

ELKS National Foundation Important Scholarship Updates

The Elks National Foundation provides more than \$3.64 million in college scholarships each year through its three scholarship programs. The application process and deadlines vary for each program. All applications must go through a local Elks Lodge before reaching the Elks National Foundation office. Contact your high school counselor for more information or your local Elks Lodge.

Applications for the Elks National Foundation's 2010 Most Valuable Student contest will be available beginning September 1, 2009, at your local Elks Lodge, online or by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Foundation.

2010 Most Valuable Student Scholarship applications must be submitted to the Lodge nearest the applicant's permanent address by November 2, 2009.

The Elks National Foundation will award 500 four-year scholarships to the highest-rated applicants in the 2010 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.
- Male and female students compete separately.

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

All scholarships are in the form of certificates of award conditional upon the full-time enrollment of the winner in an accredited U.S. college or university.

Applications must advance through local, district and state competition to reach the national competition. National finalists will be notified by email on February 1, 2010. To be eligible for an award, national finalists will be required to submit a secondary application online, which will include an essay, counselor letter of recommendation, aid received to date, college plans and a parental financial statement. The national finalists will be required to mail their official transcript, standardized test scores and Student Aid Report to the ENF. These applications are due March 1, 2010.

The Chicago office of the Elks National Foundation will announce the 500 national winners, and notify them in writing, on April 1, 2010. (Many local Lodges, districts and state Elks associations award their own scholarships through this program. These scholarships are not to be confused with the 500 Elks National Foundation Most Valuable Student Scholarships.)

Ranging from \$1,000 per year to \$15,000 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 U.S. college or university.

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.

Legacy Awards are four-year, \$4,000 scholarships. The Foundation will offer a total of up to 250 awards. 2010 Legacy Award applications will be available ONLINE ONLY starting September 1, 2009. These applications must be submitted online by January 8, 2010.

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, 2007, or a charter member of a Lodge that was instituted on or after April 1, 2007, is eligible to apply. The Elk must also be a paid-up member through March 31, 2010. Great-grandchildren are not eligible. The applicant must be a high school senior. The applicant must apply online only at www.elks.org/enf/scholars. If the applicant's parent and grandparent are both Elk members, the applicant must apply through the parent's Elks Lodge.