



Military Order of the Purple Heart
5413-B Backlick Road
Springfield, Virginia 22151
Phone: (703) 642-5360
Fax: (703) 642-2054 or 1841
Email: scholarship@purpleheart.org

MOPH 2015-2016 ACADEMIC YEAR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PACKAGE

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH) is a non-profit membership organization that is not affiliated with the military service branches. Membership is voluntary and not automatic upon receipt of the Purple Heart.

The MOPH Scholarship Program is funded by a generous grant from the MOPH Service Foundation. The MOPH Scholarship Program is a competitive scholarship program that awards approximately eighty scholarships to Purple Heart recipients and their spouses, children, and grandchildren each year in addition to the Navy Seal Lt. Michael Murphy Memorial Award. This package includes information pertaining to the MOPH Scholarship Program including eligibility and application requirements and a Scholarship Application Form.

The MOPH Scholarship Committee will evaluate all applications that are timely received and meet the eligibility and application requirements described below. All aspects of the application (academic achievement, extracurricular activities, community and military service, work experience, letters of recommendation, and content of the essay) are considered and evaluated by the MOPH Scholarship Committee. The MOPH Scholarship Committee will make all decisions regarding the eligibility for a MOPH Scholarship or the award of a MOPH Scholarship and all decisions are final.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to apply for a MOPH Scholarship, applicants need to be a member of one of the following categories:

- A Purple Heart recipient who is also a member of the MOPH, *or*
- His/her spouse, *or*

- His/her direct lineal descendent (child, step-child, adopted child, grandchild, or step-grandchild), *or*
- The spouse, widow/widower, or direct lineal descendent of a service member killed-in-action or who died of wounds. If the Purple Heart recipient is listed as killed-in-action or died of wounds, supporting documentation must accompany the application.

A Purple Heart recipient who is not a member of the MOPH can become a member by applying online through the MOPH website: www.purpleheart.org or by calling (703) 642-5360. To be eligible to apply for the scholarship, the Purple Heart recipient must be a current member, a member at the time of death, or documented as killed-in-action or died of wounds.

Great-grandchildren are *not eligible* to apply. A MOPH Associate membership or membership in the MOPH Ladies Auxiliary *does not* by itself convey scholarship eligibility. It is highly recommended that non-Purple Heart recipients become either Associate members or members of the Ladies Auxiliary, and such membership does convey additional credit in the application process.

In order to be eligible to receive a MOPH Scholarship, applicants must meet the following three requirements:

1. A graduate or upcoming graduate (current senior) of a high school or GED program, *and*
2. Accepted by or enrolled as a **FULL-TIME** undergraduate student at an accredited U.S. college, university, or trade school at the time the scholarship is awarded, *and*
3. Able to demonstrate the capacity for advanced academic achievement or technical proficiency as demonstrated by maintaining at least a 2.75 cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) based on an un-weighted 4.0 grading system.

Graduate students and students going back to school to receive additional undergraduate degrees after successfully completing at least one prior undergraduate degree program are *not eligible* to apply. A **full-time** student means carrying 12 or more credit hours per semester, or 18-quarter credit hours, or as determined by the school. The academic requirement of a 2.75 GPA may be waived for a Purple Heart recipient who is a member of the MOPH.

An applicant can receive a maximum of two scholarships awarded in non-consecutive years. Scholarship funds can be used for tuition, books, incidental fees, room and board, and other direct costs associated with higher education. MOPH scholarship funds cannot

be used for transportation expenses, summer school, to pay pre-existing educational loans, or to pay for a special program/research project.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

To apply, applicants need to complete and submit the following materials:

1. MOPH Scholarship Application Form, *and*
2. Original, **official** high school and/or college transcript through the latest completed semester or quarter, *and*
3. Essay of 200-300 words (approximately one double-sided page) on the following subject: “What does the Purple Heart mean to me?” *and*
4. Two (2) letters of recommendation, *and*
5. A resume that lists all extracurricular activities and honors, community and/or military service, and employment experience and describes each activity in detail to include the number of hours the applicant spends per week/month on each activity, *and*
6. A non-refundable \$15.00 processing fee. Cash and credit cards *are not* accepted. Please send a check or money order made out to the Military Order of the Purple Heart and ensure the “for” line of the check states that the check is for the MOPH Scholarship Application processing fee.

All applications must be mailed in hardcopy form to the address indicated at the top of this application packet. Faxed or e-mailed applications *will not* be accepted.

Due to the diversity of grading systems among educational institutions, the MOPH Scholarship Committee will **PREFER** high school or college grade transcripts that are based on an un-weighted 4.0 grading system. If an applicant’s academic transcript **does not** present the student’s GPA in an un-weighted 4.0 format, please ask the educational institution to convert the GPA to an un-weighted 4.0 scale or to provide an explanation about the grading scale utilized by the school and provide that information when submitting the application. The MOPH Scholarship Committee will not consider the application of any applicant who does not either provide an un-weighted 4.0 transcript or one of the alternatives listed above.

Letters of recommendation can be written by any individual who can attest to the character and potential of the applicant, such as a teacher, coach, religious leader, work supervisor, unit commander, etc.

For applicants interested in being considered for the **Navy Seal Lt. Michael Murphy Memorial Award**, please submit a list of all military awards and decorations in addition to the application requirements listed above. For any military awards and decorations given with valor, please also submit the accompanying citation(s).

After an application is submitted, the only information that can be changed is the name of the college, university, or trade school that the applicant plans on attending.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION TIMELINE

September 2014	MOPH Scholarship Application posted online.
January 21, 2015	Applications must be received by MOPH HQ in Springfield, Virginia by 5:00 pm EST. No exceptions will be granted.
February – March 2015	Applications are evaluated by the MOPH Scholarship Committee.
May 2015	Scholarship recipients are announced.

Each applicant who is selected to receive a MOPH Scholarship will be formally notified in May 2015 by receiving an award letter and the names of every recipient will be posted on the MOPH website as well. Upon notification, each scholarship recipient will be asked to submit a color photo and biographical information to include information regarding the college, university, or trade school that he/she plans to attend. Once that information is received, a two-way check will be made out to the scholarship recipient and the educational institution of his/her choice. If an applicant fails to submit the requested information, his/her scholarship may be given to an alternate applicant as designated by the MOPH Scholarship Committee.

SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE

**Deadline for ALL scholarship applications is 5:00 PM (Eastern Standard Time)
January 21, 2015.**

No exceptions will be granted.

The deadline listed above applies to all required documents and materials including transcripts, letters of recommendation, and the processing fee. Any required items received after the deadline listed above will not be considered in the applicant's scholarship application package. The postmark date is irrelevant.

QUESTIONS

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact:

- Stewart McKeown, MOPH Headquarters Scholarship Coordinator at scholarship@purpleheart.org or (703) 642-5360
- Wendy Buckingham, Scholarship Committee Chairman at wendysuebuckingham@gmail.com



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MOPH 2015-2016 ACADEMIC YEAR
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name:

Last	First	Middle Initial
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Address:

Street

City or Town	State	ZIP Code
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Telephone Number	E-Mail
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Social Security Number: ____ - ____ - ____

Date of Birth: _____ Male _____ Female _____

If you are a **MOPH Associate Member** or a **Member of the Ladies Auxiliary**
Please enter your MOPH Associate Member or Ladies Auxiliary Member Number here*:

*An Associate Membership or membership in the Ladies Auxiliary does not by itself convey MOPH Scholarship eligibility.

ELIGIBILITY

Name of the MOPH Member or Purple Heart Recipient (KIA or Died of Wounds) from whom you descend:

MOPH Member Number: _____ Chapter: _____

Relationship to MOPH Member or Purple Heart Recipient: _____

Current Status of MOPH Member or Purple Heart Recipient from whom you descend:

Living _____ Deceased _____ Killed in Action* _____ Died of Wounds* _____

*Documentation verifying this claim is required.

EDUCATION INFORMATION

List in order of attendance the high school, college, university, or trade school you have attended or are currently attending:

Name	Location	Dates
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Name	Location	Dates
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Name	Location	Dates
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Name	Location	Dates
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Cumulative GPA (on a 4.0 un-weighted scale):

_____ High School

_____ College, University, or Trade School

Name and location of the college, university, or trade school to which you are applying or are attending:

Major or course of study which you are currently pursuing or that you intend to pursue:

Please include a **detailed resume** that lists all **extracurricular activities and honors, community and/or military service, and employment experience**. Be specific and thoroughly describe all activities to include your dates of participation, job duties and responsibilities, and the number of hours per week/month/etc. that you participated.

For applicants interested in being considered for the **Navy Seal Lt. Michael Murphy Memorial Award**, please submit a list of all military awards and decorations in addition to the other application requirements. For any military awards and decorations given with valor, please also submit the accompanying citation(s).

DECLARATION OF MOPH SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANT

I have read and understand the enclosed information regarding the Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH) Scholarship Program.

During the 2015-2016 academic year, I plan to attend an accredited U.S. college, university, or trade school as a *full-time* student.

I certify that the information included in my application and all supporting documents is, to the best of my knowledge, true, accurate, and complete.

I authorize the MOPH to request and receive information regarding my academic records and enrollment status at my designated college, university, or trade school.

I agree to abide by the rules and criteria established by the MOPH Scholarship Committee.

I understand that the decisions of the MOPH Scholarship Committee are final.

I authorize the MOPH to use any portion of my essay on the MOPH website to promote and advertise for the MOPH Scholarship Program.

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

Parent or Guardian Signature* _____ Date _____

*If the applicant is under the age of 18 years

Mail or deliver the completed application, signed declaration, \$15.00 processing fee, and all supporting materials to:

Military Order of the Purple Heart
Attn: Scholarship Program
5413-B Backlick Road
Springfield, Virginia 22151

**DEADLINE FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS IS
5:00 PM (Eastern Standard Time), JANUARY 21, 2015**

NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE GRANTED

The deadline listed above applies to all required documents and materials including transcripts, letters of recommendation, and the processing fee. Any required items received after the deadline listed above will not be considered in the applicant's scholarship application package. The postmark date is irrelevant.