

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Department of Illinois
2011-2012

Subject: CHILDREN and YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP
(Please keep this sheet – Unit Information)

The Department of Illinois Children and Youth Scholarship Fund, through donations received each year offers scholarships that are awarded according to the rules listed below. This year, \$1,000 scholarships have been authorized and the number given will be determined by funds available.

RULES GOVERNING THIS SCHOLARSHIP

UNIT RULES:

1. Sponsoring Unit must have contributed to the Children and Youth Scholarship Fund for the current year in order to submit an application for this scholarship.
2. A Unit may enter **ONLY ONE CANDIDATE** for this scholarship. If a Unit has more than one interested candidate, a committee of three qualified people shall be appointed to serve as judges. Applications to be judged on the following: 20% - Character, 20% - Americanism, 20% - Leadership, 20% - Scholarship, 20% - Basis of need.

APPLICANT RULES:

1. Applicant must be working towards a degree in Education with emphasis on the subjects required for teaching mentally or physically challenged children.
2. Applicant must be in sophomore or junior class in college when application is made.
3. Applicant must be in the upper half of the class.
4. Applicant must be in need of financial assistance.
5. **IMPORTANT – Applicant must be a resident of Illinois.**
6. All applicants must have an American Legion Auxiliary Unit as their sponsor. Application for this scholarship must be secured from and returned to the sponsoring Unit. The applicant is limited to applying for **ONLY ONE SCHOLARSHIP** sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary for the given year.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS (Applicant's material MUST INCLUDE)

1. Completed application form.
2. Proof of need of financial assistance.
3. Letter of authorization from sponsoring Unit – signed by both the Unit President and Unit Children and Youth Chairman.
4. Three (3) letters of recommendation:
 - a. A letter from clergy of applicant's choice.
 - b. A letter from the Dean of Studies or College Registrar stating averages and confirming the course of study is that which is required in preparing to teach mentally or physically challenged children.

- c. A letter from the College Counselor, on official stationery, stating the applicant's emotional stability, social development and civic awareness.
5. An essay or composition, not more than 500 words, in which the applicant states the motivation for choosing this special field of education and goals which the applicant hopes to attain after graduation.
6. The completed application packet must be sent by applicant to the sponsoring Unit **NO LATER THAN MARCH 15, 2012.**

NOTE: Sponsoring Unit **MUST VERIFY** all necessary information is in the application packet and then forward it to the Department Children and Youth Chairman, **Judy Shippee, 8155 Mound Road, Lena, IL 61048, NO LATER THAN APRIL 1, 2012.**