

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Department of Illinois
2011-2012

SUBJECT: ILLINOIS SCHOLARSHIP FOR JUNIOR MEMBERS

Applicants for this award shall be Junior members of the Department of Illinois American Legion Auxiliary, said Junior to have held membership in the Department of Illinois American Legion Auxiliary for the past three (3) years and must now hold a Junior membership card for the year 2012. Junior members may be daughters, granddaughters, great-granddaughters, or sisters of the veteran.

The Illinois Scholarship for Junior members will provide \$1,000 scholarships as funds permit.

The full amount of the scholarship will be paid in one payment. Each recipient will be required to sign an agreement that in the event she does not complete the semester of school as planned, arrangements must be made with the American Legion Auxiliary within thirty (30) days for the return of the full amount of the scholarship.

RULES GOVERNING THIS SCHOLARSHIP:

1. Applicant must be in her senior year or a graduate of an accredited high school, but she may not have attended an institution of higher learning. (College courses taken while High School student do not apply) **Those pursuing a NURSING career are not eligible for the Illinois Scholarship for Junior Members and MUST apply to our Nurses Scholarship program even if they are enrolling in a college school of nursing.**
2. Application for the Illinois Scholarship for Junior Member **must be secured from and returned to the sponsoring Unit.** The Unit may request additional applications from Department Headquarters.
3. A Unit may enter **ONLY ONE APPLICANT IN DEPARTMENT COMPETITION** sponsored under the Education Program and an applicant may be sponsored by only one Unit.
4. If a Unit has more than one applicant, a committee of three qualified people shall be appointed to serve as judges. Judging as follows:
 - A. **CHARACTER /LEADERSHIP–25%** - High standard of conduct, keen sense of right, strength of character, adherence to truth and conscience, and devotion to church and religious principles and volunteerism, ability to lead and to accomplish through group action, personal magnetism, guidance and thought of others. Volunteer participation in Auxiliary programs.
 - B. **ESSAY - 25%** - Content and spelling.
 - C. **SCHOLARSHIP – 25%** - Scholastic attainment with grades of most recent year of study and rank in class.
 - D. **BASIS OF NEED – 25%** - Actual need of financial assistance in order to continue higher education.
5. The scholarship must be used within twelve (12) months of date received.

6. All applicants shall be notified of the results and a copy of the letter sent to the sponsoring Unit President. Application packets will not be returned.
7. The applicant is limited to applying for ONLY ONE ILLINOIS SCHOLARSHIP SPONSORED UNDER THE EDUCATION PROGRAM BY THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY.
8. In order to sponsor an applicant for this scholarship, the UNIT MUST HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE EDUCATION FUND BY MARCH 15, 2012.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS (Applicant material MUST INCLUDE)

1. Completed application.
2. The following three (3) letters of recommendation or reference are required. (Recommendation letters from school and clergy/church official **must be on letterhead and all letters signed.**)
 - a. One from either the principal or guidance counselor of the school from which the applicant is attending or a graduate.
 - b. One from a clergy/church official of applicant's choice.
 - c. One (1) from adult citizen, other than a relative, attesting to the applicant's character in regard to conduct, citizenship and leadership.
3. List of volunteer activities and hours, including extra curricular activities.
4. An original essay written by applicant consisting of not more than 1000 words. The title of the essay will be "**The Veteran in My Life.**"
5. Certified transcript or photocopy of the high school grades of the applicant.
6. A brief statement of the military service of parent or grandparents, including the branch of service and dates of service, or a photocopy of parent's or grandparent's discharge papers."
7. Copy of latest Federal Income Tax Return for proof of need (Parent's)
8. **The completed application packet must be submitted by the applicant to the sponsoring Auxiliary Unit PRIOR TO MARCH 15, 2012.**

NOTE: Sponsoring Unit **MUST sign back of application and VERIFY** all necessary information is in the packet. Application **MUST BE** submitted on an American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Illinois form. The Application packet **MUST BE** mailed flat. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

The Unit **MUST SUBMIT** the completed application packet to be received NO LATER THAN APRIL 1, 2012 to the Department Education Committee Member, **TERI MILLER, 315 REPUBLIC, PEORIA, IL 61604-3540 (309)688-9088 miller5058@att.net**. Postal regulations require that this material be mailed First Class.