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MARINE CORPS SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.

P. O. BOX 3008 PRINCETON, NJ 08543-3008 TELEPHONE 800-292-7777 www.mcsf.org

ELIGIBILITY AND INSTRUCTIONS - ACADEMIC YEAR 2008-2009 APRIL 15, 2008 DEADLINE

The Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation strongly supported nationally by volunteers. The Foundation provides financial assistance in the form of scholarships to deserving sons and daughters of current or of former United States Marines in their pursuit of higher education. We also award a few scholarships each year to children of current or former United States Navy Corpsmen who have served with the United States Marine Corps.

ELIGIBILITY

One-year scholarships (ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000) are awarded annually and are limited to undergraduate students at accredited educational/technical institutions. Our Heroes Tribute Scholarships (of up to \$20,000 over four years) are given to the children of Marines and the children of Navy Corpsmen serving with the Marines whose parent is killed in the ongoing Global War on Terror. Scholarships are not automatically renewable. Recipients must reapply each year and may receive no more than four annual scholarships. We may award scholarships to all eligible children in the same family.

Applicants must be:

1. The son/daughter of one of the following:
 - Active duty or reserve U. S. Marine
 - U.S. Marine who has received an Honorable Discharge, Medical Discharge, or was killed while serving in the U.S. Marine Corps
 - Active duty or reserve U.S. Navy Corpsman who is serving, or has served, with the U.S. Marine Corps
 - U.S. Navy Corpsman who has served with the U.S. Marine Corps and has received an Honorable Discharge, Medical Discharge, or was killed while serving in the U.S. Navy

and
2. Registered as a continuing (sophomore, junior or senior) undergraduate student at an accredited college or post high school vocational/technical institution

and
3. Scholarships are targeted at eligible applicants from families with a **maximum adjusted gross income of \$77,000 or less**. The income guideline increases if eligible siblings attending college or planning to attend college also apply for a scholarship. Siblings *must* apply in order for the guideline to increase. For the purpose of determining eligibility, non-taxable allowances (such as BAH) received by military members on active duty are NOT included in determining adjusted gross income.

and
4. Your gpa is at least 2.0

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Limited Grandparent Eligibility

In addition, we administer the scholarship programs of several other Marine associations who offer scholarships to the grandchildren of their members. The qualifying grandparent must be a member of one of the associations. This is a limited list. There are no exceptions.

Proof of membership must be provided by the applicant. The grandchild of one of the following: (limited eligibility)

- U.S. Marine who is a member of the Marines' Memorial Association
- U.S. Marine who served in the 4th Marine Division during World War II and is/was a member of their association
- U.S. Marine who served in the 5th Marine Division during World War II and is/was a member of their association
- U.S. Marine who served in the 6th Marine Division during World War II and is/was a member of their association
- U.S. Marine who served in the 531 Gray Ghost Squadron and is/was a member of their association
- U.S. Marine who is/was a member of the USMC/Combat Helicopter Association
- U.S. Marine who was killed in action in any conflict
- U.S. Marine who is a member of the Basic Class 3-56

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INSTRUCTIONS

1. **COMPLETE THE 2-PAGE APPLICATION FORM. DO NOT LEAVE ANY BLANKS. WRITE N/A IF NOT APPLICABLE. ATTACH A SEPARATE SHEET DETAILING ALL EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND ALL HONORS AND AWARDS.**

2. **FAMILY FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

You must submit a **signed copy of your parents' 2007 income tax return including all schedules**. If you receive non-taxable income, you must submit documentation. If you are independent as defined by Federal Student Aid, you must submit your 2007 income tax return and documentation showing non-taxable income. If you are independent, you do not need to submit the financial information of your parents. Eligible grandchildren who are applying must submit their parents' financial information. If you and/or your parents are not required to file a federal income tax return, you must submit a letter stating your situation. The letter must include a list of all sources and amounts of income for 2007. This Foundation exists to help Marines and former Marines put their children through college. We acknowledge that there are diverse family units and we are relying on your integrity to furnish us with accurate information in order to determine the degree of financial need.

The Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation abides by the rules and regulations of the US Dept. of Education (FAFSA). All applicants must complete a form called the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for 2008-2009**. **Apply as soon as you can after January 1, 2008**. The FAFSA collects financial and other information that is required by most colleges, universities and vocational/technical schools in order to apply for aid. You can complete the **2008-2009 FAFSA** electronically. This is the fastest way to apply for financial aid, and filing electronically helps to avoid errors. Visit their web site at www.fafsa.ed.gov. A paper FAFSA is available from libraries, college financial aid offices, or from the Federal Student Aid Information Center (1-800-4-FED-AID). **On the form do not list our name to have the information sent to us automatically**. We do not have a federal code number. Once you have submitted the FAFSA you will receive a **Student Aid Report (SAR) that includes your student ID number, EFC and DRN numbers**. **YOU MUST SUBMIT ALL PAGES OF THE SAR REPORT (which include these numbers) with this application**. Be careful: Do not send the FAFSA – **send the Student Aid Report (SAR)**. *Ineligibility for Federal Student Aid does not disqualify you from being eligible for our scholarship.*

The entire #2 requirement is waived ONLY FOR CHILDREN WHOSE PARENT WAS KILLED IN COMBAT.

3. **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE:**

If your parent is on active duty, submit a written statement of service (including tours of duty) on official letterhead and signed by the Adjutant, Personnel Officer, XO, or CO of the unit or organization.

If your parent is a former Marine or Sailor, submit a copy of your parent's **Form DD214 (Certificate of Service)**. Note: The DD214 must show the "**character of service**". The character of service must be "honorable". No other character of service is acceptable. The DD214 must reflect the final discharge of the Marine or Sailor.

Grandchildren applying under the limited eligibility list on page 1 must submit a copy of their grandparent's Honorable Discharge, or if applicable, the Form DD214.

If you are on active duty you must submit a signed, written statement of service (including tours of duty) on official letterhead. If you were discharged from the Armed Forces, you must submit a copy of your DD214, or other official evidence of an Honorable Discharge.

Information on how to obtain copies of military records is available on the Internet. Go to www.nara.gov or contact your local U. S. representative or U. S. senator for assistance.

This requirement is waived ONLY FOR CHILDREN WHOSE PARENT WAS KILLED IN COMBAT.

4. **SCHOLASTIC RECORD:**

Submit **official transcripts** from your high school and from all colleges you have attended. The official transcripts must be included with your application. Do not mail them separately. Do not have schools mail them separately. Repeat MCSF recipients do not need to send high school transcripts again, but must send their latest official college transcripts. We will not accept transcripts or grade reports that have been downloaded from the internet.

5. **ESSAY:**

Submit a 500-word essay on the following subject: Discuss your concerns for the future of our society and for the people of the world. In addition, tell us about an issue of local, national, or international concern and its importance to you. You must sign and date your essay.

EXPLANATIONS / EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES:

On a separate sheet, submit an explanation of any unusual expenses, such as high medical expenses, elder care, or other special conditions that you believe should be taken into account by the scholarship committee. You may submit additional information that you would like the committee to consider during review of your application.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: April 15, 2008

Mail your complete application with all supporting documents to the Princeton, New Jersey address postmarked no later than April 15, 2008. You must answer all questions on the application. **The Certification must be signed and dated by the applicant and a parent.** Submit all information and required documents as a **complete package in one envelope.** The most common reason applications are denied is for incompleteness. Use our check-off sheet to ensure you submit all documentation. We do not acknowledge receipt of your application. If you want to know if your application has been received, please enclose a self-addressed stamped postcard that states MCSF application has been received. We will date it and mail it back to you.

***We will not contact you by phone for omissions and/or corrections to your application.
We will deny incomplete applications.
We will deny unsigned applications.
We will deny applications postmarked after April 15, 2008.***

DO NOT BIND, STAPLE, CUT OR USE FOLDERS WHEN SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION.

DO NOT EMAIL OR FAX YOUR APPLICATION.

NOTIFICATION: We will notify you in writing by July 15, 2008 whether you have been awarded a scholarship.

Check-Off Sheet

Name _____

I have enclosed all of the following supporting documentation. I understand that my application will not be reviewed by the scholarship committee unless all documents listed below are submitted.

Please check off that each item is enclosed.

_____ Signed copy of 2007 tax return including all schedules and/or documentation of non-taxable income for parents and yourself

_____ Copy of 2008-2009 Student Aid Report (SAR) as defined in the instructions. My EFC (expected family contribution) is _____

_____ Certificate of Service (DD214) as defined in the instructions

(The submission of the three documents listed above is waived only for children whose parent was killed in combat.)

_____ Official transcripts from high school and all colleges attended. Current MCSF recipients send only your latest official transcript.

_____ 500 word essay as explained in the instructions

Do not bind, staple, cut or use folders when submitting your application.

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SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION 2008-2009 ACADEMIC YEAR

DEADLINE: APRIL 15, 2008

READ ELIGIBILITY / INSTRUCTIONS PAGE PRIOR TO COMPLETING THIS APPLICATION

DO NOT COMPLETE THIS FORM IF YOU ARE GRADUATING FROM HIGH SCHOOL IN 2008 OR YOU ARE ATTENDING COLLEGE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE FALL
You must use the separate application form with a March 3, 2008 deadline

check all that apply

- My parent is a current or former **MARINE**
 My parent is a current or former **NAVY CORPSMAN** who is/was assigned to a Marine unit
 My parent was a **MARINE** or **NAVY CORPSMAN** who was assigned to a Marine unit and was killed in combat in Afghanistan or Iraq
 My parent was a **MARINE** who was killed in the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001
 I am a first time applicant and I am currently attending college as a Fr____ So____ Jr____ Sr____ VoTech____
 I am a previous applicant (Year/s):_____ I am a previous winner (Year/s):_____
 My gpa is at least 2.0

Limited Eligibility for Grandchildren – Proof of membership in one of the qualifying organizations must be submitted. If you are an eligible grandchild, check the appropriate line. Do not apply if none of the following is applicable.

- My grandparent served in the 4th Marine Division during World War II and is/was a member of their association
 My grandparent served in the 5th Marine Division during World War II and is/was a member of their association
 My grandparent served in the 6th Marine Division and is/was a member of their association
 My grandparent served in the 531 Gray Ghost Squadron and is/was a member of their association
 My grandparent is a member of the Basic Class 3-56
 My parent or grandparent is a member of the USMC/Combat Helicopter Association
 My parent or grandparent is a member of the Marines' Memorial Association
 My grandparent was a Marine who was killed in action

Last Name First Name MI SSN

Permanent Home Address Home City & State Zip

Telephone Email Address

High School Attended City & State Year of Graduation / GED

SAT Score_____ ACT Score_____ High School GPA _____ High School GPA weighted _____ College GPA_____

Marital status: Single____ Married____ Separated____ Divorced____ Male____ Female____ Birth date_____ Age____

I reside with: Parents____ Mother____ Father____ Spouse____ Other:_____

Attach a separate sheet of paper with the following information, indicating year and length of time:

1. Recent College Scholastic Honors, Distinctions, Awards
2. Extracurricular activities in college (e.g., clubs, honor societies, etc.)
3. Academic/Social (Organization / office held)
4. Sports (Sport / position held)
5. Volunteer work (Organization / office held)
6. Extracurricular activities outside of school (e.g., community, church, social club, scouting, work, etc.)

Employment:

Summer 2007 Employer Hours worked / week 07-08 Academic Year Employer Hours worked / week

Higher education _____
College/School you will attend in Fall 2008 City & State
This school is: public____ private____ 2-yr____ 4 yr____ vo-tech____

Expected enrollment status: Full time____ Half time____ Less than half time____ Anticipated Date of Undergraduate Degree _____

In the Fall of 2008 I will be registered as : VoTech____ Fr____ So____ Jr____ Sr____ Major _____

Other College, vocational, or technical school(s) previously attended: (Enclose transcripts for all.) _____

The Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation may award scholarships to all eligible children in the same family. Are any siblings applying to this foundation for the 2007-2008 academic year? YES____ NO____ If yes, list their full names _____

FATHER'S INFORMATION**COMPLETE ALL SECTIONS****MOTHER'S INFORMATION**

Name _____
 Last First M.I.
 Address _____
 City & State Zip
 Date of Birth _____ SSN _____
 Occupation _____
 Self-Employed: Yes Incorporated Proprietorship
 Father Disabled? military-related %
 Father Retired? _____
 Marital Status: Single Married Remarried
 Deceased Separated Divorced Widower
 If father's surname is different than applicant's surname, please explain.
 Father receives:
 VA Benefits \$ _____ per year
 Other Non-Taxable Income \$ _____ per year
 List Sources _____

Name _____
 Last First M.I.
 Address _____
 City & State Zip
 Date of Birth _____ SSN _____
 Occupation _____
 Self-Employed: Yes Incorporated Proprietorship
 Mother Disabled? military related %
 Mother Retired? _____
 Marital Status: Single Married Remarried
 Deceased Separated Divorced Widow
 If mother's surname is different than applicant's surname, please explain.
 Mother receives:
 VA Benefits \$ _____ per year
 Other Non-Taxable Income \$ _____ per year
 List Sources _____

MILITARY SERVICE INFORMATION

Check all that apply and complete this section to the best of your ability. The DD214 contains this information.

Marine Father _____
 Marine Mother _____
 Navy Corpsman Father _____
 Navy Corpsman Mother _____
 Parent Name _____

Grandparent Eligibility: Fill in below the name of the association in which your grandparent is a member: See list on reverse side. Do not apply for a scholarship if you do not have proof of membership.

Eligible Association _____
 Grandparent Name _____

Military Status:

Active Duty _____ current rank _____
 Honorably Discharged _____ rank at time of discharge _____ Is Qualifying Marine deceased? _____ (date)
 Retired _____ rank at time of retirement _____
 Medically Discharged _____ Deceased _____ KIA _____ MIA _____
 Branches _____ Dates _____
 Months of active / reserve duty: _____ / _____ Major Marine Corps units (e.g. Division, Wing assigned to and dates assigned _____
 Location of combat tour(s), units served with in combat _____
 Personal Awards, Decorations (list Combat "V"), Purple Heart _____
 Other pertinent information regarding United States Marine Corps service _____

Applicant's current/prior military service: I have no prior service _____ or I have prior service _____. (My DD214 is enclosed.) I am currently serving in the _____. Note: If you are currently serving in the Regular or Reserve forces, or the National Guard, a written statement of service (including tours of duty) on official letterhead and signed by the Adjutant, Personnel Officer, XO, or CO of the unit or organization must be enclosed with this application.

The scholarship committee will not consider applications unless all required documentation is enclosed.

I have enclosed all of the required documentation as listed in the instructions and check-off sheet. I understand that it is my responsibility to submit a complete application, and that the Scholarship Committee will not contact me to complete it. I understand that my application will be denied if it is incomplete.

CERTIFICATION

(MUST BE SIGNED BY APPLICANT & ONE PARENT- Unsigned Applications Will Be Denied)

(If you are an independent student as defined by Federal Student Aid a parent signature is not required.)

All the information provided in this application is true and complete to the best of our knowledge.

Applicant Signature

Date

Parent Signature

The following section is optional and is not included in the review process. This information is helpful to MCSF in evaluating the composition of its applicant pool.

_____ African American or Black
 _____ Native American or Alaskan Native
 _____ Asian or Pacific Islander

_____ Hispanic or Latino
 _____ White or Caucasian American (non-Hispanic origin)
 _____ Other or non-specified