

ELEVATE, BRIGHT, and Leadership Kentucky Scholarship Guidelines

ELEVATE Kentucky, BRIGHT Kentucky, and Leadership Kentucky are the three premier leadership programs offered in Kentucky. ELEVATE is designed to offer young professionals in-depth “professional development while fostering a better understanding of challenges facing our Commonwealth” to prepare them to “be catalysts in their companies and communities in an effort to Elevate Kentucky.”¹ Additionally, BRIGHT is designed to build the capacity of next-generation leaders (average age 21-40) in the Appalachian region of Kentucky to innovate, collaborate, and advance community and economic development.² Likewise, Leadership Kentucky — now serving Kentucky for more than 40 years — is one of the nation’s flagship leadership programs and “provides a thought-provoking experience focusing on the attributes of leadership and what it means to be a leader.”³

These programs are important to the YLD and the development of Kentucky’s future leaders, including bar leaders. As such, the YLD wants to promote attorney participation. In that vein, the YLD offers a \$1,000 grant for ELEVATE, BRIGHT, or Leadership Kentucky participation.

As of November 14, 2025, the programs’ tuition is as follows:

- Elevate Kentucky: \$2,500
- Leadership Kentucky: \$4,500

In an attempt to create guidelines for offering the YLD’s grant in an appropriate, yet equitable, manner, the Executive Committee has voted to adopt the following rules:

Guidelines:

- Priority for a grant will be given to members of the Young Lawyers Division who have demonstrated leadership ability. It is the YLD’s position that involvement and initiative should be promoted and cultivated to benefit the Kentucky bar and the Commonwealth.
 - If there are multiple YLD members selected for participation in ELEVATE, BRIGHT, or Leadership Kentucky, the grant will be equally divided among them.
- The YLD’s grant will be secondary to any amount provided by the grantee’s employer.
 - Ex: If grantee’s firm is willing to pay \$2,000 of ELEVATE Kentucky’s \$2,500 tuition, the YLD grant may cover the remaining \$500, depending on the number of applications

¹ <https://www.leadershipky.org/programs/elevate-kentucky-1/>

² <https://www.leadershipky.org/programs/bright-kentucky-5/>

³ <https://www.leadershipky.org/programs/leadership-kentucky-3/>