



Marine Corps League
National Scholarship Committee Report
for the
2023 National Convention



The Committee is currently in the process of evaluating the applications and transcripts for the 2023 applicants. The deadline to receive these forms was July 21, 2023. The names of the applicants who have received preliminary approval will be posted on the National Website by August 31, 2023. Those who have been selected will still have **two additional steps to complete**:

1. Along with the list of approved applicants, a **Student Data Sheet** will be posted. It must be completed by the applicant and submitted to the Committee. It will provide the current mailing address for the student, student ID number, and the specific mailing address of the school's department to which the award check will be sent.
2. After Drop / Add Day, (usually 1 - 2 weeks after the beginning of the term), the committee must receive a **Confirmation of Full-Time Enrollment** from the school. Without this confirmation, the student will not receive the award.

In 2022, the Committee received 176 applications with 126 (71.5%) being approved. This year we have received 202 applications with 191 (94.2%) being preliminarily approved.

There were two significant reasons why the approval rate was significantly higher:

1. Applicants were allowed to submit applications and transcripts digitally. This allowed a practical tracking system of submissions and eliminated the handling of large amounts of mail, postal costs, lost mailings, etc.
2. The Committee took a proactive approach to submissions. Each application was replied with an acknowledgment of receipt and a thank you for their interest in our program. It also allowed the Committee to contact the student and/or parent to correct any discrepancies and provide any missing information or signatures.

Both changes were very well received by applicants and their parents. The interaction allowed everyone involved to have a positive experience with the Marine Corps League and the Foundation.

Most applications were received digitally, but some were still received by mail. Many were missing applicant signatures, Membership numbers of the sponsor, or the required verifying officer's signatures. In the past, this lack of attention to detail would have resulted in rejection of the application and deserving students would have missed out on the opportunity to receive this year's award.

The Marine Corps League Scholarship Program is an excellent recruiting and retention tool for the League. For an annual investment of less than \$50, the member; member's spouse; children; or grandchildren can qualify for an award of \$500, or more, for up to four years for each recipient.

It's also a program which would be able to offer higher award amounts if it received more contributions from League members, Detachments and Departments. This should be an essential goal for 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman, Scholarship Committee