



**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
SPIRIT OF YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP
FOR JUNIOR MEMBERS
2011-2012**

Five four-year scholarships will be awarded for the 2011-2012 Auxiliary year. One four-year scholarship will be awarded in each Division of the American Legion Auxiliary. All are gift scholarships and are not loans.

RULES

1. Candidates for this award shall be/shall have been Junior members of the American Legion Auxiliary; said member to have held Junior membership in the American Legion Auxiliary for the past three years and must hold a membership card for the current (2012) year. Applicant must continue her membership in the American Legion Auxiliary during the four-year-scholarship period.
2. Applicants must be in their senior year of an accredited high school.
3. This is a four-year scholarship to attend an accredited institution of higher education. Applicants must be of good character and have grades which meet entrance requirements at the institution of their choice. Applicant must have at least a 3.0 GPA using a 4.0 base.
4. Participation in this scholarship program shall be on a voluntary basis in all Units and Departments.
5. No Unit may enter more than one applicant in the Department competition. Each Department is restricted to submitting one applicant to the Divisional competition.
6. Applicant must present the completed application packet to the Unit President **ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1, 2012.**
7. The winning entry for each Unit shall be certified by the American Legion Auxiliary Unit President and mailed to the Department Secretary to be received **ON OR BEFORE MARCH 15, 2012.**
8. The winning entry for each Department shall be certified by the Department President and Department Secretary or Department Education Chairman and mailed to the respective Division Education Chairman to be received **ON OR BEFORE APRIL 1, 2012.**
9. Use of the scholarship must begin **within 24 months of the date the winner receives notification by National Headquarters.** Additionally, National Headquarters must receive certification from the college of the winner's enrollment within 12 months of notification.

10. Judging, at all levels, shall be on the following basis:

- a. Character/Leadership - 30%
- b. Essay/Application - 30%
- c. Scholarship - 40%

THE DECISION OF THE JUDGES SHALL BE FINAL.

The award will be paid directly to the school at the beginning of the first semester when the student enrolls. There shall be no money paid to the school for the ensuing years until notification of re-enrollment has been received from the school. Notification from the school must include verification of a B (3.0) average. If the winner discontinues his/her education or membership in the American Legion Auxiliary before completing four years of study (eight semesters), the balance of the scholarship will be forfeited. The winner will have six years from the date of high school graduation to utilize the scholarship funds.

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APPLICATION PACKET REQUIREMENTS

1. Completed application form for Spirit of Youth Scholarship for Junior Members.
2. The following four letters of recommendation are required:
 - a. One letter from either the principal or guidance counselor of the school from which the applicant will graduate, to include size of class and student's position in class, and the cumulative grade point average.
 - b. One letter from a clergyman/clergywoman of the applicant's choice.
 - c. Two letters from adult citizens, other than relatives, attesting to the applicant's character in regard to conduct, citizenship and leadership.
3. An original essay consisting of no more than 1,000 words (typed, double-spaced). The title of the article/essay will be **“The Importance of Helping Military Families in your Community”**
4. A certified transcript or photocopy of the applicant's high school grades.
5. A copy of the FASFA (financial aid) form submitted for college financial assistance.
6. A copy of ACT or SAT test scores.

EACH UNIT AND DEPARTMENT WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR VERIFYING ALL NECESSARY INFORMATION IN THE APPLICANT'S PACKET.

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
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APPLICATION 2011-2012**

Name of Applicant _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ ZIP _____ Telephone No. _____

Date of Birth _____ Membership # _____

Date of Enrollment in American Legion Auxiliary _____

Name of veteran through whom applicant is eligible for membership in American Legion Auxiliary: _____

Relationship to Veteran _____

Proposed date of graduation from high school _____

Name of college or university you hope to attend: _____

a. Why would receiving this scholarship be important to you? Please explain. _____

b. What course of study do you plan to pursue and why? _____

c. Describe your involvement in school, church, and community activities. Use attachment if necessary. _____

d. Why do you think the United States' patriotic organizations, such as the American Legion Auxiliary, are important to the world today? _____

I certify that the information provided in this application is correct.

Print or Type Full Name

Signature of Applicant

Date

NOTE: Please be sure to attach other required materials to this application and submit to the President of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit in which your membership is recorded **NO LATER THAN MARCH 1, 2012.**

**THIS PORTION TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SPONSORING UNIT
(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)**

The winning entry of each Unit shall be certified by the American Legion Auxiliary Unit President and Unit Secretary or Education Chairman and mailed to the Department Secretary to be received **ON OR BEFORE MARCH 15, 2012.**

Unit Name and Number

*Signature of Unit Secretary or
Unit Education Chairman*

Address

City, State, ZIP

Signature of Unit President

THIS PORTION TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SPONSORING DEPARTMENT

The winning entry for each Department shall be certified by the Department President and the Department Secretary or Department Education Chairman and forwarded with completed application to the respective Division Education Chairman **ON OR BEFORE APRIL 1, 2012.**

DEPARTMENT _____

DIVISION _____

Signature of Department President

*Signature of Department Secretary
or Department Education Chairman*

The Division Education Chairman and two qualified judges shall make the final decision on the winner in her Division. She shall certify the name of the winner and send her complete application packet to the National Education Chairman **ON OR BEFORE APRIL 15, 2012.** The National Education Chairman shall certify the names of the winners to National Headquarters.