2027 Post 49 Scholarship Application

The American Legion
Carlisle B. Grisham Post 49
P.O. Box 45, Athens, Alabama 35612

2027 Post 49 Scholarship Eligibility and Application Guidelines

Overview. The American Legion Post 49 is proud to award two annual scholarships to graduating high school seniors who meet the established criteria. Its purpose is "to support the development of future leaders who demonstrate American values, selfless service, citizenship, and community engagement." One female and one male applicant will be awarded the $1,000 scholarship which will be paid **directly to the educational institution** on behalf of the student.

Application Submission. Applications will be submitted online by scanning the QR code or the Post 49 website at amlej49athens.org and will be accepted from January 5 to March 19, 2027. Before completing the Post 49 Scholarship Application read the guidance listed below. When submitting your scholarship application, you state that you have read the guidelines and instructions.

Eligibility and Application Requirements

Residency. The applicant must be a U.S. citizen and meet one of the following conditions:

- be a resident of Limestone County
- be enrolled in a public or private institution within the county
- be formally recognized by the Alabama State Department of Education as a home-schooled student eligible for a high school diploma

Additionally, he/she must be **enrolled in, accepted at, or applied to** an accredited college, university, or technical school. Scholarship funds will be held until formal enrollment at the school of choice is documented.

Required Veteran Family Connection

Applicant must be the:

- Child
- Stepchild
- Grandchild
- Legal dependent

… of a U.S. military veteran (honorably discharged) or a service member currently serving in the Armed Forces of the United States.

Acceptable proof of qualifying service are:

- DD-214
- VA ID Card
- Military ID Card
- Military Dependent ID Card
- Other official documentation

Academics

- Minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale
- Must submit an official or school-certified transcript (Will be requested from counselor by the Post 49 selection committee)

Additional Considerations (Not required but encouraged)

Community Service. Volunteer work with civic groups, church groups, nonprofit organizations, veteran organizations, or community projects.

Leadership Roles

- School clubs
- JROTC
- Scouting
- Sports
- Church leadership
- Boys State/Girls State
- Civil Air Patrol
- Civic minded organizations
- Participation in the American Legion Oratorical Contest
- Participation in the Veterans of Foreign Wars Voice of Democracy Contest
- Other leadership positions

Honors and Awards

- Academic honors
- Citizenship awards
- Leadership recognition
- Other achievements

Essay. Each applicant must submit a 300–500-word essay on a topic selected by the Post 49 Scholarship Selection Committee. This year's topic is _____. A scoring rubric will be included with the application.

Letters of Recommendation. Applicants must provide three references with contact information so the Post 49 Scholarship Selection Committee may request the letters of recommendation.

- Two references from school (teachers, coaches, and/or administrators, etc.)
- One community leader (employer, coach, civic organization, church leader, etc.)

Personal Interview. The scholarship finalists will participate in an in-person interview with the Post 49 Scholarship Committee. Interviews will assess the interviewee's performance within the categories contained in the Interview Rubric.

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Each application will be processed and evaluated objectively. Rubrics are for the application vetting process for all applications and for the interview portion for the final five female and five male applicants. The selection committee will notify applicants selected to attend an interview once the board results have been verified.

Use the Post 49 Scholarship Application Rubric on the last page of this document as a checklist to ensure all application requirements have been accomplished and documents submitted. Applicants will get a confirmation email that the application and letters of recommendation were received.

Completed applications and all letters of recommendation must be submitted no later than Friday, March 19, 2027. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Please contact XXXX at XXXX@gmail.com if you have any questions.

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Post 49 Scholarship Application Scoring Rubric (See Note 1.)

Please use this rubric as a checklist to ensure all documents are completed and submitted correctly.

Area	*Rubric*	*Score Range*	*Score*
Applicant Information Sheet	Completed with accurate and current information	0-10	
Residency or School Requirements Met	Is eligible by residing in Limestone County; or attending a Limestone County school; or, being recognized as a homeschooled student. (See Note 2.)	N/A	
Three Letters of Recommendation	Two letters of recommendation from your school (teachers, coaches, administrators, etc.). One letter of recommendation from a community leader (employer, coach, clergy, civic organization, etc.).	0-10	
Veteran Relationship Documents Uploadeded	DD-214 VA ID Card Military ID Military Dependent ID Other Official Documents (See notes 2 and 3.)	N/A	
Transcript Received from School	Transcript received.	N/A	
GPA	Minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA on 4.0 scale. (See note 2.)	0-10	
Academic Awards	List of academic achievement awards.	0-10	
Citizenship Awards	List of any citizenship awards received.	0-5	
Leadership Roles	Do the leadership roles and activities reflect a high level of involvement, responsibility, and accomplishment with activities inside and outside of School?	0-15	
Community Service	Does community service indicate a high level of involvement in serving others?	0-15	
Other Awards/Recognition	List of awards/recognition not otherwise categorized.	0-5	
Essay	Focused and detailed (thesis statement, etc.) Organization (introduction, body, conclusion) Voice (Active vs. Passive) Word choice Sentence structure, grammar, and spelling (See note 3.)	0-15	
	Maximum Score: 100	***Total Score***	

Note 1: Specific guidance and the scoring rubric for the interview will be provided with the notification to those selected for that phase of the selection process.

Note 2: All eligibility criteria must be met, or the application will not be considered.

Note 3: All required documents must be received, or the application will not be considered.