

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Department of Illinois
2025-2026

**SUBJECT: ADA MUCKLESTONE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP –
(For graduating High School senior)**

Applicants for this award shall be children or grandchildren or great-grandchildren of veterans 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) Any time after December 7, 1941. Applicant must be a resident of the State of Illinois or a member in good standing of The American Legion Family, Department of Illinois.

The Ada Mucklestone Memorial Scholarship will provide \$1000 scholarships as funds permit.

The full amount of the scholarship will be paid for the first semester. Each winning applicant will be required to sign an agreement that if he/she does not complete the first semester of school as planned, arrangements must be made with the American Legion Auxiliary within thirty (30) days for the return of the full amount of the scholarship.

RULES GOVERNING THIS SCHOLARSHIP:

1. Applicant must be in his/her senior year or a graduate of an accredited high school, but he/she may not have attended an institution of higher learning. (College courses taken while High School student does not apply) **Those pursuing a NURSING career are not eligible for the Ada Mucklestone and MUST apply to our Nurses Scholarship program even if they are enrolling in a college school of nursing.**
2. Application for the Ada Mucklestone Memorial Scholarship **must be secured from and returned to the sponsoring Unit.**
3. **A Unit may enter ONLY ONE APPLICANT IN DEPARTMENT COMPETITION sponsored under the Education Program and an applicant may be sponsored by only one Unit.**
4. If a Unit has more than one Applicant, a committee of three qualified people shall be appointed to serve as judges. If you have more than one applicant, you can always check with another Unit about sponsoring one. Judging as follows:
 - A. CHARACTER/LEADERSHIP - 25% - High standard of conduct; keen sense of right; strength of character; adherence to truth and conscience; devotion to church and religious principles and volunteerism, ability to lead and to accomplish through group action; personal magnetism; guidance and thought of others.
 - B. ESSAY - 25% - Content and spelling.
 - C. SCHOLARSHIP - 25% - Scholastic attainment with grades of senior year and rating in class; evidence of industry and application in studies.
 - D. BASIS OF NEED - 25% - Actual need of financial assistance to continue higher education.

5. All applicants will be notified of the results and a copy of the letter sent to the sponsoring Unit President after June 1. No application packets will be returned.
6. The scholarship must be used within twelve (12) months of the date received.
7. The applicant is limited to applying for **ONLY ONE ILLINOIS SCHOLARSHIP** sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary for a given year.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS (Applicant's material MUST INCLUDE)

1. Completed application.
2. Two (2) letters of recommendation or reference from the following: **(Recommendation letters from school must be on letterhead and all letters signed.)**
 - a. Principal or Counselor of the school from which applicant is a graduate. On Letterhead**
 - b. One (1) adult citizen, other than relatives, attesting to the applicant's character in regard to conduct, citizenship and leadership.
3. **List of volunteer activities and hours** for the past 3 years, including extracurricular activities.
4. An original essay written by applicant consisting of not more than 1000 words. The title of the essay will be - **"How My Education Shapes My Future."**
5. A certified transcript or photocopy of applicant's high school grades.
6. Photocopy of parents or grandparents DD214, or one from the following list.
 - Official "Honorable Discharge" certificate
 - Form DD1300 (Official military death certificate)
 - Official record of burial in a military cemetery issued by the National Cemetery Administration of the
 - Current or former military ID card
 - Current or former LES (Leave and Earnings Statement)
 - Official logbook entries from a military unit
 - ANY OTHER DOCUMENT LISTED ON THE "Military Service Verification Documents List"
7. Copy of latest Federal Income Tax Return for proof of need. (Tax Return on which applicant is claimed.)
8. **The completed application packet must be submitted by the applicant to the Unit President PRIOR TO MARCH 15, 2026.**

NOTE: Sponsoring Unit **MUST sign back of application and VERIFY** all necessary information is in the packet. Application **MUST BE** submitted on an American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Illinois form. The Application packet **MUST BE** mailed flat and first class. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

The Unit **MUST SUBMIT** the completed application packet to be received NO LATER THAN APRIL 1, 2026 to the Department Education Chairman:

Janet Bacon, 129 Homewood Drive, Genoa, IL 60135-1259, 815-784-3481

Email: jbacon80@yahoo.com

** Letterhead preferred. If not available, a letter or email showing the name and address of the institution will be accepted.

Department of Illinois

APPLICATION FOR ADA MUCKLESTONE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
(For graduating High School Senior)

APPLICATION MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE SPONSORING UNIT OF THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY NO LATER THAN MARCH 15, 2026.

(Application will not be returned.) PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.

1. Name of applicant _____
Address _____/Email _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
Telephone Number (include Area Code) _____ Date of Birth _____
2. Name and relationship of veteran through whom applicant is eligible:

3. Is this person currently active military or Reserve? _____
4. Number of dependent children in family under 18 years _____ Over 18 _____
Grade levels: _____
5. Number in family occupying home _____
6. Total monthly government compensation or pension received by parent and/or children \$ _____
7. Monthly compensation or pension for applicant if parent has remarried or is deceased \$ _____
8. Are you eligible for benefits under Survivors and Dependents Education? YES _____ NO _____
9. Proposed date of graduation from High School _____
10. Name of College/University you plan on attending _____
11. **Degree/Degrees and Career Field** you plan to pursue _____

PLEASE BE SURE TO ATTACH OTHER REQUIRED MATERIAL TO THE APPLICATION AND
SUBMIT TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SPONSORING AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT NO
LATER THAN MARCH 15, 2026.
APPLICANTS AND UNITS WILL BE
NOTIFIED AFTER JUNE 1.

Signature of applicant

Date

APPROVED BY:

Type or print Unit President's name

Signature of Unit President Date

Address

City Zip Code

Email

Telephone Number (include Area Code)

Unit Name & Number District

Located at

Check List for Unit:
Please check each item for completion.

1. Completed Application _____

2. **Two Letters on letterhead**
Principal/Guidance Counselor _____

Adult Citizen _____

3. Volunteer Activities Hrs. _____

4. Essay _____

5. Certified Transcript _____

6. DD214 for discharged military
or Statements of Service for
active military _____

7. Parent Federal Tax Return _____
Block out all SS and banking #s

Approval of eligibility –
Signature of Unit Secretary or Unit Education Chairman

Unit to mail this application to: Janet Bacon, 129 Homewood Drive, Genoa, IL 60135-1259