

**American Legion Auxiliary – Department of Iowa
Merit Awards - 2025**

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 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 the parent, spouse, widow, or 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 the merit awards. The application should be returned to Denise Timmerman at denisetimmerman13@gmail.com or mailed to Denise Timmerman, 2351 Hwy 130, New Liberty, IA 52765 by **May 16th** (postmarked if sending by mail).

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 materials 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 what the applicant has done to reflect the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary.

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.

All applications should be emailed to Denise Timmerman denisetimmerman13@gmail.com or mailed to Denise Timmerman, 2351 Hwy 130, New Liberty, IA 52765 by **May 16th for the needed signature and Letter of Recommendation. The application packet must be forwarded by Denise Timmerman to Iowa Department Education Chairman by June 1, 2025.**

NOTE: *The Auxiliary/Legion letter of recommendation may be obtained by contacting your local American Legion Post or Auxiliary.*

**American Legion Auxiliary
2025 Iowa Department Merit Award Application**

1. Name of Applicant:
2. Address [Street, City, State Zip]:
3. Birth Date: Telephone #:
4. Parent/Guardian Name(s):
5. Parent/Guardian Addresses:
6. Parents/Guardians occupations:
7. How many people are in the family: Number of dependent children:
8. Indicate the veteran name under who you qualify:
9. What is your relationship to that veteran?
10. Are you a member of the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, or the Sons of the American Legion? Circle/underline those that apply.
11. Highest level of education and high school/college attended?
12. List up to ten of your activities and awards:
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.
 - 6.
 - 7.
 - 8.
 - 9.
 - 10.
13. Name and location of school **IN IOWA** in which you plan to enroll:
14. Course of study you will pursue:
15. Do you expect to work to assist yourself while in school? ___ yes ___ no If so, what type of work?
16. What other income resources do you have to fund your education?

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 the application 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 emailed or mailed to Denise Timmerman by **May 16th denisetimmerman13@gmail.com or Denise Timmerman, 2351 Hwy 130, New Liberty, IA 52765. Denise will send the application/information to the Department Education Chairman – American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Iowa by June 1, 2025.**

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

- _____ Mary Virginia Macrae Memorial Nursing Merit Award - \$500.00
- _____ Harriet Hoffman Memorial Teaching Merit Award - \$500.00
- _____ Iowa Department Merit Award - \$500.00
- _____ Past Presidents Merit Award - \$500.00

Winners will be announced at the 2025 Iowa American Legion Auxiliary Department Convention in July.