



American Legion Auxiliary

Department of Florida

Program Plan of Action

Education

2023-2024

Terry Gallagher Chairman

Mary Richard Fish Committee Member

The Education Program promotes the American Legion Auxiliary's role in providing quality education for children and adults through classroom activities, literacy programs, scholarship promotion, and support of education beyond high school, with special emphasis on children of veterans and service members. Teaching our youth is vital to our future.

Things we can do:

- \*Schedule Veterans to speak at local school assembly
- \*Schedule an appointment with guidance counselors to discuss the scholarships that are available
- \*Create your own unit scholarship to be given to a local student
- \*Give 10 to education ( [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org) )
- \*American Education Week (Week prior to Thanksgiving)
- \*Teacher Appreciation Week (First full week of May)
- \*Box Tops for Education ( [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) )
- \*Create a tutoring program at your Post (for young and old)
- \*Assist and support veterans pursuing higher education and vocational education
- \*Operation Homefront ( [www.operationhomefront.org](http://www.operationhomefront.org) )

Focus:

- \*Female Veterans seeking higher education
- \*Military Children with learning disabilities
- \*Illiteracy in your community/tutoring programs
- \*Scholarships that are available

CHAIRMAN AWARD:



Saved By the Bell Award

Given to one unit in each membership grouping with the best all-around education program.

In narrative form with pictures, newspaper articles, and flyers. Be creative and show how you helped in your community schools with education.

To be received no later than April 15, 2024.

Mailed to:

ALA Department of FL

Education Chairman Terry Gallagher

1301 W Bell St

Avon Park, FL 33825

DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIPS:

\*Department scholarships are awarded annually to children and stepchildren of honorably discharged veterans only. The applicant must be a resident of the State of Florida. The student deadline is February 1, 2024, to the unit. Deadline for receipt of completed applications by the Department Education Chairman for grants shall be March 1, 2024.

\*Department Memorial Scholarships are awarded to members of the American Legion Auxiliary, daughters, or granddaughter of members, provided said member has been a member in good standing in a unit within the Department of Florida and shall have maintained that membership for at least (3) consecutive years prior to the date of application. The student deadline due to the unit is February 1, 2024. Due to the Department Education Chairman by March 1, 2024.

\*The Norma Kerkow Female Veteran's Scholarship is awarded to Honorable Discharged female veterans residing in the State of Florida. All scholarships will be renewed annually in an undergraduate school provided by the student who needs further financial assistance and has maintained at least a 2.5 GPA. Renewal contracts to be sent by Department Headquarters to recipients and reviewed by Department Secretary and Education committee. Sponsoring units will be notified of scholarship renewal approvals for students that they have previously sponsored. The cover page of the application is to be submitted to Department Headquarters either directly or via a sponsoring unit. Applications can be obtained from Department Headquarters. The deadline for receipt of completed applications by Department Chairman for grant shall be March 1, 2024.

#### DEPARTMENT AWARDS:

\*The Elizabeth A. Nelson Award is awarded to the Unit having the best year-round program through participation in all phases of the education and scholarship program and in conformity with the current National Program. This award is sponsored by St. Cloud, Unit 80 American Legion Auxiliary. Entries must be received by the Department Education Chairman no later than May 1, 2024.

\*The Kathy DeRouin Award is sponsored by Orlando, Unit 19 American Legion Auxiliary. It is awarded to the Unit which hosts the best educational tutoring program. Grades can include Pre-K through high school or any adult literacy course. Tutoring may take place in schools, libraries, community centers, or after-school programs and should conform with the National guidelines. The reports must be received by May 17, 2024, which is 30 days prior to the Department Convention. The report is to be sent to Department Education Chairman.

SEE UNIT GUIDE FOR FULL DETAILS ON ALL SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

## NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS:

\*Children of Warriors National President's Scholarship

\*Spirit of Youth Scholarship

\*Non-Traditional Student Scholarship

\*Junior Loyalty Scholarship

SEE [www.alaforveterans.org/scholarships](http://www.alaforveterans.org/scholarships) FOR FULL DETAILS

## END OF THE YEAR REPORTING:

Unit Chairman report to District Chairman no later than April 1,2024

District Chairman report to Department Chairman no later then April 15,2024

## RESOURCES:

- [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org)
- [www.legion.org/education](http://www.legion.org/education)
- [www.tutor.com/military](http://www.tutor.com/military)
- [www.studentveterans.org](http://www.studentveterans.org)

Terry Gallagher  
Education Department Chairman  
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Avon Park, FL 33825  
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Committee Members:

Mary Richard Fish