



Benjamin O Davis
VFW Post 311
Richton Park, IL



Benjamin O. Davis Sr.

Scholarship Application

Application due date: Friday, June 19, 2015

VFW POST 311 Commander's Scholarship 2015

1. DEADLINE for scholarship applications is Friday, June 19, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. **(NO EXCEPTIONS)**
2. Refer to application process below for a list of the supporting documents needed (i.e., reference forms, evidence of GPA, etc.) Incomplete applications will not be considered.
3. If any question does not apply to you in this application please put N/A in the space.
4. Type or print legibly. Illegible applications will be returned to you.
5. You will be notified by phone or mail in July regarding the status of your application.
6. If you have any questions about the application, please call Comrade Georges Sanon, VFW Post 311 Scholarship Committee Chairman at 708.679.0995 or by email at ScholarshipFoundation@vfwpost311.org.

PURPOSE The VFW Post 311 Commander's Scholarship Fund was established in 2013. The mission of the scholarship is to provide financial assistance to individuals, who are descendants of Veterans, enrolled for undergraduate study in community colleges, colleges, and universities. The VFW Post 311 Commander's Scholarship targets two and four year academic programs.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE is based on financial need, academic performance, leadership potential, and participation in VFW Post 311 programs. Scholarships are awarded and/ or renewed annually provided funds are available. In addition, the scholarship may be renewed provided the award recipient meets the conditions outlined below in *Scholarship Renewal*.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The VFW Post 311 of Richton Park awards scholarships on the basis of a comprehensive process. Areas that are reviewed by the committee include, but are not limited to the following: Academic Accomplishments, Community Service, References, Personal Essay and Financial Need. VFW Post 311 pays scholarship funds directly to the recipient's school. Scholarships are awarded each academic year and may continue each academic year if the student maintains a 2.5 GPA each semester. The VFW Post 311 Scholarships are awarded without regard to race, color, ethnicity, gender or sexual orientation. Scholarships awarded are based upon the availability of funds and additional qualifying criteria.

CRITERIA

- Applicants must be a descendant of an honorably discharged veteran.
- Applicants must have permanent residence status in Illinois and NW Indiana.
- Applicants must be completing or have completed high school successfully with a minimum un-weighted GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
- Applicants must be accepted as a full time student at a college or university for the upcoming academic year.
- Applicants must demonstrate a need for financial assistance.
- Preference may be given to applicants who have participated in VFW Post 311 programs.
- Applicants must be a citizen or legal permanent resident of the United States.
- Student must submit a copy of their 2014-2015 Student Aid Report (SAR) from Free Application for Federal Student Aid/(FAFSA)
- Applicants must complete and submit a Scholarship Application by Friday, **June 19, 2015**.
- Scholarship recipients will receive their check for the next academic year **only** after their grades from the previous semester have been received.

TIMELINE

- Both new and renewal applications are due **June 19, 2015**.
- Candidates that are eligible for interviews will be notified by the Scholarship Committee near the end of June 2015.
- Applicants are notified if awarded a scholarship near the end of July 2015.

Application Process

NEW SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS MUST PROVIDE:

- Completed application form.
- DD Form 214. You must be a son or daughter, granddaughter or grandson, great-granddaughter or great-grandson, brother or sister, or wife or husband of a veteran.
- Official high school/college transcript in a sealed envelope from the institution.
- Two academic references from a guidance counselor or teacher.
- A letter completed reference from an employer or other community member.
- Proof of acceptance at an academic institution for post-secondary studies.
- Demonstrated financial need.

SCHOLARSHIP RENEWAL APPLICANTS MUST PROVIDE:

- Scholarships may be renewed annually if entering a full time program, and up to three times for a total of 4 years of study, if recipients maintain a 2.5 average GPA and complete. More than 3 renewals may be considered on a case by case basis. This presupposes that funds are available for disbursement.
- The scholarship recipient must demonstrate need for continued financial assistance.
- A personal statement describing their experience during their academic year and what they have learned that will help them move forward in life.
- Completed application form.
- The Scholarship recipient must retain permanent residence status in Illinois or NW Indiana.

SCHOLARSHIP RENEWAL APPLICANTS MUST PROVIDE *Continued.*

- Students must provide a transcript for consideration. Students may provide a transcript printed from an online college record through the prior semester or an official transcript. Awards will be made provisionally pending receipt of final grades from that academic year.
- Renewal applications are due by **Friday, June 19, 2015.**

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

- Award notification will be given near the end of July 2015.
- Applicant must provide their **student ID, the correct mailing address of their institution and the department where their scholarship check is to be received.**
- Award amounts will be distributed each academic year after a student's **final grades are received by VFW Post 311.**

CRITERIA FOR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

- All recipients must apply for a Pell Grant.
- If applicant is awarded a scholarship, the recipient must agree that VFW Post 311 may use their name and academic information in new releases or promotional publications regarding this award.
- Scholarship recipients will receive their check for the next academic year only after their grades from the previous academic year have been received. Students must receive a 2.5 grade point average based on a 4.0 scale.

Deadline for the application is Friday, **June 19, 2015.** Applications postmarked after this date will not be considered.

Please mail OR submit application in person to:

VFW Post 311

Benjamin O. Davis VFW Post 311

Attn: Commander's Scholarship

P.O. Box 777

Richton Park, IL 60471

Application 2015-must be filled out by applicant.

Please check one of the following:
 New Scholarship applicant _____
 Scholarship Renewal _____

Please **type on a separate sheet** or **print** your answers below. If application is illegible it will be returned to you.

1	Last Name: _____	First Name: _____
2	Mailing Address: Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____	
3	Daytime Telephone Number: () _____ Email address: _____	
4	Current High School: _____	Number of years attended HS: _____
5	I will be attending the following school in the <u>Fall of 2015</u> : _____ Address/ Phone _____	
6	What year will you enter school? Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior	
7	Will you be a full time student? _____	
8	Will you be a commuting student? Will you live on campus? _____ If you are not living on campus, where will you be living? _____	
9	Grade Point Average (GPA): _____ (On a 4.0 scale) Attach proof of GPA; your most recent official school transcript required.	
10	ACT Score: _____ Or SAT Score: _____	

	A copy of your ACT or SAT score sheet on official high school transcript is required.				
11	Name & address of parent(s) or legal guardian(s): Use reverse side of application if you need more space. Name (s) _____ Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Home phone of parents or legal guardians: _____				
12	List the name of any college you have attended.	Year Began	Year Ended	Year Graduated	Type of Degree Received
	A.				
	B.				
	C.				
13	What specialty/major do you plan to major in as you continue your education?				
14	List expenses you expect to incur per academic year: (Approximate figures acceptable) Make additional comments if needed.				
	A.	Tuition:	Amount: \$		
	B.	Books:	Amount: \$		
	C.	Room & Board:	Amount: \$		
	D.	Other expenses:	Amount: \$		
	E.	Other expenses:	Amount: \$	“	
15	List other financial assistance you will receive per academic year:				
	A.	Personal:	Amount: \$		
	B.	Other Scholarship(s):	Amount: \$		
	C.	Grants:	Amount: \$		
	C.	Student Loan(s):	Amount: \$		
	D.	Other Financial Resources:	Amount: \$		

Please list the following information on a separate sheet if needed.

16	SCHOOL EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: Please list school extra-curricular activities in which you have participated. Note leadership roles and dates.
17	AREA OF STUDY: What do you want to study and why?
18	ORGANIZATIONS: Please list community organizations such as service, volunteer and religious organizations in which you are now active or have previously been active. Note leadership roles and dates.
19	RECOGNITIONS: Please list important awards and recognitions received. Note organizations presenting honor and date.
20	GOALS: What are the short and long term goals for your life?
21	NEED: Please explain your need for the VFW Post 311 Scholarship.
22	CAREER PLANS: What are your career plans and what would you like to be doing in 10 years?

23	<p>ESSAY: Between 200 and 400 words (typed, using 12 pt. Times New Roman font, double space with 1" margins on all sides), your essay topic is:</p> <p>Describe your understanding of what "patriotism" means, and explain how it works in your community.</p>			
24	<p>A. The following items must be attached to this application in order for the application to qualify to be reviewed by the scholarship committee.</p> <p>B. Your application will be returned to you if these items are not attached to this application. (No exceptions.)</p> <p>C. Circle "YES" or "NO" to be sure you have attached each item as required.</p>			
	YES	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="251 598 332 667">NO</td> <td data-bbox="332 598 1531 667">DD Form 214. Photocopy of this document is acceptable.</td> </tr> </table>	NO	DD Form 214. Photocopy of this document is acceptable.
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	YES	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="251 667 332 772">NO</td> <td data-bbox="332 667 1531 772">Two reference forms. Your references will mail these to VFW Post 311 marked attention Georges Sanon/ Scholarship Committee.</td> </tr> </table>	NO	Two reference forms. Your references will mail these to VFW Post 311 marked attention Georges Sanon/ Scholarship Committee.
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STATEMENT OF ACCURACY

I hereby affirm that all the above stated information provided by me to the VFW Post 311 Scholarship Committee is true, correct and without forgery. I also consent that my picture may be taken and used for any purpose deemed necessary to promote the VFW Post 311 Scholarship Program.

I hereby understand that if chosen as a scholarship winner, according to VFW Post 311's scholarship policy, I must provide evidence of enrollment/registration at the post-secondary institution of my choice before scholarship funds can be awarded.

Signature of scholarship applicant: _____ Date: _____

Witness _____ Date: _____

**The deadline for this application to be received by VFW Post 311 is
Friday, June 19, 2015, 5:00 p.m. No exceptions!**