Ohio Unit Plan of Action

EDUCATION

CHAIRMAN
Jordan Smith
4763 Possum Run Rd
Bellville, OH. 44813
419-631-0044
Email: jsmith450009@gmail.com

VICE CHAIRMAN
Louise Smerk
14545 Sylvia Dr
Brook Park, OH. 44142
216-337-4037
Email: louisesmerk@gmail.com

REPORT DUE: May 1, 2027

REPORT DUE TO DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN BY:	MAY 1, 2027

Department Report Form

This Form should be attached to each narrative submitted for information, Citation of Merit requirements and possible Department award. Please fill out the information completely and accurately. A Unit must submit this report form with boxes completed and answer the questions below to earn the Citation of Merit. Narrative word count must follow directions given in award guidelines. Simple or elaborate stories will be accepted as a report.

Please complete the following with the complete name of your Unit: _____

District: _____	Unit #: _____	Unit Membership Goal: _____	Unit Membership Total as of Report: ____	
Name of Person Completing Report:		Unit Chair	Unit President	
Phone #		Email:		Membership ID (if available)
Specific Award Name (if applicable)				

Narrative Guidelines:
Narrative must be typed written in narrative form.
Narrative must not exceed 1,000 words. (Can be fewer words if program dictates)
Narrative may include photographs and news articles.

Answer the following Questions in your narrative

Did members/unit participate in Teacher Appreciation Week or National Education Week? _____
If so, how did they participate? _____

_____

_____

Did your Unit participate in Give 10 to Education Program? ____ Number of members participating: _____
Value of donations: _____ What type of donations were made? _____

_____

_____

Did your Unit schedule a Veterans in Community Schools Program? If so, how were they presented?

_____

_____

_____

Did Unit actively support veterans' association on campus? How? Include the amount of money spent or value of donations: _____

_____

_____

_____

Did your Unit offer scholarships? If so, how were the winners recognized? How were scholarships promoted?

_____

_____

_____

_____

How many scholarship applications did your Unit receive? _____ Unit: _____
Department: _____ National: _____

How much money has your Unit contributed to the Nurse's Scholarship? _____

5. Scholarships Presented/Awarded by Our Unit

	Scholarships	Obtain from	Total
Line 21	Number of unit scholarships presented/awarded	***Unit Records***	
Line 22	Total dollar amount of unit scholarships	***Unit Records***	$
Line 23	Total dollar amount donated to department scholarships	***Unit Records***	$

EDUCATION

Get Involved

Purpose: The purpose of the Education Committee is to promote quality education for children—especially for military children—and adults. *Standing Rule #6, Mission Outreach Programs.*

Promote quality education for children, especially for military children, and adults.

- Participate in ALA's Give 10 to Education.
  - Present a Give 10 to Education certificate to members who donate at least 10 items to schools.
- Participating in Teachers Appreciation Week, November 16-20, 2026.
  - Contact local Parent Teacher Organizations or schools to see what your unit could sponsor or donate (e.g., donating doughnuts to your local schools).
  - Show your appreciation to teachers by designing and presenting certificates of appreciation.
  - Provide Teacher Survival Kits with fun and helpful items such as candy and snacks, tea bags or coffee, restaurant gift cards, or items for the classroom.
- Participate in American Education Week, November 16-20, 2026
  - Recognize school administrators and all staff with special treats.
- Encourage schools to participate in Month of the Military Child and Purple Up! Day in April to honor their students who are military children.
  - Sponsor Purple Up! Day on April 15 in your school by providing purple items for students to wear.
  - Present the Military Child Table at your school, unit meeting, or at your post.
  - Sponsor a party for the military children in your school.

Ohio Unit Plan of Action

- **OHIO** – Encourage the Military Children Education Coalition (MCEC) - https://www.militarychild.org

Encourage schools to invite veterans to speak in their classrooms.

- Work with your American Legion post to participate in Veterans in Community Schools.
- Ask the teacher(s) to have their students make cards for the veteran.
- Ask the teacher(s) to have their students make cards for the Veteran's Day Assembly.
- Work with the teacher(s) to prepare students to ask questions of the veteran.

Support and promote the Education Program and scholarship opportunities of The American Legion Family.

- Promote the American Legion Auxiliary's scholarships.
- Promote The American Legion's scholarships by visiting https://www.legion.org/scholarships to learn more about the Legion's scholarship opportunities.
- Promote BGS within Department of Ohio – www.buckeyegirlsstate.org

Provide scholarships for students who desire a college education.

- Work with your unit to create a scholarship.
- Assign a member to communicate with schools regarding scholarship applications.
- Ask schools to allow you to do a bulletin board about scholarship opportunities within The American Legion Family.
- Publish information in your local newspaper, libraries, and on your unit's social media.
- Prepare a news release with scholarship information for local media and your post/unit newsletter and/or websites.
- Publicize the scholarship winners at a school presentation and in the media.
- Promote scholarships within schools – most schools have huge scholarship packets.
- Host a "Scholarship Night" Zoom meeting to inform students and parents about Legion Family scholarship opportunities.
- Start a partnership with a local college to provide their students with scholarship information.
- Ask the local Board of Education to host a "Scholarship Workshop" in their schools.
    - Work with the schools to invite college administrators to speak.
    - Have volunteers assist students with scholarship applications.
- Promote the Department's Women Veteran's Scholarship. Application and criteria are attached.

Support legislation that establishes new scholarship opportunities.

- Support The American Legion's efforts by signing up for legislative alerts at https://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/home.
- Contact your representatives and ask them to support scholarship opportunities, particularly those for veterans, military, and their families.

Important dates to remember:

- **November 16-20, 2026**: American Education Week
- **March 1**: National scholarship applications due
- **April 15**: Purple Up! Day for Military Children
- **May 1**: Department chairmen report due to division chairmen; cc: national chairman
- **May 3-7, 2027**: Teacher Appreciation Week
- **May 4, 2027**: National Teacher Day

Ohio Unit Plan of Action

EDUCATION RESOURCES

- Education National Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/groups/ALAEducation
- ALA National Website: https://member.legion-aux.org/member/committees/education
- **America's Veterans Teacher Guide,** *The American Legion* http://www.legion.org/documents/pdf/veterans.pdf
- **Promoting Historic Preservation in Community Schools**, *The History Channel* http://www.history.com/images/media/interactives/promote_historic_preservation.pdf
- **Our Veterans: Sharing Their Stories,** *The History Channel* https://images.history.com/images/media/pdf/OurVeteransOurStories.pdf
- **Veterans History Project**, *U.S. Library of Congress* http://www.loc.gov/vets/
- **Buckeye Girls State** www.buckeyegirlsstate.org

Year-End Reports

Annual reports reflect the program work of the units in the department and may result in a national award for participants if award requirements are met. Each Unit Education chairman is required to submit a narrative report by **May 1 ,2027,** to the Department Education Chairman (address listed on front page).

NATIONAL AWARD INFORMATION & DEADLINE

Most Outstanding Unit Education Program – one per division.
The Agnes Merritt Plaque winner will be sent on to National to compete for this National Award.
Give 10 to Education – A citation will be presented to participants of Give 10 to Education.

National Scholarships

All ALA scholarships must be submitted by **March 1, 2027**, to a local American Legion Auxiliary Unit. Local American Legion Auxiliary Units must forward applications by **March 15, 2027**, to Department Education Chairman, Jordan Smith, 4763 Possum Run Rd, Bellville, OH. 44813. **(As of this printing, National has not completed these National scholarship forms. Please check website after October 1, 2027, for details.)**

1. **Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship**
2. **The Non-Traditional Student Scholarship**
3. **Spirit of Youth Scholarship**
4. **Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship**

Please fill out the information as completely and accurately as possible. Award certificates will be completed using the information given on this sheet, so please be sure to complete the electronic form in its entirety.

DEPARTMENT AWARD INFORMATION & DEADLINE

Agnes Merritt Plaque – This plaque will be presented to the Unit Education Chairman with the Most Outstanding Overall Education Program. Award entry shall be in narrative form and must not exceed 1,000 words. Include specific examples of how your Unit worked the Education Program, including Veterans in Community Schools. The cover page must have the name of the award entry, Department name, Unit name and number, and name and address of the Unit Chairman. Please include pictures, clippings, news releases, etc. Entry must be submitted by **April 15, 2027,** to Department Education Chairman Jordan Smith, 4763 Possum Run Rd, Bellville, OH. 44813

Betty Robaszkiewicz Plaque – This plaque will be presented to the Unit contributing the largest monetary donation to the Department of Ohio Education Fund. Donations must be submitted to the American Legion Auxiliary, Department Headquarters, 1100 Brandywine Blvd Ste D, Zanesville, Ohio 43702-2760, earmarked Education Fund by **June 1, 2027**.

Jo Hrabak Plaque
Unit contributing the largest monetary donation to the Nurses Scholarship Fund. Award will be determined by total dollars collected through **June 1, 2027,** and is to be calculated by Department HQs.

Nurses' Scholarship – see scholarship application at back of this POA. When application is completed, it must be sent to Unit for signature by **April 15, 2027,** and Unit is to forward the application on to the Vice Chairman, Louise Smerk, 14545 Sylvia Dr, Brook Park, OH. 44142by **May 1, 2027.**

American Legion Auxiliary
Give 10 to Education
Suggested Donation Items and Tracking Sheet

Suggested Item	Quantity	Monetary Value
Books		
Backpack/Book bag		
Loose Paper		
Notebooks		
Folders		
3-Ring Binders		
Pencils		
Pens		
Erasers		
Highlighters		
Crayons		
Colored Pencils		
Markers		
Pencil Box/Pencil Case		
Scissors		
Glue/Glue Sticks		
Ruler		
Calculator		
Craft Supplies		
Kleenex/Paper Towels		
Hand Sanitizer		
Disinfecting Wipes/Baby Wipes		
Mentoring/Reading		
Donation to School		
Donation to Library		
Donation to Scholarship		
Clothing		
Patriotic Item		
Sports Equipment/Games		
Box Tops 4 Education		
Paper Plates, Ziplock bags, Plastic Silverware		
Totals:		

Ohio Unit Plan of Action

For Office Use Only

_____ Emailed to Education Vice Chair on

_____(date)

EDUCATION
2026-2027 Nurses Scholarship Fund Donations

The "Josephine Harbak Plaque" will be presented to the Unit contributing the largest monetary donation to the Nurses Scholarship Fund. Please send donations by June 1, 2027 (earmarked Nurses Scholarship) with this completed form to:

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF OHIO
1100 BRANDYWINE BLVD STE D
ZANESVILLE, OHIO 43701
(740) 452-8245

Donation of $_____ for the Nurses Scholarship fund.

UNIT # _____ DISTRICT _____

UNIT NAME _____

UNIT PRESIDENT OR EDUCATION CHAIRMAN _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER (_____) _____ - _____ EMAIL _____

A donation of $300.00 or more will entitle donor to have a scholarship presented in the Individual/Unit/County/District name.

Donations may also be made as a memorial. Please designate the individual to be memorialized.

In MEMORY of _____

An acknowledgement of memorial will be sent to the individual's family if desired. Please provide the following information.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Department of Ohio

CONTINUING EDUCATION GRANT

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE 2027-2028 SCHOOL YEAR

- Applications for the 2027-2028 school year must be submitted by December 1, 2026, to the Department Education Chairman.
- All available grants for the 2027-28 school year will be awarded by January 1, 2027

The American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Ohio, has established the Ohio American Legion Auxiliary Continuing Education Fund to help meet the needs of upperclassmen. Frequently, students in colleges, universities, or other institutions wishing to further their education are in urgent need of additional financial aid to complete a quarter, semester, or year. Grant amount to be made payable to student and school attending.

Grants of $250.00 each will be given until all allocated funds are disbursed for the 2026-2027 school year. These grants will be distributed to qualified applicants based on the completed application. Order additional applications from: American Legion Auxiliary, Scholarship Coordinator, PO Box 2760, Zanesville, Ohio 43702-2760, or by downloading from the alaohio.org website under Scholarships.

1. The applicant must be active duty **or** an honorably discharged veteran **or** a spouse, daughter, or son (adopted, step, grand, or great-grand) of a living, deceased, or disabled honorably discharged veteran who served during these active war dates:
   -Due to the signing of the Let Everyone Get Involved with Opportunities for National Service – The LEGION ACT – eligibility for membership in The American Legion has been changed from the former seven war eras to two: April 6, 1917 – Nov. 11, 1918 and Dec. 7, 1941 – current.
2. Attach to this application a photocopy of the veteran's Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (i.e.: Form DD-214) or other government document showing time served on active military duty during the eligibility period(s) indicated above.
3. The applicant must be a resident of Ohio or a member of an Ohio American Legion Auxiliary Unit.
4. The applicant must be sponsored by an Ohio American Legion Auxiliary Unit.
5. The applicant must show proof of program enrollment (a current schedule of enrolled classes, a receipt from current tuition payment, or a current copy of transcript).
6. The applicant must sign and date the application.
7. A Unit Officer must sign this application.
8. Grant amount to be made payable to student.
9. Forward the application by the **December 1, 2026**, deadline with all supporting documents to the Department Education Chairman:

Jordan Smith
4763 Possum Run Rd
Bellville, OH. 44813
419-631-0044
jsmith450009@gmail.com

(Over for Application)

CONTINUING EDUCATION GRANT
APPLICATION FOR THE 2027-2028 SCHOOL YEAR

_____
Name of Applicant

_____ ____/____/_____
Address Birth Date

_____, Ohio _____ (_____) _____-_____
City Zip Code Phone Number

_____
Name of Veteran

Veteran Affiliation:				
(Indicate with (√))	Wife	[____]	Husband	[____]
	Daughter	[____]	Son	[____]
	Adopted Daughter	[____]	Adopted Son	[____]
Self [____]	Step-Daughter	[____]	Step-Son	[____]
	Granddaughter	[____]	Grandson	[____]
	Great Granddaughter	[____]	Great Grandson	[____]

Brief statement and date of Military Service _____

_____

_____

Financial Information	Family	Applicant
Family Income	$_____	$_____
Social Security Income	$_____	$_____
VA Benefits	$_____	$_____
Other	$_____	$_____

Number in Household _____ Number currently attending College _____

_____
College Name and Address

_____

Full-time student _____ Part-time student _____ What year in school? _____

_____
Major(s) / Minor(s) of Study

College Expenses (Please list and explain) _____

_____

Brief statement of individual need _____

_____

Have you previously received a Continuing Education Grant from the American Legion Auxiliary? ____ yes ____ no

_____ _____/_____/_____ (_____) _____-_____
Signature of Applicant Date Phone Number

_____ _____/_____ (_____) _____-_____
SIGNATURE OF AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT OFFICER DISTRICT/UNIT NUMBER UNIT REPRESENTATIVE'S PHONE #

Submit to: Jordan Smith, 4763 Possum Run Rd, Bellville, OH. 44813.

Ohio Unit Plan of Action

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Department of Ohio

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S SCHOLARSHIP

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE 2027-28 SCHOOL YEAR

The American Legion Auxiliary of Ohio awards one scholarship of $1,500 annually. This is a gift scholarship, not a loan. The amount is sent in payments directly to the college of the winner's choice. One scholarship of $1,000 is awarded to the second-place scholarship applicant. The amount to be paid as requested by the school. Order additional applications from: American Legion Auxiliary, 1100 Brandywine Blvd Ste D, Zanesville, Ohio 43701, or by downloading from the alaohio.org website under the Scholarships tab.

1. The applicant must be an honorably discharged veteran or a son or daughter (adopted, step, grand, or great-grand) of a living, deceased, or disabled honorably discharged veteran who served during these active war dates:
   -Due to the signing of the Let Everyone Get Involved with Opportunities for National Service – The LEGION ACT – eligibility for membership in The American Legion has been changed from the former seven war eras to two: April 6, 1917 – Nov. 11, 1918 and Dec. 7, 1941 – current.

Attach to this application a **photocopy** of the veteran's Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (i.e.: Form DD-214) or other government document showing time served on active military duty during the eligibility period(s) indicated above.

2. The applicant must be a resident of Ohio or a member of an Ohio American Legion Auxiliary Unit.
3. The applicant must be sponsored by an Ohio American Legion Auxiliary Unit.
4. The applicant must be preparing to enter his/her freshman year of college.
5. The completed application must be returned to the American Legion Auxiliary Unit by March 1, 2026.
6. The winner shall be selected based on the following criteria: 1- Americanism, 2 - Character, 3 - Financial Need, 4 - Leadership, and 5 - Academics.
7. The following items must accompany this application:
   A) Three letters of recommendation from:
      1) A member of the clergy or a representative to attest to devotional beliefs.
      2) A faculty member from the High School attended by the applicant.
      3) A representative of the community.
   B) An original essay of not more than 500 words entitled "*Education and the American Dream*". All words and symbols count.
   C) A transcript of High School grades.
   D) An acceptance letter from the college or university and/or financial letter. Be sure to include student id number and address for the receipt of scholarship funds that may be given.
9. The applicant must sign and date the application.
10. An officer of the sponsoring Unit must sign this application. A Unit may sponsor only one candidate per scholarship.

Forward the application by the **March 15, 2027**, deadline with all supporting documents to the Department Education Chairman:

Jordan Smith,
4763 Possum Run Rd
Bellville, OH. 44813.
jsmith450009@gmail.com

Ohio Unit Plan of Action

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATION FOR THE 2027-28 SCHOOL YEAR

_____
Name of Applicant

_____ ____/____/_____
Address Birth Date

_____, Ohio _____ (_____) _____-_____
City Zip Code Phone Number

_____
Name of Veteran

Veteran Affiliation:	Wife	☐	Husband	☐
(Indicate with (√))	Daughter	☐	Son	☐
	Adopted Daughter	☐	Adopted Son	☐
Self ☐	Step-Daughter	☐	Step-Son	☐
	Granddaughter	☐	Grandson	☐
	Great Granddaughter	☐	Great Grandson	☐

Brief statement and date of Military Service _____

_____

_____

Financial Information	Family	Applicant
Family Income	$_____	$_____
Social Security Income	$_____	$_____
VA Benefits	$_____	$_____
Other	$_____	$_____

Number in Household _____ Number currently attending College _____

College Name:
College Address:

Full-time student ☐ Part-time student ☐ What year in school? _____

_____
Major(s) / Minor(s) of Study

Brief statement of individual need _____

_____

_____

_____ _____/_____/_____ _____
High School Attended Graduation Date College You Plan to Attend

_____ _____/_____/_____ (_____) _____-_____
Signature of Applicant Date Phone Number

_____ _____/_____ (_____) _____-_____
SIGNATURE OF AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT OFFICER DISTRICT/UNIT NUMBER UNIT REPRESENTATIVE'S PHONE #

Submit to: Jordan Smith, 4763 Possum Run Rd, Bellville, OH. 44813.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Department of Ohio

NURSES' SCHOLARSHIP

2026-27 INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE 2027-28 SCHOOL YEAR

The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Ohio has a program to assist students pursuing a degree in the nursing field. The scholarships are available from Department Headquarters: American Legion Auxiliary, 1100 Brandywine Blvd. Ste D, Zanesville, Ohio 43701 or can be downloaded from the www.alaohio.org web site found under the Scholarship tab. Local Auxiliary Units should contact their local high schools on the availability of this scholarship.

1. The applicant must be an honorably discharged veteran or a son or daughter (adopted, step, grand, or great-grand) of a living, deceased, or disabled honorably discharged veteran who served during these active war dates:
   -Due to the signing of the Let Everyone Get Involved with Opportunities for National Service – The LEGION ACT – eligibility for membership in The American Legion has been changed from the former seven war eras to two: 1. April 6, 1917 through Nov. 11, 1918 and 2. Dec. 7, 1941 through current.
2. Attach to this application a **photocopy** of the veteran's Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (i.e.: Form DD-214) or other government document showing time served on active military duty during the eligibility period(s) indicated above.
3. The applicant must be a resident of Ohio.
4. The applicant must be sponsored by an Ohio American Legion Auxiliary Unit.
5. The scholarship may be used at the nursing school of the student's choice. Proof of acceptance must be attached to application along with a current class schedule or current financial aid letter.
6. Accompanying the application must be three letters of recommendation from:
   1) A member of the clergy or a representative to attest to devotional beliefs.
   2) A representative of the community.
   3) The applicant stating his/her financial need and why he/she feels they are deserving of this scholarship.
7. The applicant must sign and date the application.
8. The completed application must be returned to the American Legion Auxiliary Unit by **April 15, 2027.**
9. The Unit President must sign the application and forward it by **May 1, 2027,** with all supporting documents, to the Department Education Vice Chairman:

Louise Smerk
Education Vice Chairman
14545 Sylvia Dr
Brook Park, OH. 44142
216-337-4037
Email: louisesmerk@gmail.com

Ohio Unit Plan of Action

NURSES' SCHOLARSHIP

2026– 2027 APPLICATION FOR THE 2027-2028 SCHOOL YEAR

_____
Name of Applicant

_____ ____/____/_____
Address Birth Date

_____, Ohio _____ (_____) _____-_____
City Zip Code Phone Number

_____
Name of Veteran

Veteran Affiliation:	Wife	☐	Husband	☐
(Indicate with (√))	Daughter	☐	Son	☐
	Adopted Daughter	☐	Adopted Son	☐
Self ☐	Step-Daughter	☐	Step-Son	☐
	Granddaughter	☐	Grandson	☐
	Great Granddaughter	☐	Great Grandson	☐

Brief statement and date of Military Service _____

_____

_____

Financial Information	Family	Applicant
Family Income	$_____	$_____
Social Security Income	$_____	$_____
VA Benefits	$_____	$_____
Other	$_____	$_____

Number in Household _____ Number currently attending College _____

College Name:
College Address:

Full-time student ☐ Part-time student ☐ What year in school? _____

_____
Major(s) / Minor(s) of Study

College Expenses (Please list and explain) _____

_____

Brief statement of individual need _____

_____

Have you previously received a Nurses' Scholarship from the American Legion Auxiliary? ☐Yes ☐No

_____ _____/_____/_____ (_____) _____-_____
Signature of Applicant Date Phone Number

_____ _____/_____ (_____) _____-_____
SIGNATURE OF AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT OFFICER DISTRICT/UNIT NUMBER UNIT REPRESENTATIVE'S PHONE #

Submit to: Louise Smerk, Education Vice Chairman 14545 Sylvia Dr Brook Park, OH. 44142
Email: louisesmerk@gmail.com

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Department of Ohio

WOMEN VETERAN'S SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE 2027-2028 SCHOOL YEAR

The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Ohio recognizes the importance of education and the role it plays in personal, professional, and economic fulfillment. The Women Veterans Scholarship Program provides grants to women who serve, past and present, to help them attain their educational goals. The Women Veterans Scholarship Program offers financial support in Undergraduate Degrees, and Graduate Degrees. Scholarships are awarded only for coursework from accredited institutions. Scholarships are based on merit, academic potential, community service, letters of recommendation, and need.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Applicant must be a woman who has served or is serving honorably in the U.S. Armed Forces; Active, Reserve, or National who served honorably and is a resident of Ohio.
2. **Undergraduate Program:** Applicant must be currently enrolled at an accredited college or university and have completed 30 credit hours of course work with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better.
3. **Graduate Program:** Applicant must have achieved an undergraduate degree with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 and must be enrolled in or accepted into a Graduate level program — Masters or Doctoral.

AWARDS

Selection of the Scholarship recipient(s) are made by the Education Committee appointed by the Board of Directors of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Ohio. The Committee will determine the two (2) scholarship winners to be awarded $500.00 for each scholarship. The scholarship funds may be used to assist with tuition, fees, books, and school documented room and board. Scholarships are awarded only to students attending accredited institutions. The funds will be sent directly to the recipient. If selected, Scholarship recipients are to provide a) a photograph and a statement for use in American Legion Auxiliary Department of Ohio publications, newsletter, website, social media, and marketing materials, etc. and b) follow-up information and feedback as to how the scholarship assisted in their education for research and marketing.

CRITERIA

All application materials, including application form, essay, official transcript(s), two recommendations, proof of enrollment at designated accredited academic institution, as well as commander's verification of active duty or qualified documentation of service (e.g., Dept. of Defense Form DD-214, Discharge Documents, Active Service Documents, etc.) must be submitted and postmarked by May 1, 2027.

List of Required materials:

- Application – This form is required. You may apply for only one scholarship.
- Verification of active duty or qualified documentation of service (e.g., Dept. of Defense Form DD-214, Discharge Documents, Active Service Documents, etc.)
- An official transcript from their college or university is required. For new applicants to a community college, high school transcripts or GED documentation must accompany the application along with their acceptance letter from the college/university.

Ohio Unit Plan of Action

- Two letters of recommendation (on letterhead for reference letters) with titles and contact information are also required. One letter of recommendation MUST be from a school advisor, counselor, dean of students, professor, etc. Letters of recommendation should demonstrate why a Scholarship should be awarded to the specific student.
- The application requires a short essay (2 pages or less, typed, double-spaced) highlighting why the recipient should be considered for this scholarship. The essay must address future plans as related to the applicant's selected program of study and must include pertinent information in assessing an applicant's other areas to include community service, activities, and work experience. The applicant must also address specifically how the Military has impacted their life and/or goals.
- All materials must be labeled with the applicant's name and postmarked by the deadline for consideration and selection.
- All materials should be sent by **May 1, 2027**, directly to:

Department of Ohio Education Chairman
Jordan Smith
4763 Possum Run Rd
Bellville, OH. 44813
419-631-0044
Email: jsmith450009@gmail.com

Ohio Unit Plan of Action

WOMEN VETERAN'S SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

APPLICATION FOR THE 2027-28 SCHOOL YEAR

_____
Full Name of Applicant

_____ _____/_____/_____
Street Address Birth Date

_____, Ohio _____ (_____) _____-_____
City Zip Code Phone Number

_____
Email Address

Service Information:

_____/_____/_____ _____/_____/_____ ☐ Check if you are currently serving. _____
Entrance Date of Military Service Date Left Military Service Branch of Military

Check all that apply: ☐ Active Duty ☐ Reserve ☐ National Guard

_____
Current Rank or Rank when you Separated from the Military

Do you qualify for the GI Bill, if yes, please explain why you need additional assistance? _____

_____

_____

_____

Financial Information	Family	Applicant
Family Income	$_____	$_____
Social Security Income	$_____	$_____
VA Benefits	$_____	$_____
Other	$_____	$_____

Number in Household _____ Number currently attending College _____

Brief statement of individual need _____

_____

_____

_____ _____/_____/_____ _____
High School Attended Graduation Date College You Plan to Attend

_____ _____/_____/_____ _____
Undergraduate College/University Graduation Date Degree Level You are Seeking

_____
Post Graduate University You Plan to Attend

_____ _____/_____/_____ (_____) _____-_____
Signature of Applicant Date Phone Number

UNIT PORTION

_____ _____/_____ (_____) _____-_____
SIGNATURE OF AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT OFFICER DISTRICT/UNIT NUMBER UNIT REPRESENTATIVE'S PHONE #

Unit to complete and submit with all documentation to Department Education Chairman:

Jordan Smith
4763 Possum Run Rd
Bellville, OH. 44813
419-631-0044Email: jsmith450009@gmail.com

Ohio Unit Plan of Action

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY



CHILDREN of WARRIORS



NATIONAL PRESIDENTS' SCHOLARSHIP

Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship
2027 Application

DUE MARCH 1, 2027

Application closes at 11:59 PM Eastern

Fifteen scholarships, in the amount of $5,000 each, will be awarded for 2027. Three scholarships will be awarded in each of the five divisions of the American Legion Auxiliary.

- CENTRAL - Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- EASTERN - Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont
- NORTHWESTERN - Colorado, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming
- SOUTHERN - Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia
- WESTERN - Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington

All are gift scholarships, not loans.

Ohio Unit Plan of Action

Please contact Education@ALAforVeterans.org with questions. Due to the high number of scholarship applications received, the ALA National Headquarters staff and National Education Committee is unable to respond to application inquiries to confirm receipt of materials.

RULES

1. Candidates for this award shall be direct descendants of veterans who served in the United States Armed Forces during eligibility dates for membership in The American Legion: April 6, 1917, to November 11, 1918; and any time after December 7, 1941. Membership in The American Legion Family is not required for this scholarship.

2. Applicants must be in their senior year of high school.

3. This is a scholarship to attend an accredited institution of higher education.

4. Applicants must complete 50 hours of volunteer service within the community during their high school years. Hours must be verified in writing by the recipient organization(s).

5. Completed applications are DUE ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1, 2027, 11:59 PM Eastern.

6. Judging, at all levels, shall be on the following basis:
    - 30% - Character/Leadership
    - 30% - Essay/Application
    - 40% - Academic Achievement

THE DECISION OF THE JUDGES SHALL BE FINAL.

The award will be paid directly to the school for the first semester upon notification from the school the student has registered. American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters must receive certification of enrollment within 12 months of the winning recipient's notification, or the scholarship will be forfeited. The scholarship must be used within 24 months of the date the winner receives notification from National Headquarters, or the scholarship will be forfeited. Thus, if the winning student does not wish to use monies for FIRST-YEAR expenses, they then must be used for SECOND-YEAR expenses or be forfeited.

Application can be access through:
https://legion-aux.formstack.com/forms/2026childrenofwarriors_nationalpresidentsscholarship

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Non-Traditional Student Scholarship

2027 Application

DUE MARCH 1, 2027.

Application closes at 11:59 PM Eastern.

Scholarship details:

Five scholarships, in the amount of $2,000 each, will be awarded for 2027. One scholarship will be awarded in each of the five divisions of the American Legion Auxiliary based on a scoring rubric.

- CENTRAL - Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- EASTERN - Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont
- NORTHWESTERN - Colorado, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming
- SOUTHERN - Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia
- WESTERN - Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington

Application can be access through:
https://legion-aux.formstack.com/forms/2026nontraditionalstudentscholarship

All are gift scholarships, not loans.

Please contact Education@ALAforVeterans.org with questions. The sheer volume of scholarship applications received makes it impractical for national headquarters to respond to each application or to confirm receipt of materials.

RULES

1. Applicants must be:
    a. A current member in good standing of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, or Sons of The American Legion, must have held membership for the two preceding years (2024 and 2025), and be a paid member for the current (2026) membership year, OR
    b. A veteran who served in the United States Armed Forces and was honorably discharged, OR
    c. The spouse of an active duty servicemember or a veteran who was honorably discharged.
2. Applicants must be:
    a. a non-traditional student returning to the classroom after some period in which their formal education was interrupted, OR
    b. a non-traditional student beginning their education at a later point in life.
3. Completed applications are **DUE ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1, 2027 11:59 PM Eastern**
4. Judging, at all levels, shall be on the following basis:
    - Academic Achievement 25%
    - Financial Need 25%
    - Character/Leadership 25%
    - Initiative/Goals 25%

THE DECISION OF THE JUDGES SHALL BE FINAL.

Disbursement of funds:

The award will be paid directly to the school for the first semester upon notification from the school that the student has registered. ***American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters must receive certification of enrollment within 12 months of the winning recipient's notification, or the scholarship will be forfeited.*** The scholarship must be used within 24 months of the date the winner receives notification from National Headquarters, or the scholarship will be forfeited. Thus, if the winning recipient does not wish to use monies for FIRST-YEAR expenses, they then must then be used for SECOND-YEAR expenses or be forfeited.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Spirit of Youth Scholarship

2027 Application

DUE MARCH 1, 2027

Application closes at 11:59 PM Eastern

Scholarship details:

State/Department: National Headquarters will award each state/department winner a $1,000 scholarship. This is relatively new and started in *2023-2024*.

National: From the potential 52 state/department scholarship winners, the National Education Committee will select 5 winners (1 per division) based on a scoring rubric. These 5 winners will receive a $5,000 scholarship in lieu of the $1000 state/department scholarship.

- CENTRAL DIVISION - Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- EASTERN DIVISION - Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont
- NORTHWESTERN DIVISION - Colorado, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming
- SOUTHERN DIVISION - Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia
- WESTERN DIVISION - Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington

Application can be access through:
https://legion-aux.formstack.com/forms/2026spiritofyouthscholarship

All are gift scholarships, not loans.

Please contact Education@ALAforVeterans.org with questions. Due to the high number of scholarship applications received, the ALA National Headquarters staff and National Education Committee is unable to respond to application inquires to confirm receipt of materials.

Ohio Unit Plan of Action

RULES

1. Candidates for this award shall be/shall have been Junior members of the American Legion Auxiliary, have held membership in the American Legion Auxiliary for the past three consecutive years (2023, 2024, and 2025), and must be a paid member for the current (2026) membership year. Applicant must continue their membership in the American Legion Auxiliary during the scholarship period. Participation in an ALA Girls State program does not make you a member of the ALA or eligible for SOY.
2. Applicants must be in their senior year of high school or be a senior equivalent.
3. This is a scholarship to attend an accredited institution of higher education. Applicants must be of good character and have grades that meet entrance requirements at the institution of their choice. Applicants must have at least a 3.0 GPA using a 4.0 scale.
4. Completed applications are **DUE ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1, 2027, 11:59 PM Eastern.**
5. Judging, at all levels, shall be on the following basis:
    - Character/Leadership 30%
    - Essay/Application 30%
    - Academic Achievement 40%

THE DECISION OF THE JUDGES SHALL BE FINAL.

Disbursement of funds

a. Department (state) winners - the award ($1,000) will be paid directly to the school for the first semester upon notification from the school that the student has registered. ***American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters must receive certification of enrollment within 12 months of the winning recipient's notification, or the scholarship will be forfeited.*** If the winner discontinues their education or membership in the American Legion Auxiliary before requesting the funds, the scholarship will be forfeited. The winner will have 24 months from the date of high school graduation to utilize the scholarship funds.

b. National Winners - the first half of the award ($2,500) will be paid directly to the school for the first semester upon notification from the school that the student has registered. ***American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters must receive enrollment certification within 12 months of the winning recipient's notification, or the scholarship will be forfeited.*** There shall be no money paid to the school for the ensuing semesters until re-enrollment notification has been received at National Headquarters from the school. Notification from the school must include verification of a B (3.0) average. If the winner discontinues their education or membership in the American Legion Auxiliary before completing the scholarship period, the balance of the scholarship will be forfeited. The winner will have six years from the date of high school graduation to utilize the scholarship funds.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Member Loyalty Scholarship

2027 Application

DUE MARCH 1, 2027

Application closes at 11:59 PM Eastern

Scholarship details:

The National Education Committee will select 10 winners (2 per division) for a $2,500 scholarship based on a scoring rubric.

- CENTRAL DIVISION - Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- EASTERN DIVISION - Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont
- NORTHWESTERN DIVISION - Colorado, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming
- SOUTHERN DIVISION - Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia
- WESTERN DIVISION - Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington

Application can be access through:
https://legion-aux.formstack.com/forms/2026memberloyaltyscholarship

All are gift scholarships, not loans.

Please contact Education@ALAforVeterans.org with questions. Due to the high number of scholarship applications received, the ALA National Headquarters staff and National Education Committee is unable to respond to application inquires to confirm receipt of materials.

RULES

1. Candidates for this award shall be/shall have been Junior members of the American Legion Auxiliary, have held membership in the American Legion Auxiliary for the past three consecutive years (2024, 2025, and 2026), and must be a paid member for the current (2027) membership year. Applicant must continue their membership in the American Legion Auxiliary during the scholarship period.
2. This scholarship is intended for the traditional college student, who has attained their high school diploma, has had no interruption in education, and who is at least in the first semester of college or technical school but not yet attained a bachelor's degree. Applicants must be completing one, two, or three years of college courses. Current high school seniors who are members of the American Legion Auxiliary may be eligible to apply for the Spirit of Youth scholarship.
3. This is a scholarship to attend an accredited institution of higher education. Applicants must have completed at least one semester of college with grades that meet continuation requirements at the institution of their choice. Applicants must have at least a 3.0 GPA using a 4.0 scale.
4. Previous American Legion Auxiliary national scholarship recipients are welcome to apply.
5. Completed applications are **DUE ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1, 2027, 11:59 PM Eastern.**
6. Judging, at all levels, shall be on the following basis:
    - (50%) Character/Leadership and ALA Participation
    - (25%) Essay
    - (25%) Academic Achievement

THE DECISION OF THE JUDGES SHALL BE FINAL.

Disbursement of Funds

The first half of the scholarship ($1,250) will be paid directly to the school for the first semester upon notification from the school that the student has registered. ***American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters must receive enrollment certification within 12 months of the winning recipient's notification, or the scholarship will be forfeited.*** There shall be no money paid to the school for the ensuing semesters until re-enrollment notification has been received at National Headquarters from the school. Notification from the school must include verification of a B (3.0) average. If the winner discontinues their education or membership in the American Legion Auxiliary before completing the scholarship period, the balance of the scholarship will be forfeited. The winner will have six years from the date of high school graduation to utilize the scholarship funds.