

**South Dakota American Legion
Educational Scholarship**

Application Due Date: Prior to midnight, March 1, 2021

Mailing address: **South Dakota American Legion**
 PO Box 67
 Watertown, SD 57201

Applicant's Personal Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Date of Birth: _____

High School Graduation Year: _____ or Year attained GED: _____

Institution in South Dakota which applicant is/will attend: _____

Date of enrollment: _____

Veteran's Information: (Must be a member of the American Legion unless deceased)

Name: _____

Address: _____ or _____ Deceased

City/State/ZIP _____

Relationship of applicant: _____ Child or _____ Grandchild

Attach a copy of Veteran's discharge form (DD Form 214) or certificate. If veteran is on active duty, please copy front and back of the Id Card. Please blackout SSN.

Parents' Information:

Parent #1:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Occupation: _____

Parent #2

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Occupation: _____

Siblings' Information:

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Please attach copies of your high school transcript or GED Certificate and post-secondary transcripts. You must have graduated high school and successfully completed 16 hours of post-secondary education to apply for this scholarship.

ACT Score: _____

SAT Score on a 1600-scale: _____ or SAT Score on a 2400-scale: _____

If any, which American Legion or American Legion Auxiliary programs have you participated in:

Boys State _____ Girls State _____ Oratorical Program _____

Youth Trooper Academy _____ AL Baseball _____ Shooting Sports _____

Others: _____

Membership in the American Legion or American Legion Auxiliary:

Applicant: Yes Membership Number: _____

No

Parent #1 Yes Membership Number: _____

No

Parent #2 Yes Membership Number: _____

No

Attach a copy of membership cards.

Finances:

I understand that this application for a Department of South Dakota American Legion Scholarship is in the **maximum** amount of \$2500.00. The amount can be less than \$2500.00. This amount of money is required by me to meet necessary expenses in connection with my education. The money will be mailed to the higher education institution in your name.

My estimate needs are as follows:

Tuition and fees	\$ _____
Books and supplies	\$ _____
Room and board	\$ _____
Other expenses	\$ _____
Personal necessities	
Spending money	
Etc.	

Total (A) \$ _____

Money available to use for the above-listed expenses (excluding this scholarship)

Money in possession	\$ _____
Scholarships	\$ _____
Loans	\$ _____
Money which will be obtained from other sources (work, parents, etc)	\$ _____

Total (B) \$ _____

Difference (Total A subtract Total B) \$ _____

Applicant's Signature

Date

Parent's Signature

Parent's Signature

Applicant's Employment:

Employer: _____

Dates (M/YYYY): _____ to _____

Weekly Number of Hours: _____

Duties:

Employer: _____

Dates (M/YYYY): _____ to _____

Weekly Number of Hours: _____

Duties:

Employer: _____

Dates (M/YYYY): _____ to _____

Weekly Number of Hours: _____

Duties:

Applicant's Community/Volunteer Participation (secondary and post-secondary only):

Organization: _____

Dates: _____

Description:

Organization: _____

Dates: _____

Description:

Organization: _____

Dates: _____

Description:

Organization: _____

Dates: _____

Description:

Organization: _____

Dates: _____

Description:

If necessary, additional sheets may be included using the above format.

Applicant's School Participation (secondary and post-secondary only):

Organization: _____

Grade(s): _____

Office(s) Held: _____

Organization: _____

Grade(s): _____

Office(s) Held: _____

Organization: _____

Grade(s): _____

Office(s) Held: _____

Organization: _____

Grade(s): _____

Office(s) Held: _____

Organization: _____

Grade(s): _____

Office(s) Held: _____

Organization: _____

Grade(s): _____

Office(s) Held: _____

If necessary, additional sheets may be included using the above format

Awards Received at the State/National Level (list only 5 awards):

Award: _____

Description:

Award: _____

Description:

Award: _____

Description:

Award: _____

Description:

Award: _____

Description:

Awards Received at the School/Local Level (list only 5 awards):

Award: _____

Description:

Award: _____

Description:

Award: _____

Description:

Award: _____

Description:

Award: _____

Description:

Essays:

Please attach essays on the following topics. Maximum of 500 words per essay. Must be typed and double spaced.

Essay #1. How have you prepared for higher education (college, technical school, etc.).

Essay #2. Which of the 10 clauses of The American Legion Preamble is the most meaningful to you and why?



WHERE DOES THIS MONEY COME FROM?

These funds come from voluntary contributions from individuals, groups, corporations, and American Legion Posts. There is no authority for any assessments on Posts to support this fund.

This fund was launched with a \$500 donation from the Royal C. Johnson Memorial Fund.



IS THERE A NEED FOR THIS FUND?

Educational Scholarship funds of this kind, under the auspices of the American Legion are proving vitally important in many states – important to children of those who served their country; important to those veterans themselves; and important to the nation in helping to make possible the higher education of bright young people who are an important resource for America in keeping up with the world.

A majority of the children in the United States are the children of veterans, demonstrating the need for such a fund. In fact, utilized by all who are eligible, the need would far surpass the present resources.



HOW CAN INTERESTED PARTIES CONTRIBUTE TO THE FUND?

Donations can be given or sent to the State American Legion Headquarters, specifically marked for the American Legion Educational Scholarship Fund. The Fund is part of the South Dakota Community Foundation.

Requests may be made to this fund, as memorials to the memory of those who served their country in time of war, or as memorials to those dear to persons now wishing to serve their country through their aid to the education of America's youth.

All such memorials or other contributions are formally acknowledged.

Funds donated – any income from the interest or notes – will be used entirely and exclusively for educational scholarships. Overhead costs are born by the American Legion, Department of South Dakota.



WHO WILL HANDLE THE MONEY?

The fund will be handled by the South Dakota Community Foundation and bonded officers of the American Legion, Department of South Dakota. A duly appointed Educational Scholarship Selection Committee will select the scholarship recipients.



Attention of school administrators and counselors is called to the fact that this scholarship fund is available in limited amounts

and they are asked to call it to the attention of qualified students.

AMERICAN LEGION EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP



HOW CAN I QUALIFY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP?



HOW CAN I HELP MAKE THESE SCHOLARSHIPS POSSIBLE?

Published by:
The Educational Scholarship Committee of



The American Legion
Department of South Dakota



WHAT IS THE AMERICAN LEGION EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND?

This is a fund, made up by voluntary donations of legion posts, individuals, and corporations. This fund was authorized by the Department Executive Committee of the American Legion in South Dakota, meeting in Yankton, June 16, 1956. It is to be used for loans to eligible veterans, their children, and grandchildren for educational opportunities beyond high school. It is to be used to enable recipients to continue their education in college or technical schools in South Dakota. In July 2019 this fund was changed from a loan to a scholarship.

Scholarships of a **maximum** of \$2500 per person, will be granted, on a basis of need, as long as funds are available. The granting of these loans will be determined by the Department Education Committee, based on need and prospective best use of training sought.

It is expected that most scholarships will be less than \$2500.00, so more students can receive assistance.



WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR THESE SCHOLARSHIPS?

These scholarships are open, as funds are available, to wartime veterans, their children, and their grandchildren, who are legal residents of South Dakota. Wartime veterans are those

who are members of or are eligible for membership in the American Legion – those who were in the service of their country at some time during the periods April 6, 1917-November 11, 1918 and after December 7, 1941 through the cessation of hostilities as determined by the U.S. government (LEGION Act). Present membership of the veterans, parent, or grandparent in the South Dakota American Legion, is required, unless deceased.

There is a further provision to allow children and grandchildren of wartime veterans not residing in South Dakota to apply, provided that the veteran is certified by the post is a living member in good standing of a South Dakota American Legion post.

The program was expanded in 2002 to allow the veteran themselves, who are eligible to belong to the American Legion, to take advantage of these education scholarships. This provision is contingent upon the fund continuing to be self sustaining. The program was further expanded in 2006 to allow the grandchildren of wartime veterans the opportunity to apply for scholarships.

If funds should become limited, priority will be given to the (1) children and (2) grandchildren of qualified veterans, since the program was originally intended for the education of youth.



FOR WHAT PURPOSES WILL THESE SCHOLARSHIPS BE MADE?

Scholarships are restricted to use for educational purposes beyond high school – either college or technical school. The school must be located in South Dakota unless there is no school in South Dakota which offers the

profession or technical degree being sought. The American Legion has scholarship funds for Youth Trooper Academy, state oratorical program, Boys State, Girls State, and baseball.



HOW DOES ONE APPLY?

Application blanks may be obtained from the Secretary of the American Legion Educational Scholarship Committee, PO Box 67, Watertown, SD 57201 or from <http://www.sdlegion.org/>. These applications identify the applicant and his/her veteran; parents and siblings; outline the educational goals of the applicant; provide for reporting of his/her scholastic record and vocational plans and aptitudes; provide for an assessment of his/her financial situation; and additional information.

Completed applications are to be returned to the Secretary before midnight March 1, 2021. Monies will be distributed at the beginning of the fall semester 2021.



WHAT ARE THE TERMS OF THIS SCHOLARSHIPS?

Applicants must be a high school graduate or have attained a GED; and have successfully completed at least 16 hours of post-secondary credits.

High School transcripts and the most current post-secondary transcripts will be submitted with the application.

Checks will be made payable to both the applicant and post-secondary school, and forwarded to the school.