



December 1, 2022

Dear Applicant,

The Rock Island Arsenal Welcome Club (RIAWC) invites qualified High School Seniors 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 exceptional high school students of military families. The RIAWC is built on the core values of Friendship, Service, Integrity, Generosity, Accountability, and Courtesy.

Thank you for your interest in applying for a scholarship for financial assistance to further your education. Scholarship amount will be up to \$2000. ONLY the 2023-2024 version of this application will be accepted. 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 April 2023. Recipients will be honored at our luncheon on May 17, 2023. The awarded funds 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 High School Senior Merit Scholarship Application packet. If you have any questions concerning the application packet or would like further information, please e-mail: [RIAWCscholarship@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:RIAWCscholarship@gmail.com)  
<https://riawc.com/>  
[www.facebook.com/RIAWC](https://www.facebook.com/RIAWC)

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## HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR MERIT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION CHECKLIST

\_\_\_ **Ensure your application is complete before mailing.** 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. It is strongly suggested that applications be mailed using return receipt:

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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. 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. Applicants must plan to attend an accredited university, college, or trade school in a program of study leading to a baccalaureate, an associate, 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.

\_\_\_ **Two Essays.** Provide 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. What traits do you possess that will enhance your education or future career?**

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

\_\_\_ **Complete pages 2-7 of the application.**

\_\_\_ **Include Two Letters of Recommendation.** The first MUST be from a current faculty member. The second can be from a community member, employer, or a different faculty member 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, mailed no later than March 1, 2023.

\_\_\_ included in packet  
or  
\_\_\_ mailed by school

\_\_\_ **Include ONE self-addressed, stamped envelope.** This will be used to notify applicant of status of application.

## HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR MERIT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

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**STUDENT INFORMATION**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address (required): \_\_\_\_\_

Name & Address of your current high school: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**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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**HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR MERIT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

**ACADEMIC INFORMATION**

List the college or university that you plan to attend in the academic year 2023-2024. If you are still considering your options, list your top three choices.

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What is your intended major & minor area of study?

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**Work Experience.\*** List all work experience in the last four years. Include year(s), employer, title, and average hours per week.

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**Sports Activities.\*** List all sports beginning with the most recent year. Include year(s), team, and leadership role, if any.

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**\* Attach additional sheets if necessary.**

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**HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR MERIT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

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

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**Volunteer Activities.\*** List all volunteer activities during the last four years. Include year(s), organization, description of activity, and average hours per week.

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**Organizations and Clubs.\*** List all community and school organizations and clubs. Include year(s), organization, and leadership role(s) if any.

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**HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR MERIT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION RECOMMENDATION**

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION #1 (FACULTY)**

Include one (1) letter of recommendation from a faculty member who has known you within the last two years. **This letter MUST come from a faculty member who is not related to you.**

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Association with Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Length of Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Faculty Member:

To complete the applicant's RIAWC HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR 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 sufficient 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](mailto:RIAWCsScholarship@gmail.com)  
<https://riawc.com>  
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## HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR 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 High School Senior 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.

**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 sufficient time for the applicant to meet the postmark deadline of March 1, 2023.

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Elizabeth Potts  
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