

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Jim Stewart VFW Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship was established by the Woodridge Veterans of Foreign Wars Memorial Post #1578 with the intention of assisting high school students in their pursuit of continuing education. The applicant must demonstrate the spirit of what Comrade Stewart believed in – namely his patriotic and community based principles. This fund was established and shall be implemented annually, beginning with the 2006-2007 school year.

Eligibility – The applicant must be a descendant of a VFW-eligible veteran. That is, he or she must be a child or step-child, granddaughter or grandson, great-granddaughter or great-grandson, or brother or sister of a veteran who is/was eligible for membership into the VFW. That veteran need not be a current member. However, proof of eligibility is required (DD Form 214).

The applicant must be graduating from either Downers Grove North or Downers Grove South High School in the current school year with plans to pursue a higher education. This refers to schooling beyond the high school level, whether academic, vocational, or technical, taken at any state accredited institution of learning or training. A maximum of two \$1,000.00 scholarships will be awarded, one to a student from each high school.

Criteria – Financial need shall not be a factor in awarding scholarships.

The applicant must demonstrate self-motivation, leadership, and a commitment to community service based on the following:

- Social behavior
- Community involvement
- Patriotism
- Extra-curricular activities
- GPA of 2.5 or better
- Two letters of recommendation are required. At least one must be from a teacher, counselor, or a school administrator and one should be from a community organization
- An essay stating how the applicant intends to use their education to better themselves and their community
- A transcript of high school grades.

Selection process – A fair, equitable, and unbiased measurement system will be used by the Scholarship Committee to weigh factors for all criteria. All judging will be done with applicant's name or other identifying marks removed from their submissions.

Awards – No cash awards will be made. Payments will be for tuition, books, supplies, and incidental fees. In the event the entire amount is not used, the remainder will be returned to the Post Scholarship Fund.

Payment will be made directly to a Financial Officer of the school involved.

Deadlines – The deadline for student applications is April 30th. The selection process will be made no later than May 31st.

APPLICATION FORM

Student Full Name _____

Student's Address _____

Date of Birth _____

Social Security Number _____

Telephone Number () _____

Father _____

Father's Address _____

Mother _____

Mother's Address _____

Name and relationship to veteran _____

High School Attending _____

GPA as of January 30 _____

What school do you plan on attending? _____

Please list all high school activities (athletics, clubs, etc.). Include any leadership role you have taken, offices held, awards/honors.

Name of Club/Organization

Class Year

Office Held

Volunteer/Community Activity (describe)

Advisor's Name & Number

Additional Requirements:

- Attach an essay of 200 words or less and what your personal and professional goals are and how you intend to use your education to better yourself and your community. Also, please feel free to include any other accomplishments or personal achievements that are not listed on the application form.

Application submission:

- Complete this application in ink
- Attach the written essay
- At least two letters of recommendation. At least one must be from a teacher, counselor, or a school administrator and one should be from a community organization
- A copy of your current transcript
- Proof of veteran descendant as mentioned in application eligibility
- Submit this application and all requirements to your Counseling Office no later than April 30th.

I understand that the above information will be held in strict confidence and will not be released to anyone outside the scholarship selection process. If selected for the scholarship, I grant permission to the Veterans of Foreign Wars to publicly announce my selection.

Applicant's Signature

Date