

**PUBLIC SERVICE BRIDGE LOAN REQUEST FORM
2023-2024**

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MAY 10, 2024

Student Name: _____
Columbia ID Number: _____
Month & Year of Graduation: _____
Date of Birth: _____
E-mail Address: _____

The Public Service Bridge Loan supports Columbia Law School JD students who have demonstrated a commitment to public service. The Public Service Bridge Loan assists with the financial challenges public interest students may face in registering for bar courses and covering post-graduate living expenses.

The Public Service Bridge Loan for up to a maximum of \$10,000 in borrowing per participant for bar-related expenses is considered LRAP eligible debt. Qualifying LRAP employment is full-time work that makes direct use of a graduate's legal education in the public interest or public service sectors, or in legal services for the poor. Public Service Bridge Loan applicants will be required to provide documentation of an offer to work in LRAP qualifying employment (reviewed by the CLS Financial Aid Office), or, if unemployed, will apply with the intent to be employed in a full-time LRAP eligible paid position (as determined by the Office of Public Interest/Public Service Law and Careers).

The following documents are required for the processing of a Public Service Bridge Loan:

- This Public Service Bridge Loan Request Form.
- A completed LRAP application.
- Employment documentation as described on the LRAP application.
- If the Public Service Bridge Loan request is approved, the central University requires the following items to be completed: a loan promissory note, TILA (Truth In Lending Act) documents, and an online entrance counseling form. The Financial Aid Office will contact approved borrowers by email with detailed instructions of this required information.

PUBLIC SERVICE BRIDGE LOAN

Public Service Bridge Loan Amount Requested (\$10,000 Maximum) \$ _____

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- Applicants are eligible to apply for this loan during their 3L year and must complete the application by the last day of their final semester of study (May 10, 2024 for the 2023-2024 academic year).
- **Public Service Bridge Loan Request Forms received by the Law School's Financial Aid Office after the May 10, 2024 deadline WILL NOT be processed. No exceptions will be made.**
- The earliest disbursement date for this loan is April 1, 2024. For students in the NYS Pro Bono Scholars Program who plan to sit for the February bar examination and who will be participating in LRAP, the earliest disbursement date for this loan is November 15, 2023.

I confirm that I have read and understood all of the above information and that, to the best of my knowledge, the information I've provided on this application is true and correct. I further understand that all funds provided to me through the Public Service Bridge Loan will be used solely for the purposes of bar study expenses. Finally, I certify that I shall promptly notify the Columbia Law School Financial Aid Office in writing of any change which occurs that may alter my eligibility for this loan.

Signature _____ Date _____
(Must be in ink. Electronic signatures not accepted)