



Patricia Dack <pdack@dcsd.k12.nv.us>

Answers to Questions on Elks Most Valuable Student and Legacy Scholarship Program

1 message

robert haug <bootucker10@hotmail.com>
 To: "pdack@dcsd.k12.nv.us" <pdack@dcsd.k12.nv.us>

Tue, Aug 28, 2018 at 2:34 PM

Pattie - I have copied the frequent questions regarding the Elks NVS Scholarship - Robert Haug

ELKS MVS SCHOLARSHIP QUESTIONS / INFORMATION

* indicates a required field.

Thank you for your interest in the Elks National Foundation Most Valuable Student Scholarship competition. We recommend that you compile the following pieces of information to assist you in successfully completing your application:

- A list of the community service and extracurricular activities you were involved in during your time in high school as well as any awards or honors you received.
- Your ACT or SAT test scores
- Your Counselor's name and email address

Click on a question to reveal the answer.

Who is eligible to apply?

Applicants must meet **all** the following criteria to be eligible for this scholarship:

- You must be a high school senior or equivalent. Current college students are not eligible.
- You must be a citizen of the United States on the date your application is submitted; permanent legal resident status does not qualify.
- You must take either the ACT or SAT before October 27, 2018.

Note: You do not have to be a member (or the dependent of a member) of the Elks to qualify.

When is the application deadline?

November 15, 2018

When is the Counselor Report deadline?

November 22, 2018

ISTS and the Elks National Foundation are not liable for late submissions, regardless of reason. Please submit your application early to avoid technical errors.

Should I submit all of my information before I request a Counselor Report?

No. You should request a Counselor Report as early as possible to ensure there is sufficient time for the Counselor Report to be submitted by the deadline. If the Counselor Report is not submitted by the deadline, your application will remain incomplete and will not be considered.

What is the Program timeline?

- Application Opens: August 15, 2018
- Application Deadline: November 15, 2018
- Application Status Notification: January 3, 2019

What are the selection criteria?

Independent Lodge selection committees will evaluate the applications and select those moving forward considering:

- Leadership
- Academic achievements and records
- Financial Need
- Community involvement
- Essay content

Decisions of the selection committees are final and are not subject to appeal. No application feedback will be given.

Student Aid Report

If your application is selected to move forward to the State level of judging, you will be required to upload your Student Aid Report (SAR) from the FAFSA. The SAR is the report you receive after your FAFSA is submitted and processed. The SAR is typically at least 5 pages long, and all pages are required. A notification of FAFSA submission will not be accepted in place of the actual Student Aid Report. Your SAR will clearly display your EFC at the top. Even if you are not planning on submitting the FAFSA for other aid, the SAR is required for the MVS contest. You can file your FAFSA starting October 1, 2018 at www.fafsa.gov.

What are the details of the award?

- Ranging from \$1,000 per year to \$12,500 per year, Most Valuable Student scholarships are for students pursuing a four-year degree, on a full-time basis (minimum of 12 semester hours), at a U.S. college or university. All scholarships are in the form of certificates of award conditional upon the full-time enrollment of the winner in an accredited U.S. college or university.
- The scholarships will be applied to tuition, fees, books, supplies and equipment required for course load at accredited, nonprofit two- or four-year colleges/universities in the United States.
- Students may transfer from one institution to another and retain the award.

Scholarship Payment Requirements

- The scholarship is awarded over four years, based on receipt of the student's verification of enrollment form, which is submitted annually. The ENF requires that scholarship recipients maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or better.
- In order to issue the recipient's scholarship annually, the recipient must complete the three Elks scholar questions online and submit a Verification of Enrollment form.
- Recipients must attend school on a full-time basis—a minimum of 12 semester hours (or the equivalent, as approved by program exception by the institution's regional accreditation body) in each term or semester.
- Upon receipt of the Verification of Enrollment form and semester updates, a check payable to the school will be issued to establish credit in the recipient's name. Do not count on these funds to pay fees due before August 1. Recipients will be notified by email when the scholarship check is mailed. ENF checks must be payable directly to the school. Under no circumstances can checks be made payable to the recipient.
- This scholarship may be applied toward the cost of attendance, as determined by the college or university. One payment is made annually, which is to be apportioned in equal amounts for each semester, trimester, quarter, etc., for the current year.

Which school should I list on the application if I have not made a final decision?

You should list your first choice on the application.

How do I change my college choice?

You will be asked to verify or update your college choice throughout the competition. If you are chosen to receive an award, the Elks National Foundation requires an annual verification of enrollment be submitted so your check can be issued accordingly. Details to be shared with the 500 MVS National Finalists in early March.

How do I know if my application is complete?

Allow five to seven business days after uploading documents for your online status to update. You may monitor your status of your application on your home page.

- **Started:** items are needed or are being processed. To see the items, click the grey or yellow 'Started' tile next to the application title. This will open another box listing all required items and the current status of each.
- **Complete:** all required forms and attachments (if applicable) have been received and your application will be considered for the scholarship.

You may also monitor the status of your attachments and recommendations (if applicable).

- **Not Received:** the attachment has either not been received or has been rejected.
- **Not Started:** the form has not been requested or started.
- **Requested:** the form request has been created, but the form has not been started.
- **Processing:** the attachment has been received and is being reviewed.
- **Rejected:** the attachment was not accepted and has been rejected.
- **Accepted:** the attachment has been verified and accepted by ISTS.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to monitor the progress of all application requirements to make sure the application is complete. The status **Complete** will display on the home page when all forms have been submitted and all documents have been verified.

How and when will I receive notification?

- Notifications will be sent to applicants as they advance or do not advance throughout the competition. Check your junk or spam folder throughout the MVS contest in case an email notification gets routed to one of these folders.
- Notifications are sent to National Semi-finalists by March 1, 2019.
- Add ElksMVS@applyISTS.com, donotreply@applyISTS.com and contactus@applyISTS.com to your email address book or "safe senders list" to ensure these important emails are not sent to your junk mail folder.
- **Do not 'opt out' of any email sent from ElksMVS@applyISTS.com, donotreply@applyISTS.com or contactus@applyISTS.com. You may not receive vital information regarding your scholarship applications.**

Note: Your email address will only be used to communicate with you about your scholarship applications or other opportunities administered by ISTS for which you may be eligible to apply. We will not provide your email address to any third parties. Many Lodges, Districts, and States also award their own scholarships through the MVS program. The ENF and ISTS are only responsible for administering and notifying you about the 500 national awards. For more details about other awards, please visit enf.elks.org/MVS.

Are scholarships taxable?

Tax laws vary by country. In the United States, scholarship funds used exclusively for the payment of tuition or textbooks are normally not taxable. The scholarship recipient is responsible for taxes, if any, that may be assessed against his or her scholarship award. We recommend consulting your tax advisor for more guidance. You may also [click here](#) to consult IRS Publication 970 for further information.

Contest Administration

To ensure complete impartiality in selection of recipients and to maintain a high level of professionalism, Elks Most Valuable Student contest is administered by International Scholarship and Tuition Services, Inc., a firm that specializes in managing sponsored scholarship programs.

Questions For additional information regarding the scholarship program email ElksMVS@applyISTS.com or call toll free (877) 661-1205 between 8am and 5pm CT.