



The logo for the American Legion Auxiliary. It features the words "AMERICAN LEGION" in a large, dark blue, sans-serif font. Above the word "AMERICAN" are three horizontal red stripes. Below "AMERICAN LEGION" is a thin dark blue horizontal line. Underneath the line, the word "AUXILIARY" is written in a large, red, sans-serif font.

Spirit of Youth Scholarship

2024 Application

DUE MARCH 1, 2024.

Application closes at 11:59 PM Eastern.

Scholarship details:

State/Department: National Headquarters will award each state/department winner a \$1,000 scholarship (47 scholarships total). *New for 2023-2024*

National: From the potential 52 state/department scholarship winners, the national Education Committee will select 5 winners (1 per division) for a \$5,000 scholarship 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

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. 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 (2021, 2022, and 2023), and must be a paid member for the

current (2024) membership year. Applicant must continue their membership in the American Legion Auxiliary during the scholarship period.

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. Applicants must present the completed application to their **local American Legion Auxiliary unit president ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1, 2024.**
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.