



## Education eBulletin Series 2018-2019 - #04a



DATE: December 12, 2018

FROM: Linda Feezer, National Education Committee Member

SUBJECT: Timeline & Judging for American Legion Auxiliary Scholarships

As many know, the American Legion Auxiliary has three national scholarships that are awarded each year:

- Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship - 15 - \$5,000 scholarships
- Spirit of Youth Scholarship - 5 - \$5,000 scholarships
- Non-Traditional Student Scholarship - 5 - \$2,000 scholarships

Units and Departments should have already distributed information about all three and promoted them in their communities. Now what?

It is time to start thinking about what to do with the applications received by your Unit. For an easy reference guide, the following dates will help as Units and Departments begin to evaluate applications so that successful recipients may be selected:

- **March 1** - Scholarship applications are due to **Units**
- **March 15** - Certified Unit entries are due to **Department Education Chairman**
- **April 1** - Certified Department entries are due to **Division Education Chairman**
- **April 15** - Certified Division entries due to the **National Education Chairman**
- **May** – Scholarship recipients and their sponsoring Units will be notified by mail and posted to the National ALA website and social media accounts. A complete list of the winners will be sent to Department Secretaries and Department Education Chairmen.

You might also want to reference the following documents on the Education program page when you log in to the Members Only section at

<https://www.alaforveterans.org/Programs/Education/> to help answer both your and an applicant's questions:

- ALA Scholarships FAQ– *provides details on all three ALA scholarships as well as James H Parke Scholarship and the Samsung American Legion Scholarship*
- Scholarship Press Release Template – *a fill-in-the-blank press release to be used by your Unit*
- Your Role with National Scholarships – *provides clear-cut procedures to promote the*

*ALA Scholarships, as well as judging guidelines and scoresheets to determine scholarship recipients at all levels.*

### Things to Remember While Judging:

- Does the applicant meet all the qualifications?
- Are all of the required documents included? Be sure nothing is left out; references, transcripts, photographs or anything else the application requires.
- Is the form completely filled out? Scan the application to see if there have been any questions left unanswered and all required signatures are included.

### Your Next Step:

- Complete a certification form regarding your submission of scholarships to the next level of judging. These forms are found at the end of the application form and may be reproduced.
- Keep a copy of the entire application in case it is lost or damaged. Be sure to keep it, and all other applications and scoresheets, in a secure place. The applications include personally identifiable information (PII), and it's vital that we maintain this information securely.

### **How the ALA Education Program has helped:**

Our American Legion Auxiliary's Mission is to support our veterans, our military and their families. What better way than to provide the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship in support of the children of our servicemembers?

Asia Werner, sponsored by Havelock D. Nelson Unit 681 in Ohio, was selected as the recipient of one such scholarship, and here is an excerpt of her note of appreciation:

*"I was blessed to have been selected for one of the \$5000 scholarships. I want to thank you so much for awarding me with a Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship. This will make college a lot less stressful for me and my family, while helping me live and work towards my lifelong dream of becoming a nurse. Again, I want to sincerely thank you for selecting me for this awesome scholarship. I will be living at home while attending college, so this money will go directly toward my admission. I will be staring at [college] full-time this August."*

ALA Scholarship information and applications can be found at:

<https://www.alaforveterans.org/Programs/Education/>, on the ALA Education Program Facebook group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1489034401420831/> or you can contact National Headquarters at (317) 569-4500 or [education@ALAforVeterans.org](mailto:education@ALAforVeterans.org).

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