 N. Clark St., #1800  
Chicago, IL 60654  
312/988-5665  
312/988-6231 (fax)  
[mcquillj@staff.abanet.org](mailto:mcquillj@staff.abanet.org)

The Secretary-Treasurer of the ABA YLD or another officer will present the petition to the Council of the ABA YLD at the next Council Meeting. The Council meets four times a year. Shortly thereafter, your organization will be advised of its petition status.

**CERTIFIED COPY OF RESOLUTION OF THE**

\_\_\_\_\_

**for affiliation with the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, the duly elected \_\_\_\_\_ of  
the \_\_\_\_\_ hereby certify that the following is  
a true and correct copy of a resolution regularly adopted by the  
\_\_\_\_\_ and that the resolution is in full force and  
effect, and has not been revoked in whole or in part.

**BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:**

The \_\_\_\_\_ shall affiliate with the  
American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division, and is hereby authorized and  
directed to take the necessary action to accomplish such affiliation.

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(Presiding Officer)

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

**PETITION FOR AFFILIATION OF THE**

---

**with the  
American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division**

Pursuant to a resolution, a certified copy of which is attached, the \_\_\_\_\_ hereby petitions for affiliation with the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division and submits the following information concerning its organization:

ORGANIZATION - A copy of the By Laws is attached. The \_\_\_\_\_ was organized in \_\_\_\_\_ and the By Laws were adopted on \_\_\_\_\_.

YOUNG LAWYER MEMBERS: Over seventy-five percent of the petitioning organization's members are under thirty-six years of age or have been admitted to their first bar within the past five years. The organization has \_\_\_\_\_ members.

OFFICERS - The officers of the organization are:

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary