**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY**

**2020 IOWA DEPARTMENT MERIT AWARD APPLICATION**

1. Name Click or tap here to enter text.
2. Address (Street, City, State Zip) Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Birth Date Click or tap here to enter text. Telephone # Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Parent/Guardian Name(s) Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Parent/Guardian Addresses Click or tap here to enter text.
2. Parent(s)/Guardians occupations Click or tap here to enter text.

1. How many persons in the family? Number of dependent children? Click or tap here to enter text.
2. Indicate the Veteran’s name under who you qualify Click or tap here to enter text.

1. What is your relationship to that Veteran? Click or tap here to enter text.
2. Are you a member of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, or Sons of the American Legion? Circle those that apply.
3. Highest Level of education and high school/college attended? Click or tap here to enter text.

1. List no more than 10 of your activities and awards.

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1. Name and location of school in Iowa in which you plan to enroll Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Course of study you will pursue Click or tap here to enter text.
2. Do you expect to work to assist yourself while in school? If so what type of work? Click or tap here to enter text.

1. What other income resources do you have to fund your education? Click or tap here to enter text.

 Enclosed

* Merit Award Application
* Original Essay
* Unit or Post letter of Recommendation/verification
* School Letter of Recommendation
* Professional, Clergy, or Community Letter of Recommendation
* Transcript

It is the responsibility of the applicant to answer **ALL** questions and submit **ALL** requested material. **ALL** must be included, in proper grammatical form, with correct spelling and punctuation or they will not be considered. Please read and review both the rules and this form before submitting your application packet.

This scholarship will be awarded to any student currently enrolled in college or will be a college student in the coming year.

 Applicant’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Unit **OR** Post Officer’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Application and all information must be postmarked with appropriate postage by June 1. 2020 and mailed to:**

 **KIM DIXON kjdixon@mahaska.org**

 **2162 263rd STREET 641-673-0220**

 **OSKALOOSA, IA 52577**

I would like to be considered for the Merit Award(s) as indicated below. This will be the only Merit Award application that you will need to fill out. Please check all that you wish to apply for.

 \_\_\_\_\_ Mary Virginia Macrae Memorial medical training Merit Award - $500.00

 \_\_\_\_\_ Harriet Hoffman Memorial educator training Merit Award - $500.00

 \_\_\_\_\_ Iowa Department Merit Award - $500.00

 \_\_\_\_\_ Past Iowa Department Presidents’ Merit Award - $500.00

**Winners will be announced at the 2020 Iowa American Legion Auxiliary Department Convention in July.**

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY**

 **IOWA DEPARTMENT MERIT AWARD**

The Department of Iowa offers Merit Awards for continuing education to assist Iowa residents in obtaining a college, university, professional, nursing, trade school, commercial, or vocational education in an accredited school within the State of Iowa. All recipients shall be chosen by the Department Education Chairman and two Merit Award Judges from the applications received by June 1 of the given year based on the required qualifications listed.

**Merit Awards:**

***Mary Virginia Macrae for Medical Training*:** A five hundred dollar ($500) medical training merit award is given each year in memory of Mary Virginia Macrae who was the First Department of Iowa President.

***Harriet Hoffman for Educator Training*:** A five hundred-dollar ($500) educator training merit award is given each year in memory of Harriet Hoffman who established the education and Merit Award Program in the Department of Iowa

***Iowa Department Merit Awards:*** Ten (10) five hundred-dollar ($500) merits awards will be given each year. No applicant shall receive this award more than twice. Upon the death of a Past Department President, one (1) of these merit awards will be given in her honor and shall be for the period of (1) year.

***Past Department President Merit Awards*:** The number of five hundred dollar ($500) Past President Merit Awards will be determined by the contributions received each year by the Past Presidents Merit Award Fund.

**Eligibility Rules and Application Requirements:**

The applicant must be a veteran or parent, spouse, widow, direct or adopted descendant of a veteran, and a resident of the State of Iowa

The Department of Iowa American Legion Auxiliary Merit Award application form must be used to apply for all merit awards. The Application form may be obtained online and must be postmarked by June 1.

The applicant must be a high school graduate. Graduating seniors shall submit a transcript of high school grades and composite score on a standardized test. Applicants who are currently college students need to submit only applicable college records. Applicants who have been out of school for four (4) or more years may submit any of the above information or two (2) additional personal references.

The applicant must submit an original essay consisting of not more than six hundred fifty (650) words which will give insight into one’s personality and express the qualities one wants to be known and be remembered by in one’s chosen field.

The applicant shall submit three (3) **letters of recommendation**

1) Unit or Post verifying the applicant’s eligibility

2) School

3) Business or Professional person, clergy or community leader indicating the applicant’s character, patriotism, leadership, etc