



# VTF TORCH Scholarship Program

***We Will Be Accepting Applications for 2021 Awards Through 28 February 2021***

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 2021-2022. 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 June, if possible. Checks will be disbursed NLT 30 June 2021, if possible.

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. The same eligibility criteria applies to all SOFund opportunities and must be submitted through the VTF Scholarship committee.

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

**VIGILANT TORCH Foundation Scholarship Committee**

[scholarship@vigilant-torch.org](mailto: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, 28 February 2021, 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.
  - 2021-2022 Essay Topic: The recent pandemic has an impact on many aspects of society. Present your perspective and experience on "*how the COVID pandemic impacted your educational process*". Include in your representation the negative impacts with proposed solutions and long-term positive effects that are possible.
- 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](mailto:scholarship@vigilant-torch.org). Please include a telephone number in the event further dialogue is desirable.