



2024-25 Veterans Business Council Scholarship Program Guidelines

The Veterans Business Council of the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce is offering a 2024 - 2025 **Veterans Business Council Scholarship Program**. Under the Program, up to two (2) \$5,000 scholarships are available to be awarded to a veteran or service member that resides in, attends college or trade school in, or works in Saratoga County, New York.

Available Scholarships:

There are up to two (2) \$5,000 scholarships available for the 2024 - 25 academic year that will be awarded in two parts. For each recipient, up to \$2,500 will be awarded for the Fall 2024 semester and the remaining award amount, up to \$2,500, will be provided for the Spring 2025 semester. The scholarships can be paid either directly to the recipients or the institution. Scholarship funding amounts are commensurate with the actual costs of the college, trade school or certificate program and may not exceed the actual costs of the program per course/semester. The committee may award partial funding based on available monies to distribute.

Program Guidelines & Priorities:

- * Seeks United States Veterans, Active Duty, National Guard, and Reservists with current orders or an honorable discharge from the United States Military that reside, work, or attend college or trade schools within Saratoga County.
- * Applicants must provide proof of:
 - Residency in Saratoga County, New York, **or**
 - Employment in Saratoga County New York, **or**
 - Acceptance/attendance at a college within Saratoga County, New York, or
 - Acceptance/attendance at a trade school within Saratoga County, New York, or
 - Acceptance/attendance for a certificate program (must be a resident of Saratoga County, NY)
- * Applicants must provide proof of acceptance/enrollment before the scholarship is paid.
- * Applicants must submit current orders or a DD-214 showing an honorable discharge.
- * Letters of recommendation can be submitted but are not required.
- * Applicants must attend an interview with the selection committee. In certain cases, this may be done remotely.
- * Applicants awarded the scholarship must currently have and maintain a G.P.A. above 2.5 and must provide a general FERPA release for verification. Trade school/certificate candidates must show satisfactory progress toward completion of the program/certificate.
- * Scholarship funds for the Spring semester will not be paid until enrollment and GPA is verified. **Verification must be received on or before January 19th for scholarship funds to be paid out for the spring semester. The Spring installment will not be paid if verification is not received by this date.**
- * Applications must be postmarked on or before **July 26, 2024**. Late applications are not accepted.

Mail one copy of a completed typed application package to:
Veterans Business Council Scholarship Committee c/o
Saratoga County Foundation
21 Congress Street, Suite 202
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

The applications will be reviewed, and recipients selected by a committee consisting of Veteran volunteers from the Veterans Business Council. Any questions can be sent to Greg Dixon at gdixon@saratoga.org.

VBC SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION 2024

Please type your answers.																
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Essay

14. On a separate sheet please write an essay (250 - 500 words) answering the questions below. The essay must be typed:

Describe how you feel your military service has prepared you to be a successful student and how a degree, or trade school or certification completion, can further your career and success in life.

STATEMENT OF ACCURACY FOR STUDENTS

I hereby affirm that all the above stated information provided by me is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I also consent that if chosen as a scholarship winner my picture may be taken and used to promote the Veterans Business Council scholarship program and the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce. (Winner may waive photo due to unusual or compelling circumstances.)

I hereby understand that if chosen as a scholarship winner I must be present at any potential awards ceremony or reception to receive my scholarship award.

I hereby understand I will not submit this application without all required attachments and supporting information. Incomplete applications or applications that do not meet eligibility criteria will not be considered for this scholarship.

By submitting this form, you acknowledge the sharing of personal information with the Saratoga County Veterans Business Council selection committees involved in the scholarship process. Please enter your signature to indicate you understand and acknowledge this condition.

Signature of scholarship applicant:

Date:

Checklist

- Application
- Essay
- Current Orders or DD-214 (redacted)
- Letters of Recommendation (Optional)
- Proof of Residency, Employment, or Acceptance/Attendance

MAIL COMPLETE APPLICATION PACKAGE TO THE FOUNDATION AT:

**Veterans Business Council Scholarship Committee
c/o Saratoga County Foundation
21 Congress Street, Suite 202
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866**

REMINDER:

**The deadline for this application to be received by the is:
July 26, 2024. NO EXCEPTIONS!**