THE DUKEMINIER AWARDS

Jeffrey S. Haber Prize for Student Scholarship
2026 Student Writing Competition
$1,000 Prize

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Monday, December 21, 2026

The Dukeminier Awards Student Writing Competition annually recognizes the best law review note written by a student in the field of sexual orientation and gender identity law. The First Place winner will receive the Jeffrey S. Haber Prize for Student Scholarship and an award of $1,000, and will be published within Volume 26 of the *Dukeminier Awards Journal of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Law.* Previous winners can be viewed at https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/programs/dukeminier-awards-journal. This writing competition is made possible by the Williams Institute at UCLA School of Law.

ELIGIBILITY

The competition is open to all students, regardless of degree track or progress, enrolled in a law school located within the United States or its territories during the 2026–2027 academic year. Students of all backgrounds and identities are encouraged to apply.

Entries should not be previously published or scheduled for publication. In addition, students who submit notes promise **exclusive** submission to the Dukeminier Student Writing Competition until February 1, 2027. This means that the submission should not be in consideration at other journals before this date.

Entry topics should focus on a cutting-edge legal issue related to sexual orientation and/or gender identity. Prior winning topics have involved the intersection of sexual orientation and/or gender identity with legal issues and themes including: incarceration; health care access; parenting; racial and ethnic identities; employment; youth; intersex issues; marriage; social movements; sports; juries; civil rights in the territories; international comparative law; administrative law; tort law; criminal law; constitutional law; and evidence law.

REQUIREMENTS

Entries must follow standard law review note format, including the use of Bluebook (22nd edition) citation form. All entries must be submitted in English. Each entry should be formatted with page numbers, one-inch margins and 12-point Times New Roman font, double-spaced. There is no page limit, although entries which are no longer than 40 single-sided pages, including footnotes, are preferred. Entries containing endnotes or including appendices or supplemental material will not be considered.

HOW TO ENTER

Entrants must submit their entry by email. All entries must be received on or before 11:59 p.m. Pacific on Monday, December 21, 2026. Entrants should not include their name or the name of their school on the competition note itself. Instead, entrants should submit a separate cover page with their name, school, address, email address and phone number. Entries should be in Microsoft Word format and sent to *daj@lawnet.ucla.edu* with the subject line "Writing Competition Submission." For any questions, email *daj@lawnet.ucla.edu*.

UCLA School of Law Williams Institute

The Williams Institute is dedicated to conducting rigorous, independent research on sexual orientation and gender identity law and public policy. A national think tank at UCLA School of Law, the Williams Institute produces high-quality research with real-world relevance and disseminates it to judges, legislators, policymakers, media and the public. For more information on the Williams Institute, visit http://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu.