

## *John J. Whitworth Scholarship Program*

### RULES AND AWARDS

**PURPOSE:** The John J. Whitworth American Legion Post 142 Scholarship (hereafter known as the JJWS) is awarded annually to full-time students working towards an associate or bachelor's degree from an accredited junior college, college, or university.

#### **STUDENT ELIGIBILITY:**

1. Eligible applicants for the JJWS are children, step-children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren of members in good standing of Sterling McClellan American Legion Post 142, Squadron 142, and Unit 142. The JJWS is intended for young people. No scholarship will be awarded after the age of 25.
2. The applicant must be enrolled as a full-time student or carry a minimum of 12 credit/semester hours in an accredited junior college, college, or university. Official proof of enrollment from your school, for the Fall of 2012, must accompany your completed application.
3. Proof of academic progress must accompany the application. For those who have not yet attended college, please submit your high school transcript. For those in college, submit a copy of your latest official college transcript. Those seeking a masters or doctorate degree are not eligible.
4. The applicant must submit an original essay, typed, double spaced, and a minimum of 500 words and no more than 1,000 words answering the following question: "What are your short-term and long-term goals, and how will further education prepare you for what you hope to achieve in the future?"

#### **SPONSOR ELIGIBILITY:**

1. The sponsor must be a parent, step-parent, or grandparent of the individual they intend to sponsor. Nieces and nephews are not eligible.
2. The sponsor must be a member in good standing of Sterling McClellan Post 142 as a Legion, SAL, or Unit Member. Good standing means that your dues are paid for the current dues year. Membership lapses as of December 31 of the current dues year are considered delinquent, and therefore are no longer an eligible sponsor for that year.
3. A sponsor cannot be on the scholarship committee.

**AWARDS:** All scholarships are awarded for the upcoming school year and cannot be applied to previous college debt or student loans. The JJWS monies are sent directly to the school in the scholarship winner's name.

DEADLINES: All deadline dates are final and are as follows:

1. The initial application will appear in the December, January, February, and March Post 142 newsletters. This short application must be returned to Post 142 and be postmarked by March 15.
2. Once reviewed for eligibility by the scholarship committee, all eligible applicants will be mailed the full application. The deadline for the applicant to return the completed application to Post 142 is July 15.

NOTE: It is the responsibility of the student to submit the application on time. It is recommended that you obtain a written receipt from a Post 142 officer indicating the date you turned in the application or a USPS receipt that you mailed it. Post 142 and the scholarship committee will not be held responsible for lost mail unless you can show proof that you either dropped off the application at the post or you mailed the application via certified mail.

3. All applications must include your full name, address, and phone numbers so that the scholarship committee can contact you for any questions. Any incomplete application may be disqualified.
4. All awards made by the scholarship committee are subject to verification that you are a full-time student enrolled for the fall semester in an accredited junior college, college, or university.
5. When requested in writing by the scholarship committee, the student will provide in writing the address and phone number of the college "office" the scholarship monies are to be sent.

For example: Bursar's Office	Office of Financial Aid
ABC University	XYZ Junior College
123 Main St.	456 Town Ave.
Tampa, FL 11111	Miami, FL 22222

Failure to provide a phone number and complete address including zip code of the educational institution may result in your not receiving the scholarship.

#### SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE:

1. The Post 142 Scholarship Committee shall consist of at least 3 and no more than 5 members (one member from Post 142 Auxiliary, one member from Squadron 142, and one to three members from Post 142). The committee members shall be voted on by the membership of Post 142 at a fall meeting. This is the same time of year we choose post chairmen for all of our committees.
2. The first meeting of the approved scholarship committee will occur in the fall prior to the publishing of the December Newsletter starting the application process for the annual award. The first purpose of this meeting will be to set criteria for the scholarship so that any applicable changes can

be made to the application process, Secondly, the committee will choose a chairman amongst themselves. The Chairman must be a legionnaire.

3. The chairman shall be responsible for the collection and mailing of applications, setting meeting dates, and seeing that the checks are mailed to the appropriate schools. Any member of the scholarship committee who has a son, daughter, or grandchild applying for a scholarship in the same year in which he/she is serving on the committee, shall make ineligible their applicant son, daughter, or grandchild in receiving a scholarship for that year.

4. The scholarship committee shall have the authority to set the number of scholarships and the dollar amounts of the scholarships based on the funds available.

5. Finally, let it be understood that the members of the scholarship committee are volunteers with no vested interest in any of the applicants. The decisions of the scholarship committee are final.