

The American Patriot Freedom Scholarship Award For Military Dependent Children

2015 Guidelines & Information

The **Homefront America, Inc., American Patriot Freedom Scholarship Program** is now accepting applications. The program provides scholarships to assist military dependent children with their post-secondary education.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Military dependent children who are 17 to 21 at the time of application, and who also meet one or more of the following requirement(s) are eligible to apply.

- ★ Students planning to pursue an undergraduate degree or professional certification at a fully accredited college, university, technical, or vocation educational institution for the academic school year 2015-2016.
- ★ Children of active duty Service Members. *Active Duty* is defined as any Service Member who is in the military full-time.
- ★ Children of disabled Service Members. *Disabled* is defined as any Service Member whose disability is the direct result from injuries sustained during a military operation while serving our country.
- ★ Children of fallen United States Armed Forces Service Members. *Fallen* is defined as any Service Member who was killed in action (KIA) during a military operation while serving our country.
- ★ Children of retired Service Members. *Retired* is defined as any Service Member who retired from the United States armed forces with an honorable discharge.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

A total of ten individual \$1,000.00 scholarships will be awarded. Names of Awardees will be posted on the organization's website on Tuesday, May 26, 2015. **Individual notifications will not be made.**

Scholarship awards are restricted for use to assist awardees with their tuition, fees, room & board, and/or text books. Payments will be made directly to the educational institution on behalf of awardees **ONLY** upon receipt of the following items via email to info@homefrontamerica.org:

1. Enrollment verification received from Awardees' educational institution
2. A complete itemized account statement received from Awardees' educational institution
3. A "Head Shot" JPEG image in high resolution of Awardee in his/her cap and gown emailed to info@homefrontamerica.org
4. A written testimonial (minimum of 75 words) from Awardee stating how the scholarship will benefit him/her, and the intended use for the scholarship.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED:

1. Above items received under separate covers
2. Pre-registration/Pre-enrollment verifications, letters of acceptance, letters of intent to enroll, or any other forms of verification.
3. "Head Shot" JPEG image in low resolution of Awardee in his/her cap and gown
4. Enrollment verifications showing less than twelve (12) semester units or its full-time equivalent from an accredited college, university, technical, or vocational educational institution.
5. Enrollment verifications with dates prior to the first date of class. **ONLY ENROLLMENT VERIFICATIONS DATED AFTER THE LAST CLASS DROP DATE WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

Scholarship awards are non-transferable. Applicants must submit a new application and essay for each year they would like to be considered.

Awardees are not permitted to receive any unused portion of his/her award from the educational institution for his/her personal use. Scholarships are restricted for payment of tuitions, fees, room & board, and/or text books. Payments will be made directly to the educational institution on behalf of Awardees.

Any unused portion of the award must be returned to Homefront America. Awardees who violate this guideline will be required to reimburse Homefront America, Inc., for the full amount of the unused portion of his/her award.

Awards not claimed by December 31, 2015 will be forfeited. All unclaimed awards will be used to benefit future scholarship awards for military dependent children.

PLEASE KEEP THIS PAGE FOR YOUR REFERENCE

THE AREA BELOW IS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CAREFULLY BEFORE SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION. RETAIN A COPY OF ALL PAGES FOR YOUR REFERENCE. DO NOT MAIL ANY INSTRUCTIONAL PAGES WITH YOUR APPLICATION/ESSAY

Application - Application Page 1 of 5

- ★ Applicant and applicant's sponsor/legal guardian must complete **ALL** fields on the form
- ★ If field does not apply, enter "N/A" in the field

Disclosure Information and Agreement – Application Page 2 of 5

- ★ Applicant and applicant's sponsor/legal guardian must complete **ALL** fields on the form
- ★ Applicant and applicant's sponsor/legal guardian must legibly print their names on the top of the form.
- ★ Applicant must check the box that best describes his/her current eligibility status
- ★ Applicant and applicant's sponsor/legal guardian must sign their names and date the bottom of the form
- ★ Applicant and applicant's sponsor/legal guardian must provide their DOB and the last 4 digits of their SSN on the bottom of the form

Testimonials – Application Page 3 of 5

- ★ Applicant must type his/her name and the last four digits of his/her SSN on the form
- ★ Using the fill-able form provided, testimonial must be typed using one and one-half spacing, with an indent and double space for each new paragraph
- ★ Testimonials must be typed using ARIAL, 11 pts.
- ★ Testimonials should contain a minimum of 100 words
- ★ Testimonials should include, but not limited to the following:
 - How will the scholarship benefit applicant's short term educational goals
 - How will the scholarship benefit applicant's long term educational goals
 - How will applicant use his/her scholarship (ie. Tuition, Books, Fees, etc)
 - What is the applicant's major, if decided
 - What are applicant's career plans, if decided
- ★ Testimonials must fit on the one page fill-able form provided. Additional sheets will not be accepted.
- ★ Applicant must sign and date his/her testimonial.

Judges Scoring Sheet – Application Page 4 of 5

- ★ Applicant must type his/her name and the last four digits of his/her SSN on the form
- ★ Essay will be judged using the following four criteria:
 - Is the essay organized and does it flow well?
 - Is the essay original?
 - Is the essay interesting and persuasive?
 - Grammar & Spelling

Essays – Application Page 5 of 5

- ★ Applicant must type his/her name and the last four digits of his/her SSN on the form
- ★ Essays must be typed using the fill-able form provided.
- ★ Essays must include a word count and cannot exceed 500 words.
- ★ Essays must fit on the one page fill-able form provided. Additional sheets will not be accepted.

Deadline for Submission of Application

**Application period is subject to close at any time.
Therefore, early submission is highly recommended.**

Disqualified Applications

- ★ Essays that do not conform with the established guidelines
- ★ Applications received after the application period is closed
- ★ Illegible paperwork. This includes illegible copies of Military Dependent I.Ds
- ★ Applications received with missing information, or any of the required attachments
- ★ Applications received via facsimile, e-mail, certified mail, UPS, FEDEX, DHL, Etc, requiring a live signature for delivery
- ★ Applications submitted with paperwork other than what is required.

Mailing Instructions

- ★ Do not staple or fold any paperwork
- ★ Do not send transcripts, photos, letters of reference, or any other information except what is listed below
- ★ **All paperwork must be submitted on 8-1/2 x 11 paper only (no exceptions)**
- ★ Paper clip all paperwork in the following order:
 1. Scholarship Application Form – *Application Page 1 of 5*
 2. Disclosure Information and Agreement – *Application Page 2 of 5*
 3. Testimonial Page – *Application Page 3 of 5*
 4. Copy of dependent military identification card (Front & Back)
(BLACK OUT ALL SSN)
 4. Dependent children of fallen service members must provide copy of FORM DD1300
 5. Judges Scoring Sheet – *Application Page 4 of 5*
 6. Essay Page – *Application Page 5 of 5*
- ★ Mail all paperwork to: **Homefront America, Inc**
31877 Del Obispo, Suite 101
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

THE AREA BELOW IS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

HOMEFRONT AMERICA, INC.
American Patriot Freedom Scholarship Award
For Military Dependent Children

2015 APPLICATION FORM

(Application must be signed by both the applicant and the applicant's parent/legal guardian)

Applicant Information: All fields MUST be filled in. Enter N/A if not applicable

Last Name		First		MI	DOB	Applicant's SSN (Last 4 Digits)	
Home Address				City		ST	Zip Code
Daytime Phone ()	Evening Phone ()	Cell Phone ()	Primary E-mail address (No .mil or yahoo address accepted)				
<p>How did you hear about us:</p> <p>Have you previously applied for an American Patriot Freedom Scholarship? If yes, what year(s)?</p> <p>If yes, what topic(s) did you chose for your essay?</p> <p>If yes, were you one of the Awardees? If yes, what year(s) were you an Awardee?</p> <p>If you were an Awardee, what college, university, vocational, technical, or trade school did you attend?</p> <p>Did you find the scholarship helpful? If yes, in what way did you find it helpful?</p> <p>Have you applied for any other scholarships? If yes, have you been awarded any of them?</p> <p>If yes, please list all scholarships awarded, and their amounts:</p> <p>What college, university, vocational, technical, or trade school do you plan to attend?</p> <p>Have you decided on a major? If yes, what is your intended major?</p> <p>Have you decided on a career path? If yes, what is/are your career goal(s), if any, at this time?</p> <p>Are you the surviving child of a service member KIA during a military operation while serving our country? If yes, please attach copy of FORM DD1300</p> <p>Are you the child of a disabled service member? If yes, please attach copy of disability verification or briefly describe type of disability:</p>							

Sponsor / Legal Guardian Information:

Last Name		First		MI	DOB	Sponsor's SSN (Last 4 Digits)	
Home Address				City		ST	Zip Code
Daytime Phone ()	Evening Phone ()	Cell Phone ()	Primary E-mail address (No .mil or yahoo address accepted)				
Sponsor's branch of service		Sponsor's current status			Total annual family income from all Sources:		
Sponsor's Rank		Pay Grade	Yrs of Svc		Total # dependents in family:		

Good Luck

DISCLOSURE INFORMATION AND AGREEMENT

We, _____, and _____ the undersigned hereby confirm that the applicant is a military dependent child of an active duty or former United States military service member; and that the applicant meets at least one of the following eligibility requirements for *The American Patriot Freedom Scholarship Award*.

PLEASE CHECK ALL APPLICABLE BOXES BELOW

- Applicant’s parent(s) is/are currently serving in the United States armed forces as a full time, active duty service member. See section “Eligible Applicants” on page 1 of “Guidelines and Information” for definition of a full-time active duty service member.
- Applicant’s parent(s) is/are a retiree of the United States military with an honorable discharge
- Applicant’s parent(s) is/are a disabled veteran of the United States military, **and** the disability was the direct result from injuries sustained during a military operation while serving our country.
- Applicant’s parent(s) was/were killed in action (KIA) during a military operation while serving our country

By submitting this application, we are authorizing Homefront America, Inc., and any of its employees, directors, officers, sponsors, agents, designees, representatives, and/or affiliate organizations (collectively, “Scholarship Committee”) to verify any and/or all information provided on the application. In addition, the “Scholarship Committee” may disclose any and/or all information submitted on the application to a third party as deemed necessary, for purpose of facilitating the application process. This may be done with or without first obtaining our permission.

It is understood that should applicant become an Awardee, Homefront America, Inc., and/or its sponsor(s) will reserve all rights and privileges to display the applicant’s name, his/her testimonial, and/or photo or image likeness of the applicant on their websites. This shall include any and/or all types of public media Homefront America, Inc., deems appropriate and/or necessary. Such media may include, but, not limited to television, radio, newsprint, or any other written publications and/or advertisements. In the event this should occur, we understand that we will not be compensated for the media publicity.

It is our understanding that all essays, testimonials, photos, etc submitted to Homefront America, Inc., will not be returned to us, but shall remain the sole and exclusive property of Homefront America, Inc., As such, Homefront America, Inc., shall reserve the right to reproduce or distribute any of the aforementioned items in whatever manner, and to whomever it deems appropriate, without first obtaining our permission. In the event Homefront America, Inc. and/or its sponsor(s) decide to publish applicant’s essay for profit or otherwise, we will not be compensated for such publication.

We understand that *The American Patriot Freedom Scholarship Award* is available only to military dependent children. If for any reason, applicant’s status as a military dependent child should change, we must notify Homefront America, Inc. immediately.

In the event applicant is an Awardee, we understand that: 1) the scholarship must be used by December 31, 2015 from date of award or otherwise be forfeited. 2) Payment will be made directly to the educational institution only upon verification of applicant’s enrollment with a minimum of twelve (12) semester units or its equivalent at an accredited four year university/college, junior college, trade or technical school. 3) Applicant must maintain a 2.5 GPA during the semester or risk forfeiting his/her eligibility to apply for future scholarship benefits with *Homefront America, Inc.*

We agree to hold harmless Homefront America, Inc., and its “Scholarship Committee” for any mail delivery errors, separation and/or lost of paperwork while in transit or any other causes that may arise outside the scope and control of Homefront America, Inc.

By affixing our signatures below, we attest that all information provided on the application has been made voluntarily and that we have read and fully understand the application instructions and disclosure information/agreement in their entirety; and hereby agree to all terms and conditions as set forth.

Applicant’s Signature

Parent or Legal Guardian’s Signature

DOB: _____ Last 4 Digits of SSN: _____

DOB: _____ Last 4 Digits of SSN: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

Applicant's Last/First Name:

Applicant's SSN:
(Last 4 Digits)

TESTIMONIAL PAGE

PLEASE REFER TO THE INSTRUCTIONS & GUIDELINES FOR TESTIMONIAL FORMAT & REQUIREMENTS

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for the applicant to provide their testimonial. The box occupies most of the page below the header and above the footer.

JUDGES SCORING SHEET - FOR HOMEFRONT AMERICA USE ONLY

Applicant's Last/First Name:

Applicant's SSN:
(Last 4 Digits)

TOPIC: My Vision for Tomorrow's America

CRITERIA	SCORE (Circle one for each criteria)					
Essay is organized/flows well	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
Essay is original	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
Essay is interesting/persuasive	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
Grammar & Spelling	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 0

Legend:

5 - Excellent 2 - Average
4 - Very Good 1 - Below Average
3 - Good 0 - Not Rated

TOTAL SCORE: _____

ESSAY JUDGE: _____

Judge's Comment Area (Optional)

Applicant's Last/First Name:

Applicant's SSN:
(Last 4 Digits)

ESSAY PAGE

PLEASE REFER TO THE INSTRUCTIONS & GUIDELINES FOR ESSAY FORMAT & REQUIREMENTS

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for the applicant to write their essay. The box occupies the majority of the page's vertical space.



- ★ Did you complete **ALL** fields on the following pages?
 1. Application – Page 1 of 5
 2. Disclosure Information and Agreement – Page 2 of 5
 3. Testimonial Page – Page 3 of 5
 4. Judges Scoring Sheet – Page 4 of 5
 5. Essay Page – Page 5 of 5
- ★ Did you put “N/A” in the fields that do not apply to you?
- ★ Did both you and your parent print your names on the top of the Disclosure Information and Agreement form?
- ★ Did both you and your parent sign your names and fill in the required fields on the bottom of the Disclosure Information and Agreement form?
- ★ Did you include a copy of your military dependent I.D. Card – front & back with the application? **Only LEGIBLE and UNEXPIRED I.D. cards will be accepted. Explain any discrepancies (i.e. rank, paygrade, sponsor’s status, etc) shown on I.D. card and the application page. Note information on the I.D. card page.**
- ★ **NOTE: If military I.D. shows SPONSOR SERVICE/STATUS AS “RES”, please include service member’s activation or deployment order.**
- ★ Did you remember to black out both your and your sponsor’s SSN on your military dependent I.D. Card?
- ★ Did you include verification of service member’s disability if you are a dependent child of a disabled Veteran?
- ★ Did you include a copy of the Service Member’s FORM DD1300 if you are a dependent child of a fallen?
- ★ Did you check to make sure all documents are legible?
- ★ Did you retain copy of all pages for your records?

IF YOU ANSWERED NO TO ANY OF THE ABOVE, PLEASE MAKE THE CORRECTION(S) BEFORE SENDING IN YOUR APPLICATION. INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE PROCESSED

Mail Original Completed and Signed Application (including required attachments) to:

**HOMEFRONT AMERICA, INC.
31877 Del Obispo, Suite 101
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675**

Applications by fax, e-mail, or special deliveries that require a live signature will automatically be disqualified

REMINDER

WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON OUR WEBSITE ON Tuesday, May 26, 2015