



## Law School Admissions Advising Agreement Pro Bono Scholars Program

This agreement is entered into as of the last date signed by the parties (the "Effective Date") between Barrier Breakers®, Inc., a Maryland Not-For-Profit Organization with its principal place of business at 2901 Beech Orchard Lane, Upper Marlboro, MD 20774 ("the Company") and \_\_\_\_\_ ("Scholar").

### Pro Bono Services

The Company will provide the following services:

# of Meetings	8
Personal Statement	Included
Optional Diversity/Background Statement	Included
<i>Number of Additional Supplemental/Scholarship Essay Prompts</i>	3
Hours of Advising by Admissions Advisor + Essay Editing by Essay Coach	17
Law School List Development	✓
Addendum Support	✓
Resume Review	✓
Guidance on Letters of Recommendation	✓
Community of Law School Applicants	✓
3 Years of Mentorship and Check-ins During Law School	✓
Email Support Between Meetings	✓
Interview Prep	✓
Scholarship Negotiation Support	✓
Waitlist + LOCI Review	✓

Barrier Breakers agrees to provide services in the application cycle in which the Scholar was accepted into the Barrier Breakers Scholars Program. In the event that a

Scholar decides to pause their application support and defer to a future application cycle, due to the nature of the program, Barrier Breakers cannot guarantee that scholar will be able to get pro bono support in a future cohort if Scholar cannot apply to law school in the cycle they were accepted into the Scholars Program.

## Scholar Commitments

As a condition of receiving pro bono services, Scholar agrees to the following obligations:

**Donor Acknowledgment:** Scholar will write a thank-you letter within one month of acceptance into any law school, again upon receiving all acceptance letters and scholarship offers, and again at the beginning of their first year of law school to express gratitude and help with future fundraising efforts.

**Data Reporting:** Scholar will provide full admission and scholarship data for all schools where they applied and received an offer on their decision tracking spreadsheet.

**Ongoing Engagement:** Scholar will remain in contact with Barrier Breakers for all three years of law school, providing periodic updates and assisting in tracking student outcomes.

**Participation in Beyond Barriers Platform:** Scholar will actively engage in the student and alumni platform (Beyond Barriers) to foster mentorship and networking opportunities.

**Financial Planning Meeting:** Scholar will attend at least one financial planning session with AccessLex before starting law school to ensure a thorough understanding of law school financing.

**Testimonial Requirement:** Scholar will provide either a written or video testimonial before the end of their first semester of law school to support Barrier Breakers' fundraising and outreach efforts.

**Academic Integrity:** Scholar understands that the Company will not write essays for the Scholar. At no point will the Scholar request that the Company draft essays on the Scholar's behalf or perform any other act of academic dishonesty. By enlisting our services, Scholar agrees to refrain from any act of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, plagiarizing or fraud. Scholar agrees not to use artificial intelligence tools to author or write Scholar's personal statement or other essays and

further acknowledges that the Company will not author or write any portion of Scholar's essays. Scholar acknowledges and agrees that all thoughts and words contained in the essays that Scholar submits to law schools must be Scholar's own original work. Any act of academic dishonesty committed by the Scholar is neither endorsed nor encouraged by the Company, and should any such academic dishonesty occur, the Company will terminate services effective immediately, without a refund.

### **Exclusivity**

It is crucial to the advising relationship that there is trust between the Scholar and the Company on the process and on the feedback provided. From experience, multiple editors and sources of feedback create confusion, insecurity, and doubt. It also leads to suboptimal support and results. For that reason: Scholars should minimize getting outside feedback on their essays while in the process of developing and crafting them with the Company. This includes feedback from parents, family members, coworkers, friends, or other attorneys. Advisors at the Company will not co-edit essays with another essay editing service procured by the Scholar, a teacher, or any other outside providers. For academic integrity, there should be no Google Drive comments or edits on the essays that are not coming from the Scholar. The Company will not re-edit essays based on the suggestions of outside third parties. In the event that the Company becomes aware of comments, edits, or work on an essay from a party other than the Scholar, the Company reserves the right to discontinue work on the affected essay.

Scholar Initials:

### **No Guarantee**

Scholar understands that using the Company's services does not guarantee any application decision or outcome. The Company cannot and does not purport to guarantee admission into any particular school or tier of schools. The Company cannot and does not purport to guarantee any specific financial aid package, scholarship, or award. Designated fees are payable whether or not the user gains acceptance to their school of choice.

The Company is not an agent, and fees are not accepted from institutions or programs for referral or placement of a Client/Scholar.

Scholar Initials:

### **Communication and Scheduling Policies**

Unless specially arranged, Barrier Breakers®, Inc. does not work on the weekends or holidays. Weekends are defined as Friday 6:00 p.m. EST - Monday 9:00 a.m. EST. The Company will attempt to respond to all communications within 48 business hours. While communications on weekends and holidays may be sent by the Scholar, no answer from the Company should be expected before work hours resume. As much as possible, communication should come directly from the Scholar and not family members of the Scholar.

Barrier Breakers®, Inc. observes all Federal, State, and local holidays.

Advising is not an “on-demand” service, and as such advanced scheduling (typically 48-72 hours) is required for meeting with the Company. 24-hour notice is required for all cancellations or rescheduling requests unless there are extenuating circumstances. There is no fee for the first late-canceled session, however, other than cancellations for unexpected illnesses, death, natural emergencies, or other extenuating circumstances as determined by the Company, a \$50 cancellation fee will be assessed for all sessions canceled with less than 24 hours' notice.

### **Meaningful Participation and Termination**

Scholars are responsible for maintaining regular communication with the Company. Scholars must be responsive to text messages and email communication from the Company and all Barrier Breakers®, Inc. team members.

Scholar is responsible for submitting work to the Company by agreed-upon due dates, preparing and studying for any admissions entrance exams (LSAT/GRE), researching and visiting law schools, sending transcripts and official test scores to universities and/or the Law School Admission Council, securing academic and personal letters of recommendation, researching and monitoring application deadlines, and monitoring the status of applications and advising law schools of enrollment intentions.

Scholars are expected to remain in communication with advisors throughout the duration of the application package unless mutually agreed upon by the Scholar and the Company in writing. Scholars will not “disappear” or fail to respond to advisors for more than one month. Scholars will maintain at least a once a month check-in with

their advisor unless mutually agreed upon by the Scholar and the Company in writing. Scholars that fail to respond to multiple communication attempts or fail to meet with an advisor for a period of 45 days will have their enrollment in the program terminated.

In the event that Scholar engages in abusive or unprofessional behavior towards the Company or towards representatives of the Company, has repeated violations of the Scholar responsibilities, including but not limited to, multiple no-show appointments, failure to meaningfully participate in assignments, failure to communicate with Company for an extended period of time (more than 45 days) without notice, failure to submit applications as discussed, failure to follow timelines, and/or failure to disclose material information regarding education, mental health, or learning differences, the Company reserves the right to cancel Scholar's participation and terminate access to the Services.

Scholar Initials:

### **Essay Policies**

Documents must be uploaded to the appropriate channels to be read. Advisors endeavor to return documents with feedback within 3-5 business days. Advisors do not read essays over the weekend. If Scholars submit documents over the weekend, Scholars can expect a response no later than the close of business on Wednesday, unless Monday is also a holiday.

The Company typically closes for a winter holiday the last two business weeks of the year. The company will not read or return essays or meet with Clients/Scholars during this time.

Scholars must submit first drafts ten (10) business days before a school or program deadline. Unfortunately, because our process requires several rounds of drafts, advisors will not be able to help with applications in which they do not receive the first draft ten (10) days before the due date.

A maximum of **five** submissions will be read per Scholar each week. Scholars that submit more than five documents for review at one time will receive a maximum of five documents returned, per week, in accordance with our turnaround time.

While Scholars will work primarily with a main law school advisor, we work as a team which includes essay coaches and essay editors at Barrier Breakers®, Inc. Scholar's

main advisor will always see and sign off on any revisions and edits. If necessary, Scholar may meet with an alternative advisor if their main advisor is unavailable.

Scholar Initials:

### **Use of Materials**

The Company makes available many various materials, information, quizzes, tests, questions, articles, news and other information. Such documents are stored in the Scholar's Google Drive folder which is owned by the Company but shared with Scholar during the duration of the advising relationship. The Company authorizes the Scholar to view and download one copy of the Materials. Company retains all copyright and other proprietary notices contained in the original Materials on any copies of the Materials.

Scholars may not modify the Materials in any way or reproduce, share or distribute them. Scholars may not copy, reproduce, duplicate, distribute, disseminate, publish, post (on social media, online, or elsewhere), display, perform, modify, create derivative works from, upload to, transmit, or in any way exploit any Materials provided by the Company without express and written permission. Scholars may not sell or offer for sale any of the content, or allow third parties to access it, or use such content to construct any kind of database. Scholars will keep all Materials confidential, and will not sell, auction, loan, rent, give away, describe, summarize, or otherwise reveal the Materials or their contents, to any other person or entity. Any breach of these Terms of Use automatically terminates the advising relationship and use of the Materials.

Scholar Initials:

### **Trademark and Copyright**

Barrier Breakers®, Inc. and certain other brands, trademarks, and service marks are marks of the Company and its affiliates. The Materials on the Company's website are copyrighted, and any unauthorized use of any Materials may violate copyright, trademark, and other laws. All materials – including but not limited to text, photographs, video, audio, images and any other content – appearing via the Online Course, Google Drive, and/or on the Website are protected by copyrights and/or other proprietary rights belonging to the Company and/or other third parties.

Scholar Initials:

### **Limitation of Liability**

In no event will the Company be liable for any damages whatsoever (including, without limitation, those resulting from lower admissions outcomes, interruption of services or inaccurate information) arising out of the use, inability to use, or the results of the use of advising services or the Materials or information provided, whether based on warranty, contract, tort or any other legal theory and whether or not advised of the possibility of such damages.

Scholar Initials:

### **Applicable Law**

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Maryland applicable to contracts executed and to be performed therein, without giving effect to the choice of law rules thereof. Any action to enforce any provision of this Agreement may be brought only in a court of the State of Maryland within Montgomery County. Accordingly, each party (a) agrees to submit to the jurisdiction of such courts and to accept service of process at its address for notices and in the manner provided in Section 13 for the giving of notices in any such action or proceeding brought in any such court, and (b) irrevocably waives any objection to the laying of venue of any such proceeding brought in such a court and any claim that any such proceeding brought in such a court has been brought in an inconvenient or inappropriate forum. Scholar hereby waives all rights to trial by jury.

Scholar Initials:

### **Privacy Policy**

Scholars can expect the highest of sensitivities to them and the confidentiality of their personal information. Identifiable Scholar educational or financial information will not be shared with anyone, especially institutions of higher learning, standardized testing companies, or other professionals associated with the application process without express Scholar permission.

Throughout the process, Scholar's will benefit from seeing examples of other students' work. Scholar acknowledges that after they matriculate to law school, Scholar work, without any identifying information or specific details that would allow anyone outside the Company to identify the work as belonging to any particular Scholar, may be used as examples for other students as well.

The Company operates as a team. As such, other advisors and Barrier Breakers® staff have access to emails and other shared documents in furtherance of their job duties.

Scholar agrees to indemnify advisors, the Company, and all of its related organizations, employees, agents, officers, and directors, and hold the same harmless from and against all injury, loss, liability, expense, damage, penalty, or expense of any kind which Scholar or the Company may sustain, incur, pay or have asserted against it, by reason of any alleged violation of the Privacy Policy set forth in this paragraph.

Scholar Initials:

Signatures

**Scholar Full Name:**

**Scholar Signature:**

**Date:**

**Company:** Barrier Breakers®, Inc

**Company Representative Signature:**

**Date:**