



American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of Florida  
Program Engagement Plan  
Education  
2024-2025



Securing Our Foundation to  
Build a Stronger Future



Department Chairman: Stacy Cusano  
Committee Members: Jasmine Harris & Michelle Ligeikis



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.

The education of America's children is essential for the future of our nation. The American Legion Auxiliary joins with The American Legion to aid and support the basic rights of all children to receive a suitable education.

# Tools for you



What tools do you have in your tool box that will help you promote our Education Program?

- Participate in ALA's ***Give 10 to Education***. Present a [Give 10 to Education Certificate](#) to members who donate at least 10 items to schools.
- Participate in Teachers Appreciation Week (First full week of May).
- Participate in American Education Week (Week prior to Thanksgiving).
- Participate in [Operation Homefront's Back to School Brigade](#)
- Provide [Box Tops for Education](#) and select a local school.
- Provide tutoring programs.
- Provide a scholarship at the Units level to be given to a local student.



Toolbox Talks are used to spark discussion and action at the beginning of the shift. Toolbox Talks guide workers and teams through preventing many hazards on the job.

How does this relate to our members in the American Legion Auxiliary? We can spark discussion with the community and promote our program. We can guide our members to help get our message out. How can we do this? Promote. Encourage. Support.

# Promote Encourage Support

- Promote quality education for children, especially for military children and adults.
- Promote the American Legion Auxiliary Scholarships.
- Promote The American Legion's scholarships.
- Encourage schools to invite veterans to speak in their classrooms and participate in [Veterans in Community Schools](#).
- Ask teachers to have their students make cards for the veterans.
- Support The American Legion's efforts by signing up for [Legislative Alerts](#) at <https://voterve.net/AmericanLegion/home>
- Support legislation that establishes new scholarship opportunities.
- Contact your representatives and ask them to support scholarship opportunities, particularly those for veterans, military and families.
- Schedule an appointment with guidance counselors to discuss the scholarships that are available.
- Assist and support veterans pursuing higher education and vocational education
- [Operation Homefront](#)



- November 18-22, 2024: American Education Week
- February 1, 2024: Units Scholarships due to Department
- March 1, 2025: National Scholarship Applications are Due
- April 1, 2025: Units Year End Reports due District Chairman
- April 15, 2024: District Year End Reports due to Department Chairman
- May 4-10<sup>th</sup>, 2025: Teachers Appreciation Week



## CHAIRMAN AWARD

### *Superintendent Award*

Given to one Unit in each membership grouping with the best all-around education program. Submission should be in narrative form with pictures, newspaper articles and flyers. Be creative and show how you helped in your community schools with education. Must be received no later than April 15, 2025.

## NATIONAL AWARD

Unit Award: Most Outstanding Unit Education Program (per division) All unit entries must be submitted via [electronic form](#) by 5 p.m. EST on June 1. Note: You will receive a confirmation when your award is submitted. You may also upload other supporting documentation that will give the committee a full picture of the important mission work your department or unit has accomplished this year. These files can be photos (JPG, JPEG or TIFs -- no larger than 14MB) or PDF documents. If you have more than three supporting files, please email the committee email address listed in the form.

National Awards Form Link: <https://www.legion-aux.org/National-Awards-Form>

## DEPARTMENT AWARDS

**THE ELIZABETH A. NELSON AWARD** is awarded to the Units 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, Units 80 American Legion Auxiliary. Entries must be received by the Department Education Chairman no later than May 1, 2025.

**THE KATHY DEROUIN AWARD** is sponsored by Orlando, Units 19 American Legion Auxiliary. It is awarded to the Units 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 afterschool programs and should conform with the National guidelines. The reports must be received by May 13, 2025, which is 30 days prior to the Department Convention. The report is to be sent to Department Education Chairman.

***SEE UNITS GUIDE FOR FULL DETAILS ON ALL SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS***

## END OF THE YEAR REPORTING

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

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

**The preferred delivery is via email to [education@al afl.org](mailto:education@al afl.org)**

But you can also snail mail or fax (954-595-1614)

Snail Mail to:

Stacy Cusano, Education Chairman

1591 Liberty Hill Road, Hartwell, GA 30643



## DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIPS



Department Scholarships

**DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIPS** are awarded annually to children of honorably discharged Veterans only. Four-year University grants are not to exceed \$2,000.00 and Junior College and Technical-Vocational school grants are not to exceed \$1,000.00. Department Scholarships shall be all grant and require students attend an accredited Florida University, College or Technical -Vocational school and be a resident of the State of FL.

**DEPARTMENT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS** are awarded annually to members of the American Legion Auxiliary, their daughters or granddaughters, provided said member has been a member in good standing in a Units within the Department of Florida and shall have maintained that membership for at least three (3) consecutive years, with current dues paid. Four (4) year University grants are not to exceed \$2,000.00 per year and Junior College and Technical - Vocational school grants are not to exceed \$1,000.00 per year. The student deadline due to the Units is February 1, 2025. Due to the Department Education Chairman by March 1, 2025.

**THE NORMA KERKOW FEMALE VETERAN’S SCHOLARSHIPS** are awarded annually to Honorable Discharged Female Veterans residing in the State of Florida. Four (4) year University grants are not to exceed \$2,000 per year and Junior College and Technical Vocational school grants are not to exceed \$1,000 per year. All awards are to be made to full time or part time students (which is defined as 12 earned credit hours for full-time or 6 earned credit hours for part-time students in a semester). Scholarship awards shall be paid directly to the institution, payable in two equal payments, by the Department Treasurer, second payment contingent on meeting credit hour and GPA minimum requirements. Two scholarships to be awarded annually. 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 Units. Applications can be obtained from Department Headquarters. The deadline for receipt of completed applications by Department Chairman for grant shall be March 1, 2025.

## NATIONAL AUXILIARY SCHOLARSHIPS

- Children of Warriors National President’s Scholarship
- Spirit of Youth Scholarship
- Non-Traditional Student Scholarship
- Junior Loyalty Scholarship



National ALA Scholarships

## LEGION SCHOLARSHIPS

- Samsung Scholarship
- Legacy Scholarship
- Baseball Scholarship
- Oratorical Scholarship
- Eagle Scout Scholarship
- Shooting Sports Scholarship
- Anavious Scholarship
- JROTC



National Legion Scholarships



Department Legion Scholarships

# SOCIAL MEDIA GROUPS FOCUSED ON EDUCATION

National Facebook Group: ALA Education



Department Facebook Group: ALAFL Education



## RESOURCES

Department Website



Department Education Program



National Website



National Education Program



TAL National Education



National Emblem Sales



Tutoring



Student Veterans Association

