

Portage Post VFW Veterans Legacy Scholarship

Sponsored by: Portage Post VFW – Niagara Falls, NY

Overview

The **Portage Post VFW Veterans Legacy Scholarship** honors the sacrifice and service of America's veterans by supporting the educational goals of local high school seniors whose parent or grandparent is a veteran of a foreign war. We are proud to assist the next generation of leaders as they pursue higher education, carry forward a legacy of service, and continue to make a positive impact in their communities.

Scholarship Award

- **Amount:** \$1,000
 - **Number of Awards:** Up to 2 recipients
 - **Disbursement:** Funds will be made payable directly to the accredited college, university, or trade school the student will attend.
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Eligibility Requirements

To apply, applicants must:

- Be a **high school senior** residing in or attending school in the **surrounding Western New York areas**.
 - Have a **cumulative GPA of 85 or higher** (on a 100-point scale).
 - Be the **child or grandchild** of a **U.S. military veteran who served in a foreign war** (proof of service required – see below).
 - Demonstrate a strong commitment to **community service** and/or volunteerism.
 - Plan to enroll in an **accredited two-year or four-year college, university, or trade school** in the upcoming academic year.
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Application Requirements

Applicants must submit the following materials:

1. **Completed Application Form** (available through the guidance office).
2. **Official High School Transcript** showing GPA.
3. **Proof of Veteran Status** of parent or grandparent (acceptable documents include DD-214 form, military ID, VFW membership ID, or service records).
4. **Community Service Resume** listing activities, hours contributed, and leadership roles (if any).

5. Essay (500–750 words):

- Topic: *“Describe your parent or grandparent’s military service and explain why their service is meaningful to you and your future.”*
 - Essays will be evaluated on originality, clarity, emotional impact, and connection to values of service and patriotism. Please do not submit essays generated through generative AI.
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Deadline

- **Application Deadline:** April 1, 2026
 - Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.
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Submission Instructions

Submit all required documents by mail or in person to:

Portage Post VFW – Veterans Legacy Scholarship Committee
4127 Washington St,

Niagara Falls, NY 14305

For questions or more information, contact the Portage Post VFW at **alfredkontrabecki@gmail.com**

Selection & Notification

Recipients will be selected by the **Veterans Legacy Scholarship Committee** based on academic achievement, community involvement, essay quality, and demonstration of family military connection and values.

Scholarship recipients will be notified by **Senior Awards Night**.

Honor the Past. Inspire the Future.

We look forward to learning your story and helping you build a future rooted in the proud tradition of service.

Portage Post VFW Veterans Legacy Scholarship Application

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Deadline to Apply: April 1, 2026

Section 1: Applicant Information

Field

Response

Full Name:

Date of Birth:

Home Address:

Phone Number:

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Email Address:

High School Name:

Anticipated Graduation Date:

Cumulative GPA (100-point scale):

Section 2: Veteran Family Member Information

Field

Response

Veteran's Full Name:

Relationship to Applicant:

☐ Parent ☐ Grandparent

Branch of Service:

Conflict or War Served In (e.g., Vietnam, Gulf War): _____

Years of Service: _____

VFW Membership (if applicable): Post #: _____

☐ **I have attached proof of the veteran's service** (e.g., DD-214, military ID, VFW card)

Section 3: Community Service

Please attach a separate sheet or resume listing your community service activities, including:

- Name of organization(s)
 - Description of role or activity
 - Dates of service
 - Total hours contributed
 - Any leadership roles held
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Section 4: Essay Requirement

Attach a typed essay (500–750 words) on the following prompt:

“Describe your parent or grandparent’s military service and explain why their service is meaningful to you and your future.”

Essays will be evaluated based on:

- Depth of reflection and emotional connection
 - Clarity and quality of writing
 - Demonstration of values such as service, patriotism, and legacy
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Section 5: Certification & Signature

I certify that the information provided in this application is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that incomplete applications will not be considered, and that all submitted materials become the property of the Portage Post VFW.

Signature of Applicant: _____

Date: _____

Submit Completed Application to:

Portage Post VFW – Veterans Legacy Scholarship Committee
NEED Address

For questions or more information, contact: Al Kontrabecki Alfredkontrabecki@gmail.com