



Education January 2026



The 1st semester is already at an end! Each month I am focusing on one of the areas mentioned in the August newsletter. This month: **Assist and support veterans pursuing higher education and vocational education.**

There are a number of ways that Members and Units can assist veterans in furthering their education:

- Volunteer to collaborate with a Student Veterans of America chapter or other campus student veterans group at colleges and universities in your community.
- Sign up to receive The American Legion's Legislative Action Alerts, and support the alerts regarding the GI Bill.
- Arrange for your post home to be available for off-campus events/chapter meetings.
- Provide information/handouts to members on organizing and delivering presentations on career and life skills topics to student veterans.
- Promote events through local media and your Unit social media accounts.
- Promote the American Legion Auxiliary Non-Traditional Student Scholarship, available for students who are returning to the classroom after some period of time.

Please continue sending me updates on your Unit activities for the Education program. The year-end report form is posted on the Department website with the other chairmen's report forms.

I look forward to hearing how your Units promote the Auxiliary education programs throughout the school year.

In the Spirit of Service, not for self,
For Veterans, God and Country,

Julie Vietri

Education Chairman
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Education February 2026



As we all know, college is very expensive, and all of our high school students should be taking advantage of any and all scholarships available to them. Units and departments are responsible for promoting American Legion Auxiliary scholarships and making sure the schools have them in ample time for students to apply. The American Legion Auxiliary offers four scholarship opportunities to students:

1. **Children of Warriors National Presidents Scholarship:** Scholarship is awarded to children of veterans who served in the armed forces during eligibility dates for The American Legion. Three \$5,000 scholarships will be awarded in each division. Fifteen outstanding students will be awarded a total of \$75,000 to further their education. The applicant must complete 50 hours of community service during their high school years to be eligible for one of these scholarships. **Applicants must submit this scholarship online this year by March 1, 2026. It will be forwarded to the Department Education Chair by the National Organization.**
2. **The Non-Traditional Student Scholarship:** One scholarship in the amount of \$2,000 will be awarded in each American Legion Auxiliary division. Applicant must be a member of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of The American Legion and shall have paid dues for the two preceding years and for the calendar year in which the application is made. **Applicants must submit this scholarship online this year by March 1, 2026. It will be forwarded to the Department Education Chair by the National Organization.**
3. **Spirit of Youth Scholarship:** One Junior member in each division will receive a scholarship valued at \$5,000. The applicant must have held membership in the American Legion Auxiliary for the immediate past three years, hold a current membership card and continue her membership in the American Legion Auxiliary during the four-year scholarship period. **Applicants must submit this scholarship online this year by March 1, 2026. It will be forwarded to the Department Education Chair by the National Organization.**
4. **Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship:** American Legion Auxiliary Junior members are the future of our organization. To reward those who retain their membership into adulthood, the American Legion Auxiliary offers the Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship to current college students. Ten scholarships, in the amount of \$2,500 each, will be awarded to a current college student for 2026. Two scholarships will be awarded in each division of the American Legion Auxiliary. The scholarship is a grant; not a loan. **Applicants must submit this scholarship online this year by March 1, 2026. It will be forwarded to the Department Education Chair by the National Organization.**

Please promote these American Legion Auxiliary scholarships to enable our children of veterans to apply and receive funds the American Legion Auxiliary has so graciously provided. Applications are available online at www.ALAforVeterans.org/Scholarships. Links to the scholarship applications can also be found on the Department website.

In the Spirit of Service, not for self,
For Veterans, God and Country,

Julie Vietri

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Education

March 2026

The 2nd semester is under way! Each month I am focusing on one of the areas mentioned in the August newsletter. This month: **Assist and support military children with educational opportunities.**

There are several ways that Members and Units can assist military children with educational opportunities:

- Identify and reach out to military children in your local classrooms.
- Encourage Junior members to contact their school guidance counselor and volunteer to be a mentor to new military children at their school.
- Offer individual tutoring/assistance to a military child who is struggling.
- Provide your local school with a copy of the *Educator's Guide to the Military Child During Deployment*:
[Educator's Guide to the Military Child During Deployment \(PDF\)](#)
- Inform schools of a free tutoring website for military children: [Free Tutoring for Military Spouses & Families - Tutor.com & more \(mymilitarybenefits.com\)](#)
- Assist schools in working with military children. Resources are available at www.militarychild.org
- Organize a classroom recognition event for military children to share the accomplishments of their relative who is serving.

I look forward to hearing how your Units promote the Auxiliary education programs throughout the school year.

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Education

April 2026

Congratulations! In the eight years I've held this chairmanship, for the first time we have applicants for all four National Scholarships! Nice job every one!

The time to submit your reports and narratives for the Department awards is quickly approaching! There are two awards for Education: The **Jean Batley Plaque** for Units of membership 150 or under and the **Chrysteen Fritzing** **Plaque** for Units of membership 151 or higher.

The rules are the same for both awards:

- Any Unit in the Department of Arizona may receive these awards in the appropriate membership category.
- Judging will be based on actual participation in Scholarships, both Loan and Gift, educational programs in both high school and grammar schools, and extra activity done.
- Unit Education reports must be into the Department Education Chairman on or before the deadline date for reports or date designated by the Department Chairman (May 1st).
- A narrative report of the work accomplished in this program must be included with the report to be eligible for these awards. The narrative must be typewritten, not to exceed 1,000 words. (Refer to the Department Awards Rules and Regulations manual <https://aladeptaz.org/13-dep-awards-%2Fnarratives> for further details on writing the narrative.)

The Education Year-End report form is available on the Department website [6 25-26 education.pdf](#). **The report forms and narratives are due to this Chairman by May 1st.**

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