



Department of Washington

17 November 2023

Fellow members of the American Legion Auxiliary, Dept. of Washington;

I'm honored to be our Department of Washington Education Chairman for another year. It was not in my plans to take on another year but if you really want to help you do want is needed. So, we're still searching for a replacement (maybe even a couple so our incoming President has a selection☺). Hopefully this letter will provide some clarification on how units and individuals can insure every student has the opportunity to apply for scholarships within the American Legion Auxiliary.

This Scholarship Packet should've reached each Unit within the Department of Washington by late September/early October; unfortunately, I didn't have the information on National Scholarships at that time. Then health issues and volunteering at Spokane Vets Home Gift Shop delayed getting this to you sooner. I'm very sorry everyone will need to put number one priority on getting the scholarship information out to the schools and city libraries before end of November. To provide students adequate time for research and completion of the requirements within deadlines set, it is **VERY IMPORTANT** for every Unit to ensure the scholarship information is in their local schools, as well as available in local public libraries, as soon as possible. Each Unit is also encouraged to put out articles in local newspapers & radio stations about the availability of the scholarships and how to reach the Unit representative (whether it be President or Chairman, maybe both☺).

The Scholarship Packet includes a sample of the letter I use for my unit when taking and/or emailing packets of information and applications for the current terms' scholarships to the five local School Districts we support; as well as, local Homeschoolers. Please feel free to use any or all of the verbiage in the letter to personalize a letter from your unit.

The deadlines are firm; and, don't allow much time between receiving them and ensuring they're sent on to meet the next deadline. I recommend you set up a group of about 3-5 people to help you with judging; and; have them prepared before any scholarships come in. Preparing ahead of time will help greatly in meeting the deadlines without too much stress. It's VERY IMPORTANT for the *Unit Scholarship Certification Form, 2023-24* to be completed and submitted with each Scholarship Application for judging by ALA Department of Washington.

Please note there are two additional scholarships this year which the submission of the application will go directly to National.

Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship

Non-Traditional Student Scholarship

Spirit of Youth Scholarship for Juniors

The applications are on the National Website – students will complete their application, attach all necessary support documents (i.e. Discharge Papers, Letters of Recommendation, SAT or ACT test scores, etc.), and submit directly to National. National will then send the applications to each Dept. Education Chairman (or other person as designated by Department President if there is no Chrm). The Department Education Judging Committee will then consider the applications to make a selection as to whom will be the Department's applicant. I've included a sample of the application format and rules of the scholarship in this packet so the students can gather everything necessary prior to sitting down to complete the application.

Please accept my thanks to each of you for helping our youth achieve their dream of a good education. More information on the Education Program of the American Legion Auxiliary will be coming out in packets, our new Evergreen News Bulletins, and Dept. website. Please contact me with any comments or suggestions which benefit the ALA and those we serve.

Yours in service and friendship for God and Country,

Jane Montaney

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Unit Scholarship Certification Form, 2023-24

Sample letter to schools