



2015

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MILITARY CHILDREN PROGRAM



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

Commissaries are an integral part of the Quality of Life offered to service members and their families. The Fisher House program provides "A Home Away from Home" for families experiencing a personal medical crisis and is one of the premiere quality of life organizations supporting military families. The Scholarships for Military Children Program was created to recognize the contributions by military families to the readiness of the fighting force and celebrate the role of the commissary in the military community. It is the intent of the program that a scholarship funded through contributions will be awarded annually for each commissary operated by the Defense Commissary Agency. The Defense Commissary Agency and Fisher House Foundation, Inc. wish to thank commissary business partners and other contributors for their generosity in funding the Scholarships for Military Children Program.

CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY:

Dependent unmarried children under age 23 of active duty personnel, reserve/guard and retired military members, or survivors of service members who died while on active duty or survivors of individuals who died while receiving retired pay from the military, may apply for a scholarship. Eligibility, including survivors of deceased members, will be determined using the DEERS (Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System) database. Applicants should ensure that they, as well as their sponsor, are currently enrolled in the DEERS database and that they have a current ID card. Applicants can verify if they are enrolled in DEERS by going to www.dmdc.osd.mil and entering their social security number, date of birth, and last name or call 1-800-538-9552.

Applicants must be enrolled, or planning to enroll, full-time in the fall of 2015 in an undergraduate program of studies leading to a Bachelor's Degree at an accredited U.S. college or university. High school applicants must have a minimum cumulative unweighted GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 basis). College applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50. College freshmen must submit a first semester college transcript. Applicants who receive an appointment to one of the U.S. Military Academies (or affiliated preparatory schools) or are awarded a full scholarship at any accredited U.S. post-secondary institution of higher education are not eligible to receive funds from this program. A full scholarship is defined as one that provides for payment of tuition, books, fees or qualified expenses. Applicants attending a community or junior college must be enrolled in a program of studies designed to allow them to transfer directly into a four-year program. No scholarships will be awarded to those pursuing an associate degree as their final degree, second undergraduate, or graduate school degree. Excepting extremely unusual circumstances, the awards cannot be deferred for future use; the awards must be used for educational expenses incurred during the 2015-2016 Academic Year.

THE SCHOLARSHIPS:

The 2015 Scholarship for Military Children Program will award a minimum of one \$2,000 scholarship at each commissary that has qualified applicants. The awards are made without regard to race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, religious belief, national origin, rank or service of the sponsor.

HOW MAY THE SCHOLARSHIPS BE USED?

Scholarship checks issued by Scholarship Managers are made payable to the school the recipients will attend, not to the student. IRS Publication 970 states that scholarships may be used to pay for qualified expenses, which include tuition, fees, lab fees and books. Other degree-related costs (like supplies or equipment required for specific classes) that are purchased from, and paid directly, to the school are also allowed.

IRS Publication 970 specifically states that tax-free scholarships may not be used to pay for room and board.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION:

Scholarship Managers (SM), a non-profit scholarship service organization that has no connection to the Defense Commissary Agency or the Fisher House Foundation, independently administers this program. SM is solely responsible for the selection of scholarship recipients and its decisions are final. Please direct any questions or concerns to SM at (856) 616-9311 or militaryscholar@scholarshipmanagers.com.

PLEASE REMEMBER:

- Applicants must provide their permanent home address, not their college address, on the front page of the application. It is the applicant’s sole responsibility to notify SM of any change of address.
- Applicants who submit an application at more than one commissary will be disqualified from consideration for a scholarship.
- It is your responsibility to ensure that your application is received at a commissary by close of business, February 13, 2015. **Please note that this is not a postmark deadline date. There will be no exceptions made to this deadline date.** See the “locations” link at www.commissaries.com for a store list.
- The applicant’s sponsor must be a member of, or retired from, the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force or Coast Guard (or a deceased member).
- Children of civilian employees, US Public Health Service Officers, or NOAA are not eligible (unless they are otherwise qualified as identified on page 1).
- SM will notify recipients by letter on or about May 1, 2015. Scholarship checks are mailed to the recipient made payable to the applicable college no later than August 1, 2015.
- Non-recipients will not be notified. Applicants should check www.militaryscholar.org for a list of winners.
- Additional information is available from the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ’s) at www.militaryscholar.org

CHECKLIST:

- I have enclosed a transcript or copy of my grades with my application.
- I have enclosed my essay with my name on each page.
- My parent or guardian (the sponsor) has signed the application.
- My sponsor is deployed, my other parent, or a guardian, has signed the application.
- I am a dependent unmarried child under age 23 of active duty personnel, reserve/guard and retired military members, or survivor of service members who died while on active duty or survivor of individual who died while receiving retired pay from the military.
- I am not a dependent child of a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Public Health Service, other federal or military related agencies or activities, or a DoD civilian employee.
- I have signed the application.
- My high school code # (if available) is on the application.
- I have kept a copy of my application and essay.

The separate 2 page application, along with your essay and transcript (or copy of your grades) must be submitted to one of the following:

**Commissary Director, her/his designee, Customer Service Desk,
or Cashier’s Office at the Commissary of your choice,**

No later than February 13, 2015

**Please remember that this is not a postmark deadline date.
Please do not submit this or the preceding page.**

SM strongly recommends that applicants visit www.gibill.va.gov. Enter VA Form 22-5490 in the search box for information on all “GI Bill” programs for which they may be eligible.



Please use Adobe Acrobat to fill out this application prior to printing it out.



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Applicant Data:

Ms. Mr. Last Name _____ First Name _____ MI _____
 Home Street Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ - _____
 Home Tel # _____ Email _____

Commissary Information:

(Must be completed by a Commissary official)

Commissary Name _____ City/State – APO _____
 DODAAC

Affidavit/Signatures:

The sponsor's spouse, or the applicant's guardian, may sign if the sponsor is deployed or deceased)

We certify that, to the best of our knowledge, all responses are true and factual, and the sponsor, as well as the applicant, possesses a valid DD Form 2 or DD Form 1173 United States Uniformed Services Identification Card and is enrolled in DEERS. We also agree that, if the applicant is selected as a recipient, any and all information submitted with this application (including photos when submitted at a later date) may be used for purposes of news and publicity by the Scholarships for Military Children Program, the Defense Commissary Agency, Fisher House Foundation, Scholarship Managers and all current and future promotions of this program.

Printed name of Applicant _____ Signature _____
 Printed name of sponsor/spouse/guardian _____ Signature _____

High School:

6 digit code

May be found at www.actstudent.org/regist/lookups. If you attend a

DOD high school in a foreign country leave country as **US**, drop down **Armed Forces** box, select **AE** or **AP** and look for the name of your school.

Cumulative, unweighted GPA (on a 4.0 basis) - must be converted from letter or numerical grades.

Name _____ Graduation Date: Mo Yr

Street Address _____ Tel # _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ - _____

Principal's Name _____ Email _____

College Data:

Cumulative GPA (on a 4.0 basis) - must be converted from numerical or letter grades

Please list the accredited undergraduate US college/school you attend or plan to attend.

Name _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Major _____ Grad Date: Month Year Degree AA BA/BS

Extracurricular, Community, Volunteer Activities and Awards during the last 4 years: If more space is needed for this and the following 2 sections, please duplicate this page – **résumés or any other format will not be accepted.** Please enter dates in a month and year (mm/yyyy) format.

Activity	from mo/yr	to mo/yr	hrs/ week	Activity	from mo/yr	to mo/yr	hrs/ week

Awards and/or Offices held	Year	Awards and/or Offices held	Year

Work Experience during the last 4 years: Please enter dates in a month and year (mm/yyyy) format.

Position	from mo/yr	to mo/yr	hrs/ week	Position	from mo/yr	to mo/yr	hrs/ week

Transcript:

All applicants must also submit their most recent transcript or copy of their grades, preferably from the fall of 2014, (unofficial transcripts are acceptable). College freshmen must submit a first semester college transcript. The transcript may be in a sealed and separate envelope but must be submitted with this application.

Essay:

“Choose a woman who during WWII significantly influenced military decisions for either the Allied or Axis forces. Discuss what she did and why, how her actions impacted the war effort, and any unique challenges she may have faced. What lessons can be learned from her actions? Please choose an actual person (i.e., not a representation such as ‘Rosie the Riveter’). You may choose someone who served in the armed services, a civilian who acted ‘behind the scenes’ or an intelligence spy.”

The essay must be 500 words or less, typewritten or computer-generated, double spaced, no longer than 2 pages and stapled to this application. Please place your name in the upper right hand corner of each page of the essay.

This 2 page application, essay and a transcript or copy of your grades **must** be hand-carried to the commissary of your choice. Faxed or emailed applications will not be accepted.

If it is not possible (due to distance considerations) for the applicants to submit their applications in person, they may also mail, UPS, or FedEx their completed applications to the commissary. Please go to WWW.COMMISSARIES.COM to get the official name of the commissary, the name of the commissary director or the listed contact person, the telephone number and the mailing address.

It is the applicant’s sole responsibility to ensure that the application and all necessary materials arrive at the commissary no later than

FEBRUARY 13, 2015

THIS IS NOT A POSTMARK DEADLINE DATE