



December 1, 2022

Dear Applicant,

The Rock Island Arsenal Welcome Club (RIAWC) invites all eligible applicants to apply for our merit based scholarship for financial assistance in support of further education. Our scholarship program strives to serve the spirit of our mission and support the worthy endeavors of our military community by giving scholarships to those looking to further their education. The RIAWC is built on the core values of Friendship, Service, Integrity, Generosity, Accountability, and Courtesy.

Thank you for your interest in applying for our scholarship for financial assistance to further your education. Scholarship amount will be up to \$2,000. **ONLY** the 2023-2024 version of this application will be accepted. This scholarship is open to applicants who have **not previously received a RIAWC scholarship** and meet the eligibility criteria as stated on the Continuing Education Merit Scholarship Checklist.

The application will be automatically disqualified if any required item is not included. The application and all required documents must be mailed together in **ONE** envelope to the following address, unless your school requires transcripts be sent under separate cover:

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL WELCOME CLUB
ATTN: MERIT SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 3186, ROCK ISLAND, IL 61204.

It is strongly suggested that applications be mailed using return receipt. The envelope must be postmarked **NO LATER THAN March 1, 2023**.

All applicants will be notified of the committee's decision by mail and email in late April 2023. Recipients will be honored at a luncheon on May 17, 2023. The award will be in the form of a check issued to the student's college, university, or technical school. These funds must be used during the 2023-2024 academic school year. **The scholarship will be forfeited if the student does not show proof of acceptance and enrollment for the 2023-2024 academic year. The applicant is responsible for providing to the scholarship chair the address and office name at the college/university in a timely manner.**

The Scholarship Committee reserves the sole right to determine whether each applicant meets the eligibility criteria as stated in the application packet. If you have any questions concerning the application packet or would like further information, please e-mail: RIAWCscholarship@gmail.com.

We are proud to be able to contribute financial support to outstanding students. We look forward to meeting this year's scholarship recipients.

Thank You!
Sincerely,

Elizabeth Potts
Scholarship Chair
Rock Island Arsenal Welcome Club

RIAWCscholarship@gmail.com
<https://riawc.com/>
www.facebook.com/RIAWC

RIAWC is a private, not for profit non-federal entity. It is not a part of the Department of Defense or any of its components and has no governmental status. (Guided by, DODI 1000.15, issued Oct. 24, 2008) As a 501(c)(4) organization, membership and fundraising contributions are not charitable tax deductions. A business deduction may be applicable.

CONTINUING EDUCATION MERIT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION CHECKLIST

___ **Ensure your application is complete before mailing.** The application will be **automatically disqualified** if any required item is not included and mailed in **ONE** envelope to the following address, unless your school requires transcripts be sent under separate cover. It is strongly suggested that applications be mailed using return receipt.

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL WELCOME CLUB
ATTN: MERIT SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 3186
ROCK ISLAND, IL 61204

___ The envelope must be postmarked **NO LATER THAN March 1, 2023.**

___ REVIEW ELIGIBILITY:

1. To be eligible, the applicant must be currently attending a continuing education school. Applicant must reside in the local area or have a parent/sponsor residing in the local area AND meet one of the following criteria:

a) hold a valid Military ID card (including dependent ID card) or a valid Federal ID card issued by Rock Island Arsenal, or volunteer in a Rock Island Arsenal philanthropic organization.

b) have a parent/sponsor who holds a valid Military ID card or valid Federal ID card issued by Rock Island Arsenal, or have a parent who volunteers in a Rock Island Arsenal philanthropic organization.

2. Applicant must plan to attend an accredited university, college, or trade school in a program of study leading to a an associate, baccalaureate, a master's, or a specialized technical degree during the 2023-2024 academic year.

3. The scholarship will be forfeited if the student does not show proof of acceptance and enrollment for the 2023-2024 academic year. This proof can be provided after the application deadline.

4. Applicant has never received a scholarship from RIAWC.

5. Students currently attending high school or a homeschool at the high school level MUST fill out the "High School Student Merit Scholarship Application" and NOT this application.

___ **Two Essays.** A separate sheet for each essay response; essays must be typewritten, **double-spaced**, 300 to 500 words. Please include the essay question at the top of the essay and the word count at the bottom of the essay.

a. Tell us about a time you failed and what you learned from it?

b. Discuss some issue of personal, local, national, or international concern and its importance to you. How could you be an agent of change for this issue?

___ **Complete pages 2-7 of application.**

___ **Include Two Letters of Recommendation.** Two letters of recommendation from two different community members, employers, or faculty members with whom you have been associated in the last two years.

Official Transcript. Most current official academic transcript in a sealed envelope from your registrar's office. Mail to RIAWC address, no later than March 1, 2023

___ included in packet
or
___ mailed by school

___ **Include ONE self-addressed, stamped business-size envelope.** This will be used to notify applicants of the status of the application.

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CONTINUING EDUCATION MERIT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

STUDENT INFORMATION

Full Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

E-mail Address (required): _____

Name & Address of University/College/Technical School Currently Attending: _____

SPONSOR INFORMATION

Full Name/Rank: _____

Home Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

(Please check all that apply):

Active Duty/Retired Military DOD/DA Civilian Deceased RIAWC Member

Relationship to Applicant: _____

Unit Address/Duty Station or place of employment on RIA: _____

If parent/guardian is a current RIAWC member, please list name: _____

List any RIAWC Board positions ever held, and year(s): _____

Privacy Act Statement: Under authority of US Title 10, Section 3012, the enclosed personal information will be maintained by the Rock Island Arsenal Welcome Club Scholarship Committee for administrative use and released only to the individuals needed to evaluate the application. The disclosure of the information is voluntary; however, failure to disclose all or part of the requested information may hinder evaluation of the application.

I certify that the information in the application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that I may be disqualified if I have knowingly included false information in this application. I agree to abide by the conditions of the Merit Scholarship Committee and accept the final decisions of the independent selection committee.

PLEASE CHOOSE YES OR NO:

Yes, I hereby give permission to the Rock Island Arsenal Welcome Club to use my name and photo for publication in articles relating to and/or publicizing the RIAWC Scholarship Program.

No, I do not give permission to the Rock Island Arsenal Welcome Club to use my name and photo for publication in articles relating to and/or publicizing the RIAWC Scholarship Program.

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Sponsor Signature: _____ Date: _____

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CONTINUING EDUCATION MERIT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

1. List the date you graduated high school or received your GED: _____

2. Is your educational pursuit academic or vocational/technical? Please describe: _____

3. What is your major & minor area(s) of study? _____

4. Which do you expect to complete? ()Associate's Degree ()Bachelor's Degree () Other-Describe below

5. When do you expect to complete this degree? _____

6. List your high school(s) first and all subsequent schools attended in chronological order:
Years, School Name, Location.

Special Awards, Recognitions or Achievements* List all awards, etc. received in the last four years. Include year and award sponsor/donor.

***Attach additional sheets if necessary.**

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CONTINUING EDUCATION MERIT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Volunteer Activities.* List all volunteer activities during the last four years.

Year(s)	Organization	Description of Activity	Average Hours Per Week

Organizations and Clubs.* List all community and school organizations and clubs. Years, Organization, Leadership Roles.

Work Experience.* List all work experience in the last four years. Years, Employer, Title, Average Hours Per Week

***Attach additional sheets if necessary.**

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**CONTINUING EDUCATION MERIT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION RECOMMENDATION
INSTRUCTIONS FOR LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION #1**

Include one (1) letter of recommendation from a community member, employer, or faculty member who has known you within the last two years.

Applicant's Name: _____

Faculty Name: _____

Association with Applicant: _____

Length of Time: _____

Dear Community Member, Employer, or Faculty Member:

To complete the applicant's Rock Island Arsenal Welcome Club Continuing Education Merit Scholarship Application, please write a recommendation letter. **To eliminate any bias, please DO NOT use the student's name, age, race, or sex in your evaluation. Refer to him/her as "the applicant."**

Please consider the applicant's ability to complete his/her proposed program of study and assigned responsibilities by addressing and evaluating the following areas: personal character, intellectual promise, industry, motivation, leadership, integrity, overall performance, and ability to work with others.

Staple this sheet to your letter of recommendation. After signing the letter, please seal in an envelope, sign over the envelope seal, and return the completed recommendation to the applicant with enough time for the applicant to meet the postmark deadline of March 1, 2023.

Thank you for your willingness to help this applicant apply for a scholarship from the Rock Island Arsenal Welcome Club.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Potts
Scholarship Chair
Rock Island Arsenal Welcome Club

RIAWCsScholarship@gmail.com
<https://riawc.com>
www.facebook.com/RIAWC

CONTINUING EDUCATION MERIT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION RECOMMENDATION

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**CONTINUING EDUCATION MERIT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION RECOMMENDATION
INSTRUCTIONS FOR LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION #2**

Include one (1) letter of recommendation from a community member, employer, or additional faculty member who has known you within the last two years.

Applicant's Name: _____

Community Member/Employer or Faculty Name: _____

Association with Applicant: _____

Length of Time: _____

Dear Community Member, Employer, or Faculty Member:

To complete the applicant's Rock Island Arsenal Welcome Club Continuing Education Merit Scholarship Application, please write a recommendation letter. **To eliminate any bias, DO NOT use the student's name, age, race, or sex in your evaluation. Refer to him/her as "the applicant."**

Please consider the applicant's ability to complete his/her proposed program of study and assigned responsibilities by addressing and evaluating the following areas: personal character, intellectual promise, industry, motivation, leadership, integrity, overall performance, and ability to work with others.

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