Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA)
Central Maryland Chapter – Education Foundation
c/o VP Scientific Education
ATTN: AFCEA Scholarships, P.O. Box 908, Savage, MD 20763
scholarships@centralmd.afceachapters.org

2018-2019 Merit Scholarship Award

PURPOSE: AFCEA Central Maryland Chapter seeks to award merit-based STEM scholarships to graduating high school seniors for their past achievements and to aid them in accomplishing their career goals.

AWARD: Each scholarship is an award of $10,000, $2,500 for each year of a four-year academic education. Scholarships will be presented to selected high school seniors in the Central Maryland area can be used to achieve education goals at the accredited school of their choice anywhere in the nation. All Merit Scholarships are STEM based. This is for a full-time student attending a four-year institution.

CRITERIA: Applicant must:
• Be an academically-competitive, well-rounded, graduating high school senior.
• Attend a public or private high school in Baltimore City or one of the following Central Maryland counties: Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Howard, or northern Prince George's.
• Be a U.S. Citizen.
• Have a cumulative high school GPA of at least 3.5 on a 4.0 scale, and a SAT math score of at least 650.
• Plan to enter a field of study supportive of national defense (i.e., systems engineering, software engineering, math, cyber, information technology, electrical engineering, computer engineering, computer science, physics, mechanical engineering, materials science, or engineering relating to IT, communications and electronics) and can apply their studies directly to the Intelligence Community, homeland security, or national defense objectives. **Please note: Students who pursue a degree in other science to include pre-med, pre-law, biology, environmental or any form of engineering not listed in this section are unlikely to be considered.** If unsure, please email scholarships@centralmd.afceachapters.org to clarify.
• Stay in a field of study supportive of national defense for each of the applicants four years and graduate.

The Cyber Studies Merit Scholarship is specifically for those applicants interested in pursuing career goals within cyber (i.e., cyber security, information assurance).

MAINTENANCE: Scholarship recipients must maintain a collegiate cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 to retain the scholarship for all four years. Recipients may change majors provided the new major is a science and engineering field of study supportive of national defense as indicated above. Recipient must submit a transcript for review at the end of each school year with a status form (to be sent to the recipient) to report how their studies are progressing to be eligible to receive the next payment as the scholarship is paid out over four years.

CEREMONIES: Scholarship recipients will be notified in late February/early March, 2019. The AFCEA Central Maryland Chapter will invite recipients and their parents to an awards dinner honoring them in early May, 2019.

APPLICATION: Student scholarship submissions must include **all** of the following items: (Applicants will receive email from the Scholarship Committee chair as materials are received. If applicant does not get an email, reach out to the email address above.)

All interested students must submit their completed applications online by December 21, 2018.

1. A completed application form **submitted online** at https://centralmd.afceachapters.org/merit-scholarship-application which includes **general information** about the applicant. (Sample application details the info to be submitted.)

2. A **750-1000 word essay** written by the applicant addressing: 1. How have your activities (i.e., academic studies, extra-curricular activities, and volunteering, employment, sports, etc.) to date prepared you for the future and 2. How might your collegiate study* prepare you for a career supporting intelligence, homeland security, or national defense objectives (*Acceptable fields of study include systems engineering, software engineering, math, cyber, information technology, electrical engineering, computer engineering, computer science, physics, mechanical engineering, materials science, or engineering relating to IT, communications. and electronics.) (submit with on-line application).

3. A **resume** from the applicant detailing, at a minimum, accomplishments, work experience, and community involvement.

4. An **official, certified high school transcript** of completed courses and grades mailed **directly** from the high school to the address above or **emailed directly from the high school** to scholarships@centralmd.afceachapters.org.

5. A copy of the applicant's SAT scores from the testing center. Email this report to scholarships@centralmd.afceachapters.org. AFCEA is not listed as a site that scores be sent to. Simply copy/scan the report and attach it in an email to the email address provided. The copy must include applicant's name.

6. **Two letters of recommendation:** one letter must be from an academic person (i.e., a school official – teacher, principal) and the second letter must be from a non-academic person (i.e., a person outside of school – clergy, a person you work/intern for, a volunteer leader, a coach). **Letters from school counselors are not acceptable**. Letters should be specific to this scholarship and not be letters that are for entry to a university or college. Letters may be emailed to scholarships@centralmd.afceachapters.org. Please be sure to follow up with the persons who are emailing letters of recommendation to ensure that they have submitted them.

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