

2018-2019 American Legion Auxiliary Program Action Plan (PAP)

Department of Texas

Education

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What is this program and why we do we have it?

The Education Program promotes the American Legion Auxiliary's role in providing quality education for children and adults through classroom activities, literacy program scholarship promotion and support of education beyond high school, with a special emphasis on children of veterans and servicemembers. The Education Program and the 2014-2019 ALA Centennial Strategic Plan: Through classroom activities, literacy programs, scholarship promotion and support of education beyond high school, ALA members build brand loyalty and awareness of the ALA's mission (Goal 5) through their education-related community service projects.

What Can You Do?

- 1. Enhance respect for the sacrifices of our military heroes among school children by scheduling Veterans in Community Schools programs at local schools.**

Member

- *Locate a veteran willing to share his/her experience with school children.*
- *Contact local school teachers or principals to see if they would be interested in hosting a Veterans in Community School event.*
- *Wear your American Legion Auxiliary apparel when you visit schools.*

Unit

- *Collaborate with your local American Legion Post to present Veterans in Community Schools within your local schools.*
- *Promote your Veterans in Community Schools event through local media and on your own social media accounts.*

Department

- *Encourage units to collaborate with the American Legion post to present Veterans in Community School Programs in their communities.*

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2. Promote American Legion Auxiliary scholarships and award local scholarships at the Department and Unit Levels.

Member:

- Contact the person at your local high school who handles scholarship opportunities. It is typically a guidance or career counselor. Ask if you can send them information about national, department and unit American Legion Auxiliary scholarship opportunities. Make copies of any scholarship applications (found at www.ALAforVeterans.org/scholarships), and provide them to schools that request them.
- Volunteer to be on the scholarship selection committee.
- Make a donation to the American Legion education nation scholarship funds:
 - Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship Fund
 - Spirit of Youth Scholarship Fund
 - ALA Foundation at www.ALAFoundation.org
 - Department, District or Unit scholarships

Unit

- Assign a member to communicate with schools regarding scholarship applications.
- Create a Unit Scholarship Fund to award scholarships to local students.
- Prepare a news release with scholarship information for local media and your post/unit newsletter.
- Form a committee to select scholarship winners.
- Publicize the winners of ALA scholarships at a school presentation and in the media.
- Please keep track of the total number of applications received for any national scholarship and pass that information on to your Department Education Chairman.

Department

- Promote scholarship information. National scholarship applications are available at www.ALAforVeterans.org/Scholarships
- Please keep track of the total number of applications received for any national scholarship and pass that information on to your Department Education chairman.

3. Support Give 10 to Education. American Education Week and Teacher Appreciation Week.

Member

- **Participate in the Give 10 to Education program by purchasing items to distribute to schools.**
 - Place a poster with a collection box at local sites and invite residents to donate.
 - Save Box Tops for Education and send them to local schools.
 - A downloadable certificate may be found on the Education page of the Members Only section at www.ALAforVeterans.org
- **Promote Teacher Appreciate Week, the first full week in May**
 - Send cards to your local schools' teachers
 - Donate resources that teachers or needy children may need
- **Promote American Education Week, celebrated the week prior to Thanksgiving**
- **Send a card to all local school staff thanking them for the work they do. Include all school personnel with who children interact (bus drivers, custodians, food service, etc.)**

Unit

- **Participate in the Give 10 to Education program by soliciting items from members to distribute to the schools in your district. Contribute supplies to local classrooms.**
 - Should you need ideas on how to make the Give 10 to Education successful, please contact your Department Education Chair.
- **Promote Teacher Appreciate Week (first full week of May) by reaching out to teachers and ask how your unit can enhance their school curriculum.**
 - Find out if there are any needy children and figure out what resources your unit can provide to the student.
- **Participate in American Education Week (week prior to Thanksgiving). Remember to recognize all school personnel, not just teachers.**
- **Educate school administrators on how the American Legion Auxiliary can have a positive impact on students.**

Department

- **Endorse the Give 10 to Education program, an Auxiliary program that promotes the collection of school supplies for local schools in increments of 10.**
- **Promote Teacher Appreciation Week (first full week of May).**
 - Encourage units to plan teacher recognition events at local schools.
- **Encourage participation in American Education Week (week prior to Thanksgiving.)**

4. Assist and support veterans pursuing higher education and vocational education.

Member

- *Contact a campus student veterans' group at colleges and universities in your community to see what kind of help they might need. The VA counselor at the college can assist you in locating the veteran's group.*
- *Sign up to recnet the American Legion's Legislative Actions Alerts and support the alerts regarding the GI Bill.*

Unit

- *Collaborate with a campus student veterans' group at colleges and universities in your community.*
 - *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 own social media accounts.*
- *Encourage members to sign up to receive the American Legion's Legislative Action Alerts and support the alerts regarding the GI Bill.*

Department

- *Give suggestions on how a unit can collaborate with a campus student veterans group at colleges and universities in your department.*
- *Provide information/handouts to units on organizing and delivering presentations on career and life skills topics to student veterans.*
- *Promote the American Legion Auxiliary Non-Traditional Student Scholarships, available for students who are returning to the classroom after some period of time.*
- *Share and support The American Legion's Legislative Action Alerts, particularly the alerts regarding the GI Bill*

5. Assist and support military children with educational opportunities.

Member/Unit

- **Provide your local school with a copy of the Educator's Guide to the Military Child** **During** **Deployment:**
www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/os/homefront/honrfront.pdf
- *Encourage junior members to contact their school guidance counselor and volunteer to be a mentor to new military children at their school.*
- *Use some of your Give 10 to Education supplies to make backpacks welcoming military children at school.*
- *Inform schools of a free tutoring website for military children: www.tutor.com/military*

- Provide information on the ALA Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship

Department

- Provide units with resource tools/guidelines to assist schools in working with military children at their local level.

Additional Resources You Can Use:

1. American Legion Auxiliary scholarship applications: www.ALAforVeterans.org/Scholarships
2. Educational resources through the Americanism and Children and Youth Commission of the American Legion: www.legion.org/education
3. Free online tutoring for military children: www.tutor.com/military
4. Student Veterans of America: www.studentveterans.org
5. Your national Education committee members (see Education program page on National Website)

Education Reporting:

Mid-Year Reporting

Mid Year reports reflect the program work of units and are intended as an opportunity for mid-year correction. **Each unit is required to submit a narrative report to the Department Chair by December 15, 2018.**

Mid-Year Reports should be a narrative report outlining:

1. What programs did your Unit participate in? (Give 10 to Education: Veterans in Community Schools; scholarships, etc)
2. How did you or did you promote scholarships?
3. Participate in Teacher Appreciation Week?
4. Participated in American Education Week.
5. Back to School Supply Drives
6. Include in your narrative what activities that your unit has done to promote the mission of Education. This is an opportunity for your unit to express the hard, selfless work they have worked in honor and memory of veterans, children, and service members. It is a time to take pride in the motto "service not self." It is time to Educate people on how important the education mission and the activities are to the ultimate mission of ALA.

Year-End Reporting

Annual reports reflect the program work of units in the department and may result in a national award for participants if award requirements are met. Each unit Education Chair and/or President is required to submit a narrative report by May 1, 2019 to the Department Education Chairman.

Department of Texas Education Awards:

Unit Award: Most Outstanding Give 10 to Education

➤ Award: Plaque

- ❖ Presented to: One unit
- ❖ Narrative not to exceed 1,000 words. Include specific examples of how your unit participated in the Give 10 to Education and how your Unit made it unique to the education program.

Unit Participation Certificates: Units that participate in Give 10 to Education

- ❖ Recognition certificates for the units that participated in the Give 10 to Education

Education Awards Deadlines and Submission Requirements:

National Unit Award for Most Outstanding Unit Education program is due to National by June 1, 2019. Deadline is June 1, 2019. Please visit the website www.ALAforVeterans.org for more information. Narratives to Department Education Chair is May 1, 2019.

Scholarships

All ALA scholarships application available for download on the national website www.ALAforVeterans.org/scholarships

- Children of Warriors National President's Scholarship – Deadline: April 1, 2019 to Department Education Chair.
- The non-Traditional Student Scholarship – Deadline: April 1, 2019 to Department Education Chair.
- Spirit of Youth Scholarship – Deadline: April 1, 2019

American Legion Auxiliary Department of Texas General Scholarship completed application packet must be received by the Unit Education Chair no later than **April 1, 2019** for review and judging. The Unit's winning application must be received by the Department Education Chairman no later than **May 1, 2019** for review and judging.

**American Legion Auxiliary Department of Texas
General Scholarship Information
2017-2018**

Rules

1. Candidates for this award shall be a resident of Texas and a child, grandchild, or greatgrandchild of a veteran who served in the Armed Forces during eligibility dates for membership in the American Legion.

- a. April 6, 1917 through November 11, 1918 (WWI)
- b. December 7, 1941 through December 31, 1946 (WWII)
- c. December 7, 1941 through August 15, 1945 (Merchant Marines Only)
- d. June 25, 1950 through January 31, 1955 (Korea)
- e. February 28, 1961 through May 7, 1975 (Vietnam)
- f. August 24, 1982 through July 31, 1984 (Grenada and Lebanon)
- g. December 20, 1989 through January 31, 1990 (Panama)
- h. August 2, 1990 through cessation of hostilities (Persian Gulf War)

2. Selection of recipients shall be based upon goal, character, citizenship, need, objective, and war service of father, mother, grandfather, grandmother, great-grandfather, or great-grandmother.

3. Scholarships are not limited to persons in their senior year of high school. Anyone meeting eligibility requirements may apply.

4. Participation in the scholarship program shall be voluntary in all Units.

5. Applications must be secured from the Auxiliary Unit in the community in which the applicant resides.

6. Judging, at all levels, shall be on the following basis:

Character/Leadership 25%

Initiative/Goals 25%

Financial Need 25%

Scholarship 25%

Application Requirements: (All listed items must be attached to the application)

1. Completed application form. (Please double check requirements)

2. A letter from the applicant, stating qualifications and intentions.

3. Three (3) letters of recommendation.

a. From the principal or Counselor of the school from which he or she is a graduate, or the advisor or instructor of the current college or university.

b. From a representative citizen, certifying to the applicant's character, Americanism and scholarship.

c. From your choice.

4. A CERTIFIED COPY of applicant's high school grades for the last two (2) years of work or college transcript.
5. Recommendation of the local American Legion Auxiliary President or Education Chairman.
6. Resume to include statements of financial support from all their sources not listed on the application, extracurricular activities and honors and awards received.
7. The completed application packet must be received by the Unit Education Chairman no later **than April 1, 2019, for** review and judging.
8. The Unit's winning application must be received by the Department Education Chairman no later **than May 1, 2019, for review** and judging.

Type of Scholarship:

Gift Scholarships of \$500 each will be given, based on contributions received from Units. Final determination shall be vested in the Education Chairman and her Committee. Recipients will be announced at the annual State Convention and checks will be mailed to the college or university the applicant will be attending. Additional applications and information may be obtained from the American Legion Auxiliary Unit in the community where the applicant resides.

**American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Texas
General Scholarship Application**

Name: _____ SS #: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone #: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Applications for Scholarship is being made on the military service of:

Name of Veteran: _____ Deceased? Yes _____ No _____

Relationship to applicant: _____ Branch of Service: _____

Service Dates: Entered _____ Discharged: _____ Type of Discharge: _____

Father's Full Name: _____

Address if different from applicant: _____

Father's Occupation: _____ Monthly income: _____

Mother's Full Name: _____

Address if different from applicant: _____

Mother's Occupation: _____ Monthly income: _____

Other household income: _____ # children in family: _____ # under 18: _____

Other dependents/circumstances: _____

High School Graduation Date: GPA (Last 4 years): _____

Name of High School: Location: _____

Name & Location of College or University you plan to attend: _____

Physical Address: _____

Have you been accepted? _____ What is your Major?: _____

List of Sources of financial support that will be used for Education (grants, scholarships, aid, etc.): _____

Scholarship award must be used within 1 year of issuance. Otherwise award is null and void.

**General Scholarship Application
Unit Signature Page**

Note to Applicant: Please be sure to attach all other required materials to this application and submit to the **American Legion Auxiliary Unit** in the community in which you reside.

To be filled in by the Unit's President or Education Chairman

Unit Name: Unit Number: _____

Address: City: Zip: _____

Name of President or Education Chairman: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Unit's Recommendation:

Signature of Unit President or Education Chairman

_____ Date

Unit Instructions: Please forward your top selection (1 only) on or before: May 1, 2019

Send to:

Penny Chandler

The American Legion Auxiliary

Department of Texas Education Chairman

106 E. Lake Drive

Weatherford, TX 76087