

## **Smyth-Bolter Post 58, The American Legion Scholarship Program – Eligibility & Selection Criteria**

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For the past several years, members of Smyth-Bolter Post 58 have budgeted funds to award graduating high school seniors within Tuolumne County who are continuing their education in an accredited college, university, vocational institution or Bible school, scholarship of \$500 each.

The scholarship award can be used for any expense associated to the students' educational endeavor and the actual award is provided to the student upon receipt of their proof of enrollment in college.

While the timeline for application varies each year, it is generally open for application in February and closes within the first two weeks of March. Eligibility criteria and instructions for application are explained below.

### Eligibility Criteria:

- Must be a graduating senior or a past graduate from a high school – public, private, or home school – within Tuolumne County.
- Must be either registered or planning to attend an accredited college, university, vocational institution, or Bible school.
- Must have at least a 3.0 grade-point average (non-weighted).
- Must have a parent or guardian, grandparent, great uncle, great aunt, uncle, aunt, brother, or sister who is either active military or an honorably discharged veteran.
- Must have a financial need.
- Must believe in God and the United States of America.
- Must be active in the community (i.e., work or performing some kind of community service).

### How to Apply:

1. Provide an application package which includes the following items:
  - A completed copy of the Smyth-Bolter Post 58 application form.
  - A photocopy of the veteran's DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge) or other proof of service and Honorable Discharge.
  - A photocopy of high school and, if applicable, college transcripts. Limit high school transcripts to grades 10 and 11 only, and also 12 if you have completed your senior year.
  - Two letters of recommendation, none of which are from family members; one shall be from either a teacher or school counselor, the second shall be from either an employer or another adult.
  
2. Application package deadline is **March 15<sup>th</sup>** and may be mailed with post mark or e-mailed no later than deadline to:

Smyth-Bolter Post #58, The American Legion  
Attention: Scholarship Program Chair  
P.O. Box 3666  
Sonora, CA 95370, or  
May be e-mailed as attachments to: [lonaldlott@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lonaldlott@sbcglobal.net)

Note:

- Part of the selection process may be an interview with the applicant by the selection committee on a mutually convenient date.
- The scholarship coordinators shall be notified of the selection results pertaining to their respective applicants.
- Awardee shall provide proof of registration prior to receiving funds.
- Funds shall be forfeited if they have not been requested within one year of selection date, unless special arrangements have been made.

**SMYTH-BOLTER POST 58,  
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
Scholarship Application Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Full name of veteran: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Your father's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Your mother's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of children, including you, being supported by the family: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated amount family can contribute per year to your continuing education: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Comment on any circumstances limiting family contribution: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name and location of school you are planning to attend: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Type of school: [ ] four-year college [ ] community college [ ] vocational [ ] Bible

Major career interest: \_\_\_\_\_

Why did you choose this school and this major? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\* Note: If necessary, please feel free to use the back of pages or additional pages for your responses.

School activities (list clubs, athletics, student government, committees, and any offices you have held and any special achievements): \_\_\_\_\_

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Community activities (list church membership and groups, scouts, volunteer work, etc.):

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Employment (list any part-time, full-time, or summer employment): \_\_\_\_\_

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Personal statement - choose one: (1) factors in your childhood that contribute to the person you are today, or (2) personal experiences that motivated you to choose your future plans.

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In your own words, define the term *Americanism* and describe what the word means to you:

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I understand scholarship money is to be used for expenses toward my education, such as tuition and fees, books, and school supplies.

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_