

## Scholarships

1. Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship - Awarded to children of veterans who served in the armed forces during the eligibility dates for The American Legion. One \$3,500 scholarship, one \$3,000 scholarship and one \$2,500 scholarship will be awarded in each division. Fifteen outstanding students will be awarded a total of \$45,000 to further their higher education. The applicant must complete 50 hours of community service during his/her high school years to be eligible for one of these scholarships. See the application rules sheet in this program Plan for information.
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. See the application rules sheet in this program Plan for information.
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. See the application rules sheet in this program Plan for information.
4. State (Dept. Scholarships (3).) Past President's Parley  
Scholarship  
Education Awards

Each award entry must include a cover sheet, which can be found at the end of this program Plan.

**Member Award:** Give 10 to Education

**Type of Award:** Printable citation

**Presented to:** Those who have participated in Give 10 to Education

**Materials and Guidelines:**

- Recognition certificates are available to download and print at [www.ALAforVeterans.org](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org) on the Education Program webpage.

**Unit Award:** Most Outstanding Unit Education Program

**Type of Award:** Citation plaque

**Presented to:** One unit Education chairman

**Materials and Guidelines:**

- Entries must include the award cover sheet found in this program Plan.
- Presented to a unit Education chairman.
- The entry must be typewritten in narrative format, not to exceed 1,000 words, describing specific examples of how your unit worked the Education program.
- Include pictures, clippings, scrapbooks, folders, etc.
- Due to the national Education vice chairman by June 1, 2017. Refer to the listing of the committee in the front of this Plan for address.

**Unit Award:** Most Outstanding Veterans in Community Schools Program

**Type of Award:** Citation plaque

**Presented to:** One unit Education chairman

**Materials and Guidelines:**

- Entries must include the award cover sheet found in this program Plan.
- Presented to a unit Education chairman for the most outstanding Veterans in Community Schools program.
- The entry must be typewritten in narrative format, not to exceed 1,000 words.

## **What is this program, and why 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 programs, scholarship promotion and support of education beyond high school, especially for military children.

## **What Can You Do?**

- 1. Enhance respect for the sacrifices of our military heroes among schoolchildren by scheduling Veterans in Community Schools programs at local schools. See enclosed how to sheet.**

*(Note: This program was previously called Veterans in the Classroom.)*

### **Ideas:**

#### **Member**

- Locate a veteran willing to share his/her experience with school children. Attend a post meeting or ask around the clubroom for a volunteer.
- Contact your local schoolteachers or principals to see if they would be interested in hosting a Veterans in Community Schools event.
- Volunteer to provide transportation to and from the school for the veteran speaking in community schools.
- 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 their American Legion post to present Veterans in Community Schools programs in their communities.

- 2. Promote American Legion Auxiliary scholarships, and award local scholarships at the department and unit levels.**

### **Ideas:**

#### **Member**

- Contact the person at your local high school who handles scholarship opportunities. It will typically be 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](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org/Scholarships)), and provide them to schools that request them.
- Volunteer to be on the scholarship selection committee.

- Make a donation to American Legion Auxiliary education scholarship funds:
  - Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship Fund
  - Spirit of Youth Scholarship Fund
  - ALA Foundation at [www.ALAFoundation.org](http://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.
  - Refer to "How to Create a Unit Scholarship Fund" following this program Plan.
- 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](http://www.ALAForVeterans.org/Scholarships).
  - Post these applications to your department website (linking them back to the national website) along with your department scholarships.
- Please keep track of the total number of applications received for any national scholarship, and pass that information on to your division Education chairman.

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

#### **Ideas:**

#### **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 (i.e., grocery stores, banks, senior centers, post office), and invite local residents to donate.
  - Save Box Tops for Education and Labels for Education® and send them to local schools. Most schools participate in these programs.
- Promote Teacher Appreciation Week (May 1-5, 2017)
  - Send cards to your local school's teachers.
  - Donate resources that teachers or needy children may need.
- Promote American Education Week (November 14-18, 2016)
  - Send a card to all local school staff thanking them for the work they do. Include all school personnel with whom children interact (i.e., bus drivers, custodians, etc.).
  - A sample card may be found on the Education page of the Members Only section at [www.ALAForVeterans.org](http://www.ALAForVeterans.org).

## **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.
- Participate in American Education Week (November 14-18, 2016). Remember to recognize all school personnel, not just teachers.
- Promote Teacher Appreciation Week (May 1-5, 2017) 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.
- 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.
- Encourage participation in American Education Week (November 14-18, 2016).
- Promote Teacher Appreciation Week (May 1-5, 2017).
  - Encourage units to plan teacher recognition events at local schools.

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

### **Ideas:**

#### **Member**

- Contact a campus student veterans group at colleges and universities in your community to volunteer. The VA counselor at the college can assist you in locating the veterans groups.
- Sign up to receive The American Legion's Legislative Action 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 Scholarship, 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.

**Unit Award: Honoring the Service of Our Military**

**Type of Award:** Citation plaque

**Presented to:** One unit Education chairman

**Materials and Guidelines:**

- Entries must include the award cover sheet found in this program Plan.
- Presented to a unit Education chairman for the most outstanding promotion of education for military children.
- The entry must be typewritten in narrative format, not to exceed 1,000 words.
- Include pictures, clippings, scrapbooks, folders, etc.
- Due to Diane Rousseau, Education committee member by June 1, 2017. Refer to the listing of the committee in the front of this program for address.

**Department Award: Most Outstanding Department Education Program**

**Type of Award:** Engraved Plaque

**Presented to:** One department Education chairman

**Materials and Guidelines:**

- Entries must include the award cover sheet found in this program Plan.
- Presented to the department Education chairman.
- The entry must be typewritten in narrative format, not to exceed 1,000 words, describing specific examples of how your department worked the Education program.
- Include pictures, clippings, scrapbooks, folders, etc.
- Due to your national Education chairman by June 1, 2017. Refer to the listing of the committee in the front of this Plan for address.

**How To Sheets**

- How to Organize a Veterans in Community Schools Event
- How to Create a Unit Scholarship Fund

**Additional Resources You Can Use**

1. [www.ALAforVeterans.org/Programs/Education](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org/Programs/Education) for more how to sheets and other support tools.
2. American Legion Auxiliary scholarship applications: [www.ALAforVeterans.org/Scholarships](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org/Scholarships)
3. Educational resources through the Americanism and Children & Youth Commission of The American Legion: [www.legion.org/education](http://www.legion.org/education)
4. Free online tutoring for military children: [www.tutor.com/military](http://www.tutor.com/military)
5. Student Veterans of America: [www.studentveterans.org](http://www.studentveterans.org)
6. Your national committee members (see front page of this program Plan).