

ROGER BENJAMIN VOCATIONAL GRANT APPLICATION
Due to the Mount Vernon Elks Lodge no later than **March 7, 2025.**

-----GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS-----

ROGER BENJAMIN VOCATIONAL GRANT AWARD

The grant may be used for tuition, fees, books and supplies at a Community College or Technical School. It may be used only for usual and required costs of applicant's planned course of study and must be paid directly to the school they will be attending.

WHO MAY APPLY:

Any graduating Senior High School student and/or General Education student, who is a U.S. Citizen is eligible, receiving a diploma or certificate during the current program year and planning to pursue an eligible Vocational/Technical Course, above and supplemental to High School or Preparatory School, may apply.

DEFINITIONS:

Profession versus Vocation: While the terms profession and vocation are often used interchangeably, the following is provided as a general guide when reviewing applications;

A **profession** is one that is typically earned through a four year or longer course of study at the university level. Examples are: accounting, law, teaching, architecture, nursing*, pharmacy, medicine, finance, the clergy and engineering.

A **vocation** is generally thought of as requiring a certain amount of physical skill along with technical knowledge. Examples are: pipefitting, sheet metal, machinist, electrician, electronics, HVAC/heating and cooling specialist, auto and diesel mechanic, body and fender specialist, insulator, bricklayer, carpenter, cement mason, insulator, barber, hair stylist, etc. The technical knowledge is normally attained through a trade school or community college. Some trade schools offer a program that exceeds the normal two year degree from a community college.

*nursing at the LPN level, licensed practical nurse, can be accepted as vocational, but the RN, Registered Nurse, should be considered a profession.

This list is not all inclusive, but is provided as general guidance when determining whether a person should be applying for the Vocational Grant.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Applications and all supporting documents must be in English.
- Incomplete applications will be disqualified and returned
- Applications must be the original or photocopy of the Mount Vernon Elks Lodge #1604 application, which has been signed and dated by the applicant and Lodge Official.
- Applications are due to the Mount Vernon Elks Lodge by **March 7, 2025. Any applications received after that date will be disqualified.**
- **Letters of recommendation must be originals, on one side of a single sheet of 8 ½ x 11-inch paper, signed and dated by the author and include the author's work phone number and address.**
- Application and supporting documents must be enclosed in a **soft** three-hole paper folder. Elaborate folders should not be used. Clear plastic and bulky, hard, heavy binders are inadmissible.
- Application and supporting documents must be arranged in the order detailed below

Order of Application and Items to be Included:

- A. Application (count as 3 pages)
- B. Statement by the applicant of not more than 250 words, summarizing his/her activities, accomplishments, needs and objectives which the applicant thinks qualifies him/her for a grant. The applicant must state his/her career goal.
- C. A statement from parent/guardian (of dependant applicants only) of 250 words or less summarizing the family's obligations and resources. (State number of children in family, number at home and in college and if there are extenuating financial or medical circumstances in the family.)
- D. Letters of recommendation from educators in authority from schools attended by the applicant should cover applicant's ability, school work habits, leadership, personality and integrity. **(Limit 2)**
- E. Letters of recommendation from responsible community members not related to the applicant (excluding educators) detailing the applicant's character and general worthiness, character, industry and disposition. **(Limit 2)**
- F. Official, complete High School Transcript of applicant's grades. Transcripts may be photocopies that bear the original signature and date of the proper school authority, and should be secured in sealed envelope and enclosed with the application.
- G. Armed Forces, Vocational Aptitude, GED test scores and grade or work records may be included.
- H. Any copies of exhibits of achievement in scholarship, leadership, athletics community service or other activities. Exhibits should be in chronological order starting with the most current.
- I. Do not include photo portraits of applicant.
- J. **The folder should contain no more than 20 pages.**

JUDGING IS BASED ON THE FOLLOWING:

1. MOTIVATION- General worthiness, desire
2. NEED- Financial need, resourcefulness
3. SKILLS- Showing aptitude for chosen vocation
4. ORGANIZATION OF APPLICATION- Neatness, completeness and following directions

Grant Recipient Information:

- Vocational Grant expires 17 months from the date of the award.
- Payment will be made directly to the school after proof of registration.
- Grant is subject to cancellation or withdrawal if student's conduct is contrary to the principles of law and morality supported by the Elks.
- The recipient must be willing to have his/her name used in articles related to this Grant Award.

ALL APPLICATIONS BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE MOUNT VERNON ELKS LODGE #1604 AND WILL NOT BE RETURNED. Non-Winning applications will be shredded to protect confidentiality. Applicants should make a copy for their own records.

Application Tips:

Start the application process early. Contact the lodge for application drop off times.

Read the Instructions. We include them for your benefit; knowing exactly what you need to do will make the application process go faster and easier.

Don't forget to make the copy.

Make life easier for the judges. When you're finished, **don't** put any staples or paperclips on your application. Simply place it, as instructed in a folder.

ROGER BENJAMIN VOCATIONAL GRANT AWARD APPLICATION

Name _____ Social Security# _____

Address _____ PO Box _____

City _____^{Street} State _____ Zip _____ Phone(____) _____

Date of Birth _____ Place of Birth (city, state, country) _____ Age _____ Sex _____

Citizenship—United States Yes ___ No ___ If not born a United States citizen, give date and place of Naturalization:

Date _____ Place _____
(City and State)

Name of High School Attending: _____

School Address _____
(City and State)

Year Graduating _____ Grade Point Average (GPA) _____
OR

If working toward GED, list issuing school or other organization _____

Address _____
(City and State)

AND/OR

Name Vocational/Technical Schools/Community Colleges or Other Schools, Attended or Now Attending:

School name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

School name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

College or Vocational School Planning to Attend:

School name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Date course will begin _____ 20____ Course will end _____ 20____

Course of Study: _____

At completion, I will receive: Associate degree () Diploma () Certificate ()

Employment record: (List employer, address, date of employment, person to contact about employment, phone, position beginning with most recent):

Activities you are involved in (School or Civic) _____

-----TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL APPLICANTS-----

Budget for full Academic Year of _____ Number of months _____
Tuition and fees (per quarter or semester, not monthly) \$ _____ (A)
Books and supplies \$ _____ (B)
Travel to and from school \$ _____ (C)

Total of (A+B+C)= TOTAL EXPENSE
\$ _____

Less Anticipated income:
Family's Contributions \$ _____ (D)
Student's Contributions \$ _____ (E)
Summer earnings \$ _____ (F)
College Work/Study Employment \$ _____ (G)
Other Scholarships/Grants/Loans \$ _____ (H)

TOTAL (D+E+F+G+H)= TOTAL INCOME \$ _____

Amount needed to balance school budget for year
(TOTAL EXPENSE MINUS TOTAL INCOME): \$ _____

PARENTS' FINANCIAL INFORMATION: a Major consideration in awarding scholarships is the student's financial need, as compared with the financial needs of other applicants.

Father/ Guardian's
Name: _____

Father's Employer _____ Job Title _____ Annual Gross
Salary: \$ _____

Mother/ Guardian's
Name: _____

Mother's Employer _____ Job Title _____ Annual Gross
Salary: \$ _____

Adjusted Gross Income from previous year as reported on Federal Income Tax Form 1040 \$ _____

Number of persons living in home dependent upon this income, including yourself:

_____ adults _____ children

Names and ages of dependent children _____

Number of dependents attending college currently _____ Expected graduation date _____

Name of family member(s) and College(s) (excluding the applicant) _____

Medical/ Dental expenses not paid by insurance in current year \$ _____