



Elks National Foundation Most Valuable Student Scholarship 2012 Application



Scholarship, Leadership and Financial Need

500 awards for the 2012-13 through 2015-16 academic years

2 First-Place Awards of \$60,000

2 Second-Place Awards of \$40,000

2 Jack London Third-Place Awards of \$20,000

2 Fourth-Place Awards of \$16,000

2 Fifth-Place Awards of \$12,000

4 Sixth-Place Awards of \$10,000

4 Seventh-Place Awards of \$8,000

482 Runners-Up Awards of \$4,000

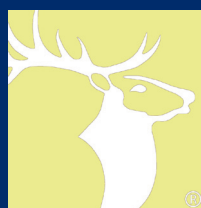
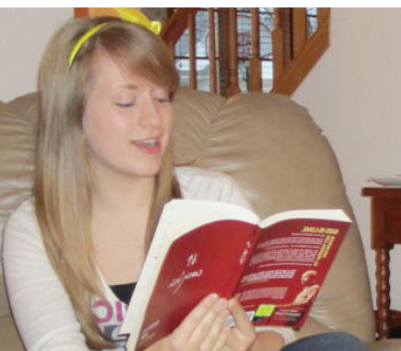
Total of \$2,296,000



Application Deadline: December 2, 2011



Application must be submitted to the Elks Lodge nearest your home.
Visit www.elks.org/enf/FindALodge.cfm to find the Lodge closest to you.



Elks National Foundation, Inc.

2750 N. Lakeview Avenue

Chicago, IL 60614-2256

scholarship@elks.org • www.elks.org/enf/scholars



Elks National Foundation

2012 Most Valuable Student Scholarship Application

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TIPS FOR COMPLETING YOUR APPLICATION

Start the application process early.

Visit www.elks.org/enf/findalodge.cfm to find the Elks Lodge nearest to where you live. Many Lodges are only open in the evenings and on weekends, so be sure to contact the Lodge for application drop-off times.

Read the instructions. We include them for your benefit; knowing exactly what you need to do will make the application process go faster and easier. For answers to Frequently Asked Questions, visit www.elks.org/enf/scholars/mvsfaq.cfm

Don't forget to make a copy. All applications become the property of the B.P.O. Elks of the U.S.A. and the Elks National Foundation and will **not** be returned to you.

Make life easier for the judges.

When you're finished, do not staple or use paperclips on any part of your application. Do not use plastic sleeves to protect the pages. Simply place it, as instructed, in a folder.



The type of folder you should use for your application is pictured above.

Don't hesitate to ask questions. If you are unable to get a hold of someone at the Lodge, visit www.elks.org/enf/scholars/statechairmen.cfm to find your state scholarship representative's contact information.

Use this handy checklist to ensure that you are submitting all required items. (Please arrange items in this order.)

- Completed Application. Original, typed or neatly printed, no pencil, three-hole punched and placed in a folder.
- Essay (signed and dated).
- Official Transcript of Grades. Include a list of seventh semester classes. Seventh semester grades are not required.
- SAT and/or ACT scores taken before November 15, 2011.
- Counselor Report in a sealed envelope.
- Copies of Exhibits. Optional. Double-sided acceptable.
- Take application to your local Lodge on or before **December 2, 2011**.



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INSTRUCTIONS & GUIDELINES

You must use the official 2012 MVS application. It must be dated and signed by you and your parent(s) or guardian. Typed applications are preferred; however, neatly printed applications are acceptable. An electronic version is available to download at www.elks.org/enf/scholars.

Applications and all supporting documents must be in English or English translations. We highly recommend making photocopies of your application and supporting documentation. All applications become the property of the B.P.O. Elks of the U.S.A. and the Elks National Foundation and will not be returned to you.

This application must be submitted to the Elks Lodge in closest proximity of your permanent U.S. address on or before **December 2, 2011**. To find your local Lodge, visit www.elks.org/enf/findalodge.cfm.

DO NOT SEND APPLICATION TO THE ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION IN CHICAGO—it will be disqualified automatically.

If you are selected to be one of the 500 National Finalists, you will be required to submit a secondary application online.

For additional information and answers to Frequently Asked Questions, visit www.elks.org/enf/scholars/mvsfaq.cfm. If you are unable to find the answer to your question here or online, email scholarship@elks.org or call 773/755-4732.

ELIGIBILITY

Any high school senior who is a U.S. citizen is eligible. Male and female students compete separately for identical awards.

COMPLETED APPLICATION

Your application must be in a folder with inside pockets and clasps. See the Application Tips page for an example.

Everything, except items in sealed envelopes, should be three-hole punched and placed in the clasps of the folder.

The completed folder should include the application, essay, transcript, test scores, counselor report and optional exhibits as applicable.

EMPLOYMENT

List jobs held September 1, 2008, through August 31, 2011. List approximate total hours worked, not average hours per week. You will receive zero points in this section if you do not list your hours as instructed.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

List community service performed September 1, 2008, through August 31, 2011. List approximate total hours served, not average hours per week. You will receive zero points in this section if you do not list your hours as instructed.

HONORS AND AWARDS

The following is a list to assist in completion of the Honors and Awards section. Include awards such as Eagle Scout; Gold Award; Teen of the Year; Statewide or National Conferences (ex: Boy's/Girl's State, HOBY); National Merit Finalist; AP Scholar; major athletic and/or academic award. This list is not exhaustive.

LEADERSHIP AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

List your **principal** high school leadership roles and extracurricular activities, the number of years involved, and the hours-per-week commitment. Complete this section as instructed even if you plan to include an activity sheet.

ESSAY

Write an essay of no more than 500 words. The essay must be typed, dated and signed. See page 3 for essay.

EXHIBITS (OPTIONAL)

Exhibits are optional supplemental material. Attach up to 10 pages of exhibits of achievement in scholarship, leadership, athletics, dramatics, community service or other activities. Exhibits may be double-sided. For examples, visit www.elks.org/enf/scholars/mvsfaq.cfm. We emphasize quality of exhibits over quantity. Activity sheets, resumes, essays, etc., are not considered exhibits.

PARENTAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Parent(s), complete the financial information section based on the 2010 IRS 1040. Should the applicant become a National Finalist, a copy of the applicant's 2012 Student Aid Report will be required.

If your parents are divorced or separated, answer the questions for the parent you lived with the most in the past 12 months.

For additional information and answers to Frequently Asked Questions, visit www.elks.org/enf/scholars/mvsfaq.cfm.



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INSTRUCTIONS & GUIDELINES (CONT.)

If you lived with both parents an equal number of days in the past 12 months, count the parent who provided you with the greatest amount of support, financial as well as material. Material support includes cars, clothing, medical and dental payments, etc. If that parent has remarried, you must include the stepparent's information.

If the divorce or separation occurred within the past five years and the custodial parent has not remarried, you must provide financial information of the non-custodial parent. If whereabouts of the non-custodial parent are unknown or the non-custodial parent is unwilling to comply, please explain in a separate statement.

COUNSELOR REPORT

This report must be completed by your high school guidance counselor or appropriate school official. The report form and school profile (if available)

must be secured in a sealed envelope and included with the application. A school profile is a document describing the school's demographics and course offerings.

TRANSCRIPT & SAT/ACT SCORES

Include an official, current high school transcript of student grades. Transcript may be a photocopy of an original that bears the signature of the proper school authority. The transcript must include seventh semester classes. It does not need to include seventh semester grades.

Either the SAT or the ACT must be taken before November 15, 2011. Test scores must be included in the application, but may be photocopies or printed from the SAT and/or ACT websites. The SAT essay score will not be taken into consideration. It is not necessary to send a separate sheet of test scores if they are included on your transcript.

INDEPENDENT STUDENT

We will not accept an applicant as an independent student, unless the student is or has been a ward of the Court. We require a copy of a Court Document or a Notarized letter from an appropriate Court Agency (Social Services) certifying such status.

HOME SCHOOLING

Home-schooled students are eligible to apply for the scholarship. However, all aspects of the application must be filled out completely. When possible, a third party should complete the Counselor's Report for the applicant.

For additional information visit www.elks.org/enf/scholars/mvs.cfm and click on Frequently Asked Questions.

MOST VALUABLE STUDENT AWARDS

Applications must advance through local, district and state competitions to reach the national competition. A student can apply for, but cannot accept, more than one Elks National Foundation scholarship or grant in any one academic year. Legacy Awards and Emergency Educational Grants are the other scholarships offered by the ENF. For details and eligibility, visit www.elks.org/enf/scholars.

National Finalists will be notified by email in late February 2012. To be eligible for a scholarship, National Finalists are required to submit a secondary application online, which will include an essay, counselor's form, college plans, and scholarships/grants/aid/awards received to date. Finalists will also be required to mail their Student Aid Report to the Elks National Foundation office in Chicago. The secondary application must be submitted by March 23, 2012.

National winners will be notified in writing by the Chicago office of the Elks National Foundation in April 2012. Many Lodges, districts and states award their own scholarships through the MVS program. The ENF is only responsible for administering the 500 national awards.

For complete details on ENF scholarship administration, visit www.elks.org/enf/scholars/mvs.cfm.

Application Deadline: December 2, 2011



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PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name _____
Last First Middle Initial

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address (required) _____

Phone (_____) _____ Gender Male Female

Date of Birth _____ Place of Birth _____
Month Day Year City, State or Country

Name and Location of High School _____

CITIZENSHIP

Are you currently an American Citizen? Yes No **If no, see below.**

NOTE: (Legal permanent resident status does NOT qualify. Applicant MUST be a citizen on the date the application is signed.)

If you were **not** born an American Citizen, but are a Naturalized American Citizen, give date, place (Office or Court where Naturalization occurred) and Naturalization Number.

Date _____ Place _____ Number _____
Month Day Year Court or Office and City and State

If you were not born in the United States, but are a citizen by birth, explain circumstances. _____

SIGNATURES

By signing this application, you agree, if asked, to provide information that will verify the accuracy of your completed form. If you purposely give false or misleading information, you will be disqualified from this contest. You agree to the use of your name and information contained within the application for advertising, promotional and publicity purposes without consent or compensation.

Date _____ Signed by _____
(Student)

Date _____ Signed by _____
(Mother/Stepmother/Guardian)

Date _____ Signed by _____
(Father/Stepfather/Guardian)

For Lodge Use Only—Must Have Lodge Endorsement to Be Accepted for Judging

The Scholarship Chairperson, Exalted Ruler or Secretary of the B.P.O. Elks Lodge in the jurisdiction in which the applicant is a resident must sign the Lodge endorsement, certifying that he/she has reviewed the application and verifies that it conforms to the requirements of the competition. Applications should not be endorsed if they do not conform. Applicants must use the Elks National Foundation's official 2012 application to be considered.

This application, with attached exhibits, has been reviewed, and it conforms with the rules and regulations set forth by the Elks National Foundation Board of Trustees.

Lodge Name: _____ No: _____ State: _____

Date: _____ (signature) _____
Lodge Scholarship Chairperson, Exalted Ruler or Secretary

LODGE PERSONNEL, DO NOT FORWARD APPLICATIONS TO THE ENF CHICAGO OFFICE. THEY WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.

Send to district or state officials, unless instructed otherwise. If you have questions, contact your state scholarship chair.



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HONORS AND AWARDS

List scholastic, extracurricular, and civic honors and awards received during grades 9 through 12. Select the year received, state the nature of award (i.e. Girl Scout Gold Award), and select the level of recognition. **Please do not abbreviate names of awards**, as we may not understand their meanings. Include a brief description of each award on a separate sheet of paper. Feel free to explain, in 25 words or less, the purpose of the award and why you received it. Complete this section even if you plan to attach an activity sheet or resume.

Grade Level				Honor/Award	Level of Recognition			
9	10	11	12		School	State/ Regional	National	Inter- national
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

LEADERSHIP AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

List your **principal** leadership roles and extracurricular activities, in the order of importance to you. State the name of the organization, years involved, hours-per-week commitment, leadership role and responsibilities held in that role. Examples include, but are not limited to, student government, publications, debate, orchestra/band, varsity athletics, church groups, performing arts, service programs, etc. Complete this section even if you plan to attach an activity sheet or resume.

Activity	Grade Level				Hours/Week	Weeks/Year	Positions Held/Honors Received/Letters Earned
	9	10	11	12			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____	_____
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____	_____
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_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____	_____
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____	_____
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____	_____
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____	_____
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____	_____

ESSAY

On a separate sheet of paper, prepare a typed essay of no more than 500 words on the following topic. The essay must be dated and signed. Failure to do so will result in 0 points in this section.

Using one of the leadership roles or extracurricular activities you prioritized as being important to you, describe what impact the experience had on you, what you contributed, what you learned about yourself, and how it has influenced your plans for the future.



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PARENTAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Parent(s): Complete the financial information section based on your 2010 IRS 1040. Should the applicant become a National Finalist, a copy of the applicant's 2012 Student Aid Report will be required. Visit www.fafsa.ed.gov for more information.

If parents are divorced or separated, answer the questions for the parent the applicant lived with the most in the past 12 months. If the applicant lived with both parents an equal number of days in the past 12 months, count the parent who provided the greatest amount of support, financial as well as material. Material support includes cars, clothing, medical and dental payments, etc. If that parent has remarried, the stepparent's information must be included.

If the divorce or separation occurred within the past five years and the custodial parent has not remarried, provide financial information of the non-custodial parent. If whereabouts of the non-custodial parent are unknown or the non-custodial parent is unwilling to comply, please explain in a separate statement.

Father's Name _____ Age _____ Occupation _____

Stepfather's Name _____ Age _____ Occupation _____

Mother's Name _____ Age _____ Occupation _____

Stepmother's Name _____ Age _____ Occupation _____

Custodial Parent's marital status as of today (choose one):

Mother: Married Single Widowed Separated * Divorced* Remarried**

Father: Married Single Widowed Separated * Divorced* Remarried**

With whom does applicant make his or her permanent home? Mother Father Both Other _____

Date of divorce or separation _____

* For details, see the instructions above.

**Include stepparent's income in the appropriate section and read instructions concerning custodial parent.

A. Number of people in family, not including parents, who will receive the majority of parental support between Sept. 1, 2012, and Aug. 31, 2013. Include dependent children and others, e.g. dependent grandparent, living in household who receive more than half their support from parents. _____

B. Name and age of dependents. _____

C. Number of dependent children, including applicant, as defined above, attending college during academic year 2012-2013 on at least a half-time basis.

D. Based on line 37 of your 2010 IRS 1040, indicate the custodial parent(s)' adjusted gross income. You will receive 0 points in this section if this information is not completed. Round the adjusted gross income to the nearest \$100.

\$ _____

If you have extenuating financial circumstances, please explain in 200 words or less on an attached sheet of paper.



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COUNSELOR REPORT

Applicant: Fill out your name and give this page to your counselor or appropriate school official. This section can be completed by your counselor before you are finished with the application, but must be in a sealed envelope and signed across the seal.

Student Name

Last

First

Middle Initial

Counselor: This form will be used to verify the student's academic status, so be sure to provide accurate information. Please include a copy of your school profile if available, and answer all of the following questions, even if the information is included in the profile. A school profile is a document describing your school's demographics and course offerings. If your school has a policy of not ranking students, provide information to help us identify promising applicants. **Please secure these items in a sealed envelope, signed across the seal, and give to the student to include in the application brochure. The B.P.O. Elks will not return this form to the student.**

This applicant's grade point average (A=4.0) _____ **(required)**

The highest GPA in the graduating class? _____ **(required)**

Is the GPA based on weighted grades? Yes No

Class rank: The applicant ranks _____ in a class of _____.

How many students have this rank? _____

How many rank above? _____ Is the rank based on weighted grades? Yes No

If exact rank is not available, indicate rank to the nearest 10th from the top _____

Applicant's **highest** test scores **(required): ACT** _____ /Date taken _____

SAT Critical Reading _____ Math _____ /Date(s) taken _____

Are honors courses available? Yes No Has the applicant taken honors courses? Yes No

If yes, in which subjects has the applicant taken honors courses? _____

Are Advanced Placement courses available? Yes No Has the applicant taken Advanced Placement courses? Yes No

If yes, in which subjects has the applicant taken Advanced Placement courses? _____

Are International Baccalaureate courses available? Yes No Has the applicant taken IB courses? Yes No

If yes, in which subjects has the applicant taken IB courses? _____

How would you describe this applicant's academic program compared with that of other students applying for scholarships?

Below Average Average Above Average Rigorous Most Rigorous

Is there a community service requirement to graduate? Yes No If yes, how many hours? _____

Has the applicant ever been suspended or dismissed from your school? Yes No

If yes, please explain the circumstances. _____

Name (please print): _____ Position _____ School Phone _____

School Email _____ Length of time acquainted with applicant _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Place completed Counselor Report in envelope and sign across the seal.

Application Deadline: December 2, 2011