

# Community Foundation

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## FOR SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN

### THE VVA DETROIT CHAPTER #9 DESCENDANTS OF VIETNAM VETERANS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

A Scholarship Program of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan

#### SUMMARY

The purpose of the VVA Detroit Chapter #9 Descendants of Vietnam Veterans Scholarship Fund is to provide post-secondary educational scholarships for students between the ages of 16 and 30 who are the natural or adopted direct lineal descendent of a qualifying Vietnam veteran.

Initially, the Fund will award up to \$1,500 for part-time students (at least 6 credit hours) and up to \$3,000 for full-time students (at least 12 credit hours). The scholarship awards will be renewable for each year of attendance, up to four years.

The scholarship materials will be available online on the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan website at [www.cfsem.org/scholarships](http://www.cfsem.org/scholarships).

March 15<sup>th</sup> is the priority date for applying.

#### WHO MAY APPLY?

To be eligible, applicants must be the natural or adopted direct lineal descendent of any individual who received an honorable discharge for services in the United States military during the period of War in Vietnam from February 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975 as evidenced by the Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214), Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty within the Official Military Personnel files.

Natural or adopted direct lineal descendent of veterans who served in Vietnam, Laos or Cambodia between 1958 and February 28, 1961 are also eligible if they received an Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, which would also be indicated on the DD Form 214.

Official Military Personnel Files are archived within the National Archives and Records Administration 62 years after the service member's separation from the military.

## **WHAT ARE THE CRITERIA FOR SELECTION?**

- Eligible candidates will be part-time (at least 6 credit hours) or full-time (at least 12 credit hours) undergraduate students at an accredited nonprofit post-secondary trade school, college, or university in the United States.
- Eligible candidates will be in good academic standing and making satisfactory progress towards degree completion, including a minimum 2.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.
- Preference will be given to students who demonstrate financial need as determined by the Free Application for Financial Student Aid (FAFSA).
- Priority consideration will be given to descendants of Vietnam Veterans who are/were members of VVA Detroit Chapter #9 for a minimum of five years. A letter from the chapter president or their designee or the state or national membership chair of Vietnam Veterans of America shall be required to confirm priority status.
- Students must be a United States citizen, permanent resident, or approved refugee.
- Students who are incarcerated or who have been convicted of a felony involving an assault causing physical injury or death shall be deemed ineligible.

Employees of the Foundation, members of the Board of Trustees of the Foundation, and their dependents are ineligible for scholarship consideration. All awards will be made without regard to race, creed, color, religion, sexual orientation or sexual identification.

## **HOW WILL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PAYMENTS BE MADE?**

Awards will be made to the Financial Aid Office, or its equivalent, of the educational institution in the name of the recipient. Payments are limited to tuition and fees, books and supplies, and room and board expenses. For students attending a trade school, tools and other similar items are considered eligible expenses. Recipients must be enrolled at an accredited nonprofit post-secondary trade school, college or university in the United States.

If you need additional information or materials, please contact the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan at (313) 961-6675.