***Scholarship Committee***

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**Each year the ENF awards more than $3.74 million the nation’s top students in 3 different scholarship contests.**

**"Most Valuable Student" Contest**

**Applications for the Elks National Foundation's 2017 Most Valuable Student contest will be available beginning September 1, 2016 online at** [**www.elks.org/enf/scholars**](http://www.elks.org/enf/scholars) **The 2017 MVS application deadline is November 30, 2016. Winners of the 2017 contest will be announced by late April, 2017. The Elks National Foundation will award 500 four-year scholarships to the highest-rated boys and girls in the 2017 competition. Any high school senior who is a citizen of the United States is eligible to apply. Applicants need not be related to a member of the Elks. College students are not eligible to apply. Applicants must be citizens of the United States on the date their applications are signed; resident alien status does not qualify.**

**Applicants will be judged on financial need, leadership and scholarship.**

**All scholarships are in the form of certificates of award conditional upon the enrollment of the winner in an accredited US college or university.**

**Applications must advance through local; district and state will competition to reach the national competition**

**Ranging from $1,000 per year to $12,500 per year, Most Valuable Student scholarships are for students pursuing a four-year degree, on a full-time basis (minimum of 12 semester hours), in a US American college or university. Male and female students compete separately.**

**Requests for additional information should be addressed to the scholarship chairman of the local Lodge or of the Elks association of the state in which the applicant is a resident.**

**Through this Most Valuable Student competition and its two other scholarship programs, the Elks National Foundation annually awards $3.74 million in scholarships. In addition, many state Elks associations and Lodges offer scholarships. Contact your local Lodge for more information.**

**The Most Valuable Student program was established in 1931.**

**2017 Most Valuable Student Award Offers 500 Four-Year Awards for the**

**2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21 Academic Years**

**Four-Year Total Award                    No. of Awards        Total**

**First Place  $50,000       2                         $100,000**

**Second Place   $40,000       2                           $80,000**

**Third Place       $30,000       2                           $60,000**

**Fourth Place     $20,000       14                          $280,000**

**Runners-up   $4,000     480                      $1,920,000**

**Total:    500                 $2,440,000**

**Elks National Foundation's Legacy Awards Scholarship Contest.**

Who is Eligible?

Any child or grandchild (or step-child, step-grandchild, or legal ward) of a living Elk who joined the order on or before April 1, 2014, or a charter member of a Lodge that was instituted on or after April 1, 2014, is eligible to apply. The Elk must also be a paid-up member in good standing at the time of application. Great-grandchildren are not eligible.

The applicant must be a high school senior.

The applicant must apply through the related member's Elks Lodge, regardless of where the applicant resides.

If the applicant's parent and grandparent are both Elk members, the applicant must apply through the parent's Elks Lodge.

Students may apply for more than one ENF scholarship; however, they may win only one. In cases where the student qualifies for more than one, we will award the scholarship with the greater value.

Legacy Awards may only be applied to accredited US American schools, colleges or universities. (Note: Applicants from Guam, Panama, Puerto Rico and the Philippines may apply Legacy Awards toward schools, colleges or universities in their respective homes.)

Applicants must take the Scholastic Aptitude Test or the American College Test by December 31, 2016.

How Many Scholarships Will You Award, and Who Will I Compete Against?

Legacy Awards are four-year, $4,000 scholarships. The Foundation offers a total of up to 250 awards.

Children and grandchildren will compete separately against other children and grandchildren in their state. Each state is eligible to receive a number of awards based on its past support of the Elks National Foundation. Due to IRS regulations, the Foundation may award Legacy Awards to no more than 25 percent of the applicants in each state. Each state’s quota is divided evenly among children and grandchildren. In states where the quota is an uneven number, the extra award is allocated to children of Elks, rather than grandchildren.

**Who Will Select the Legacy Award Winners?**

The Selection Committee shall consist of professionals who are not connected with either the Elks National Foundation or the BPO Elks of the USA, appointed periodically by the ENF Trustees. The Selection Committee is responsible for the confidential review of each applicant’s file. They determine the Legacy Award winners. Their decision is final.

**How Will Applications Be Judged?**

The ENF Legacy Awards contest provides educational assistance to children and grandchildren of Elk members who are high school seniors, going on to college, and exhibit the core values of the Elks National Foundation:

Knowledge

Charity

Community

Integrity

The Selection Committee will judge applications based on the values above. There will be no further investigation of the prospective students or their parents with respect to financial need or other personal matters.

How Do I Apply, and What Are the Deadlines?

Applications will be available on line only September 1, 2016.

Note: Because the contest begins in one Lodge year and the winners are announced in the next, a Legacy Award could go to the child or grandchild of a lapsed member. An applicant’s Elk parent or grandparent must be a paid-up member in good standing at the time of application, but if the Elk chooses not to renew membership, that decision will not affect the outcome of the Legacy Awards contest.

Where Can I Get More Information about the ENF Legacy Awards Program or the Elks National Foundation?

scholarship@elks.or

773-755-4732

Arkansas is eligible for 3 Legacy Awards.

**Emergency Educational Grants**

The Emergency Educational Grant program provides financial assistance to children of deceased or totally disabled Elks, who wish to obtain or further their college education.

Grant amounts are based on the information submitted in the application and can range up to $4,000. The grant is for one year only; however, the student may submit up to three annual renewal applications for succeeding years as long as he or she meets all other eligibility requirements. New and renewal applications should be filed between May 1 and October 31. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

The Elk parent or stepparent must have been a member in good standing for at least one year at the time of his or her death.

Or

The Elk parent or stepparent must have been a member in good standing for at least one year before he or she became totally disabled and must continue to be an Elks in good standing when application for assistance is made.

All circumstances surrounding the death or disability of the Elk parent or stepparent are subject to the review of the Elks National Foundation. The outcome of the review may affect grant approval.

The applicant must demonstrate financial need to qualify for a grant under this program.

The applicant must be unmarried, under the age of 23 as of December 31 in the year of application, and attending an accredited U.S. institution of higher learning as a full-time (12 semester hours) student.

All applications – new and renewal – must be submitted to the Elks National Foundation Scholarship Office in Chicago. Upon receipt of the application, our office will contact the parent’s or stepparent’s Elks Lodge to verify membership information.

If you or someone you know qualifies for the Emergency Educational Grant, please contact the ENF office to request a copy of the application. Please call 773-755-4732 or email scholarship@elks.org to request an application.