

## John R. Justice Application

### Federal Loan Repayment Assistance For Public Defenders and Prosecutors Under the John R. Justice Prosecutor and Defender Incentive Act

**Designated Agency:** Rhode Island Public Defender, 160 Pine Street, Providence, RI 02903  
Tel: 401-222-1511 Email: JRJProgram@ripd.org

**Contacts:** Patricia Platt, Executive Assistant; Anne Marie Amaral, JRJ Award Coordinator

1. **Application:** Complete and sign the RI JRJ Loan Repayment Application form, sections A, B & C.
2. **Proof of Current Employment:** Complete the top portion of the Employment Verification form and have your employer complete the lower portion of the form.
3. **Proof of Loans:** Submit an NSLDS (NSLDS.ed.gov) statement; the summary page and detail page for each outstanding loan is required. The summary page lists all federal student loans you have had, and the history of any consolidations. The detail page indicates your repayment status for each outstanding loan. If you do not currently have an online NSLDS account, create one. At this point, you do not have to submit any information regarding private (non-qualifying) loans.
4. **Proof of Non-default Status:** The detail pages of the NSLDS statement show your status for each loan (e.g., "in repayment," "in forbearance," "in default," etc). Only a "default" status will make you ineligible for a JRJ award. If you are in default currently but are in a position to get out of default, you can apply for a JRJ award and will receive a disbursement IF you are able to remedy your default status within the JRJ cycle.
5. **Submit:** Appropriate signed Term of Service Agreement.
6. **Proof of History of Employment:** Because award amounts are partially based on years of public defense and prosecution employment, proof of duration of employment is required. For each job in public defense or prosecution that you have held as a fulltime attorney, except for your current employer, include a Verification of Employment form with the application.
7. **Proof of financial information:** You must submit a copy of the most recent Federal Form 1040 you have filed, as well as the Federal Form 1040 of all non-dependent members of your household (e.g., spouse, partner). Do not submit any supporting tax schedules. In addition, please submit a copy of a pay stub less than 30 days old for each salary earned by non-dependent members of your household and listed in Part A below. Finally, we require a copy of all W-2s and 1099s for Calendar Year 2024 issued to any and all household members.

*Please submit all financial supporting material in a separate self-addressed stamped envelope. After verification, your financial information will be returned to you.*

8. **Survey:** Complete the attached JRJ information survey.

### Section A – Application Information

Name (Print):

DOB:

Office (actual worksite) address:

Home address:

Office Phone:

Home or cell phone:

Work Email:

Personal email:

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Are you licensed to practice law? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Bar number: \_\_\_\_\_

Law degree from: \_\_\_\_\_ Year of degree: \_\_\_\_\_

### Section B – Qualifying Loans

- ☐ I have attached the required NSLDS statements – summary page and detail pages – attesting to my qualified loans and my qualifying status.

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### Section C - Employment Verification

#### I – Release (to be completed by applicant)

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ MI: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

I authorize my employer to provide the employment information requested by the Rhode Island JRJ Loan Repayment Assistance Program.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Signature Date

#### II – Employment (to be completed by employer)

The above-named employee has applied for benefits from the Rhode Island JRJ Loan Repayment Assistance Program. Please complete the following section and return the form to the applicant.

Name of Organization:

Job Title of Employee:

Date of Hire as an attorney:

Does the employee spend at least thirty (30) hours per week engaged in adult or juvenile prosecution or defense activities?

☐ Yes ☐ No

I certify that the information provided above is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and that the applicant meets the Rhode Island JRJ Program's eligibility definition of prosecutor or public defender.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Printed Name of Authorized Official) Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorized Official Date

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

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### Section D – Household Income/Debt Information

Award amounts are influenced by ability to pay outstanding loans; household income and educational debt are considered. Household includes income and educational debt are considered. The salary of a dependent child should not be included, whether or not the child contributes to household expenses, unless the child's entire salary is pooled household expenses. Salary that is occasional or not fixed, such as from an hourly job with a varying schedule or a periodic teaching position, should be estimated based on past experience.

#### Applicant earned income:

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Box 5 W-2 Wage Total: \_\_\_\_\_  
Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Box 5 W-2 Wage Total: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Additional Household Members earned income:

Household member (name): _____	Box 5 W-2 Wage Total / Annual Gross Salary: _____
(Relationship): _____	
Household member (name): _____	Box 5 W-2 Wage Total / Annual Gross Salary: _____
(Relationship): _____	

#### Additional earned household sources of income above \$500/year:

Source (specify): _____	Annual Amount: _____
Source (specify): _____	Annual Amount: _____

TOTAL GROSS ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \_\_\_\_\_

The applicant's federal student loans will be listed on the NSLDS Status Statement submitted with this application. In the section below, please list all other household educational loans used to finance education, including federal student loans outstanding for members of the household other than the applicant. Although repayment assistance is not available under this program for these loans, they are taken into account in determining the amount of awards:

Household member (name): _____	Principal Balance: _____
(Relationship): _____	
Servicer & Loan Type: _____	
Household member (name): _____	Principal Balance: _____
(Relationship): _____	

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Servicer & Loan Type: \_\_\_\_\_

Household member (name): \_\_\_\_\_

Principal Balance: \_\_\_\_\_

(Relationship): \_\_\_\_\_

Servicer & Loan Type: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Non-Applicant Principal Balance listed above: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I understand this is an Application, requesting loan repayment assistance pursuant to the John R. Justice Prosecutor and Defender Incentive Act, and that the information submitted will be relied upon in determining the amount of any award I may receive. All the information on this application, including proof of employment and household educational loans, is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I further attest that I am not in default of any federal student loan. If asked by the JRJ Program, I will provide further proof of all information.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### Checklist:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Verification of Previous Employment   | <input type="checkbox"/> Self-addressed stamped envelope               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recent pay stub for all household income                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> NLSDS Summary & Detail                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of all W2s and 1099s issued for Calendar 2024 to all household members | <input type="checkbox"/> Verification Current Employment               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Completed Survey  | <input type="checkbox"/> Signed Appropriate Terms of Service Agreement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Federal 1040 for all household Earners except dependents                    |  |

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### Survey:

1. Were you aware of the JRJ loan repayment assistance program before you applied for a prosecutor or defender job?  
☐ Yes ☐ No
2. Was the existence of this grant program a factor in your deciding to apply for a prosecutor or defender job?  
☐ Yes ☐ No
3. Is the amount of your individual JRJ award a significant part of your household income?  
☐ Yes ☐ No
4. What is the smallest individual award amount that would encourage you to remain in your current public service position?  
☐ 0 - \$2,000  
☐ \$2,001-\$5,000  
☐ \$5,001<
5. Is your level of salary compensation a significant barrier to your ability to maintain a career in public service?  
☐ Yes ☐ No
6. Do the current funding levels of JRJ awards play any part in your decision to maintain a career in public defense or prosecution?  
  
Current JRJ funding levels encourage me to remain in public service.  
Current JRJ funding levels discourage me to remain in public service.  
Current JRJ funding levels has no effect on my decision to remain in public service.
7. Has the JRJ grant award application process been unduly burdensome?  
☐ Yes ☐ No
8. When determining individual awards, what factor do you think should be weighed more heavily?  
☐ Educational debt to household income ratio (More Debt + Less Income = Greater Award)  
☐ Longevity
9. Which disbursement scenario do you prefer?  
☐ Every eligible applicant gets some award.

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- ☐ A salary cap where those applicants with unusually large household incomes and small educational debt are deemed ineligible.

10. Are you aware of the Public Interest Loan Forgiveness Program (PSLF 120 Payments)?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

11. Are you participating in the PSLF?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No