

## Ohio Unit Plan of Action

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### AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY



### AUXILIARY

#### Spirit of Youth Scholarship

2025 Application

**DUE MARCH 1, 2025**

**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/2025spiritofyouthscholarship>**

All are gift scholarships, not loans.

Please contact [Education@ALAforVeterans.org](mailto: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.

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## 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 (2022, 2023, and 2024), and must be a paid member for the current (2025) 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, 2025, 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.