



VTF TORCH Scholarship Program

We Will Be Accepting Applications for 2020 Awards Through 15 May 2020

The VIGILANT TORCH Foundation TORCH Scholarship Program is designed to provide Scholarships to AUM and VTA members, dependents and grandchildren of AUM/VTA members in good standing. The numbers of TORCH Scholarships awarded, and amounts are determined by the VTF Scholarship Committee with the approval of the Foundation Board of Directors IAW the VIGILANT TORCH Foundation Eligibility, Notification, Application and Implementation of the TORCH Scholarship Program Policy, School Year 2020-2021. The VTF Board of Directors selects the Scholarship Committee chair and its members. The Scholarship awardee selections are made by the Committee with the approval of the VTF Board of Directors and will be announced at a Unit ceremony NLT the end of July. Checks will be disbursed NLT 31 August 2020.

The VIGILANT TORCH Foundation is a separate Foundation that derives its funds from the contributions of the VIGILANT TORCH Association, AUM and VTA members, interested parties and corporations.

Those wishing to donate to the Foundation should mail checks payable to:

VIGILANT TORCH Foundation, 6412 Brandon Ave, Suite 318 Springfield, VA 22150.

ELIGIBILITY: Applicants must be an AUM or a VTA member in good standing or the dependent spouse, child or grandchild of an AUM or VTA member in good standing, or any member of the family of a deceased AUM or VTA member who was in good standing at the time of death.

APPLICATION PROCESS: Eligible applicants must submit all required documents, IAW the former Policy, to:

VIGILANT TORCH Foundation Scholarship Committee

scholarship@vigilant-torch.org

or via mail, if you are disabled and cannot email, to:

6412 Brandon Ave Suite 318 Springfield, VA 22150

Applications must be submitted by midnight, 15 May 2020, to be considered. IAW paragraph six of the Policy, applications will consist of:

- TORCH scholarship applicants must complete the scholarship form and provide a detailed cover letter (in a separate Word file) that includes:
 - A brief background, including extracurricular activities, and other facts applicants might deem of interest to the Scholarship Committee.

- What is your major(s) and minor(s) or intended major(s) and minor(s)?
 - Why you are applying for the TORCH scholarship?
 - Provide the name, contact information and relationship for their AUM/FUM sponsor (who could also be an AUM/FUM).
 - Certify they prepared their own application.
 - Current TORCH Scholarship recipients should include at least one paragraph on their activities and accomplishments over the past year; and how the TORCH Scholarship impacted them.
- Community service (addressed in the cover letter):
 - Military service counts as community service.
 - Community service will be scored based on a scale of zero (none), one (some community service), two (significant community service), or three (outstanding community service). AUM/FUM automatically receive a two.
- Grade Point Average (GPA) (addressed in the cover letter):
 - Minimum: 2.0 on an unweighted scale of 4.0.
 - Must be verified by student transcript. Transcripts can be from secondary or post-secondary institutions.
 - GPA will be scored on a basis of one through four (4.0) unweighted.
- Essay (in a separate Word file)
 - The essay will be at least one new subject every year.
 - 2020-2021 Essay Topic: The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
- TORCH scholarship applicants must provide a separate transcript and/or acceptance letter or other acceptable proof of attendance (preferably a PDF) from an eligible institution or program.

Applicants must also complete the form on the website. We will mail a form to disabled persons, if requested. All items listed above are required and must be submitted by the applicant. Applications are evaluated based upon the criteria set in the [Policy](#) in paragraph six. Questions may be directed to the Scholarship Committee at scholarship@vigilant-torch.org. Please include a telephone number in the event further dialogue is desirable.