

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Department of Illinois
2011-2012

SUBJECT: MILDRED R. KNOLES SCHOLARSHIP – (Presently attending college)

Applicants for this award shall be Veterans, children or grandchildren or great-grandchildren of veterans who served in the Armed Forces during eligibility dates for membership in The American Legion. (a) April 6, 1917 through November 11, 1918 (WWI); (b) December 7, 1941 through December 31, 1946 (WWII); (c) June 25, 1950 through January 31, 1955 (Korea); (d) February 28, 1961 through May 7, 1975 (Vietnam); (e) August 24, 1982 through July 31, 1984 (Grenada & Lebanon); (f) December 20, 1989 through January 31, 1990 (Panama Canal); (g) August 2, 1990 through cessation (Persian Gulf), presently attending college, who are in need of financial assistance. Applicant must be a resident of the State of Illinois, or a member in good standing of The American Legion Family, Department of Illinois.

The Mildred R. Knoles Scholarship will provide \$1,000 scholarships as funds permit.

The full amount of the scholarship will be paid in one payment. Each winning applicant will be required to sign an agreement that in the event he/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 **presently attending** college and have an endorsement from an American Legion Auxiliary Unit. **Those pursuing a NURSING career are not eligible for the Mildred R. Knoles and MUST apply to our Nurses Scholarship program even if they are enrolled in a college school of nursing.**
2. Application for the Mildred R. Knoles Scholarship 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; devotion to church and religious principles and volunteerism Ability to lead and to accomplish through group action, personal magnetism, guidance and thought of others.
 - B. ESSAY – 25 % - Content and spelling.
 - C. SCHOLARSHIP – 25% - Scholastic attainment; with grades of most recent year of schooling, evidence of industry and application in studies.
 - D. BASIS OF NEED – 25% - Actual need of financial assistance in order to continue higher education.

5. Applicants shall be notified of the results and a copy of the letter sent to the sponsoring Unit President. No application packets will be returned.
6. The scholarship must be used within twelve (12) months of the date received.
7. The applicant is limited to applying for ONLY ONE ILLINOIS SCHOLARSHIP sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary for a given year.
8. The sponsoring Unit MUST HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE EDUCATION FUND BY MARCH 15, 2012.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS: (Applicant material MUST include)

1. Completed application.
2. Three (3) letters of recommendation or reference from the following: (Recommendation letters from school and clergy/church official **must be on letterhead and all letters signed.**)
 - a. College/University Dean, Counselor, or a Department Head.
 - b. Clergy/church official of applicant's choice
 - c. Adult citizen, other than a relative, attesting to the applicant's character in regard to conduct, citizenship, leadership and basis of need.
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 **"What My Education Will Do for Me."**
5. A certified transcript or photocopy of College/University grades.
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 (Parent's and student or in case of veteran, his or her own.)
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, **PAT KRANZOW, 10830 CRESTVIEW ROAD, COUNTRYSIDE, IL 60525-4747 (708) 246-4372 pkranzow@att.net**. Postal regulations require that this material be mailed First Class.