



A Union of Professionals

Robert G. Porter Scholars Program

American Federation
of Teachers, AFL-CIO

555 New Jersey Ave. N.W.
Washington, DC 20001
202/879-4400
www.aft.org

2012 Four-Year \$8,000 Postsecondary Scholarship Application

Randi Weingarten
PRESIDENT

Loretta Johnson
SECRETARY-TREASURER

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EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

You must be:

- A graduating high school senior; and
- The dependent of a current AFT member (who has been a member for at least one year).

Dependents of full- or part-time AFT national, state or local staff may NOT apply.

This form should be completed and returned to:

Robert G. Porter Scholars Program, 555 New Jersey Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20001-2079.

This application must be postmarked no later than **March 31, 2012.**

I. FAMILY AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT NEATLY.

A. APPLICANT DATA

APPLICANT'S NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

TELEPHONE

E-MAIL

DATE OF BIRTH

B. UNION PARENT/GUARDIAN DATA

UNION PARENT'S OR GUARDIAN'S NAME

EMPLOYER

My parent My legal guardian

is a member of AFT local:*

#3043

LOCAL NAME AND NUMBER

N. Merrick

CITY

**Bellmore-Merrick
United Secondary Teachers**

New York

STATE

PARENT/GUARDIAN E-MAIL ADDRESS

***NOTE: Membership will be verified by contacting your parent's or guardian's local.**

NOTE: This application must be complete, and directions must be followed. Failure to do so will result in your disqualification. For continuing scholarship qualification, recipients are expected to maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75, as reflected in the annual transcript required, and must show continuing enrollment and satisfactory progress toward a degree. Your degree is expected to be completed within six years.

II. EDUCATION BACKGROUND AND FUTURE EDUCATION PLANS

A. SECONDARY SCHOOL ATTENDED:

NAME OF SCHOOL _____

LOCATION _____

YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION _____

B. AREA OF STUDY IN WHICH YOU PLAN TO SPECIALIZE IN COLLEGE:

C. COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY IN WHICH YOU CURRENTLY PLAN TO ENROLL (If not known, write "undecided"):

NAME OF SCHOOL _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

D. WHAT IS YOUR PROBABLE CAREER CHOICE?

III. SCHOOL-RELATED ACTIVITIES

List three school-related activities and explain why they are the most significant to you. (Attach **separate sheet**.)

IV. COMMUNITY SERVICES

Explain one of the community activities in which you have been involved. How did it change you and the people you served? How are you giving back to the community now? (Attach **separate sheet**.)

V. LEADERSHIP

Explain what you would consider your most important leadership role in high school. How long were you in this role? What did the work include? What impact did it have on you, those who interacted with you, and those who were served by the activity? What did you learn in the process? (Attach a **separate sheet**.)

VI. WORK EXPERIENCE

List jobs you held (including volunteer activities) during high school. Include the work performed, dates employed or volunteered, average hours worked. (Attach a **separate sheet**.)

VII. RECOMMENDATIONS

Submit at least two letters of recommendation. One must be from a teacher or counselor; one must be from a community representative, such as a minister, rabbi, priest, scout leader, employer or community service organization representative. All letters of recommendation should be written on official letterhead when possible.

VIII. PERSONAL STATEMENT

Describe how this scholarship will enable you to attend the college of your choice. (Attach a **separate sheet**.)

IX. ESSAY

On a **separate sheet**, write an essay of no more than 500 words that considers the following:

Recently, teachers and other public employees have come under attack by politicians at every level of government. These critics charge that the salaries, pensions and benefits of teachers and other public employees are causing our current budget woes and that collective bargaining is working against the interests of taxpayers. Why are public employees under attack? How should a union representing teachers and public employees counter these attacks? What must be done to educate the public about the important work teachers and other public employees perform in building our communities?

The AFT and other national unions remain unwavering in their support of public sector workers and their unions. Below you will find some helpful resources to assist you in preparing your essay:

American Labor in U.S. History Textbooks

www.shankerinstitute.org/docs/american-labor.pdf

Statement by AFT President Randi Weingarten on Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker's assault on public workers

www.aft.org/newspubs/press/2011/031011a.cfm

Some basic facts on state and local government workers

www.cbpp.org/cms/index.cfm?fa=view&id=3410

AFL-CIO

www.aflcio.org

Demos

www.demos.org

Economic Policy Institute

www.epi.org

American Labor Studies Center

www.labor-studies.org

Your essay will be judged on the following criteria:

- Strength of argument;
- Ideas and content;
- Organization and clarity of expression; and
- Sources of information used (and cited).

NOTE: Essay must be typed. All essays become AFT property, and the AFT reserves the right to excerpt from your essay for publication.

SIGNATURES AND SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION CHECKLIST

I hereby certify that all information provided in this application is complete and correct.

Signature of applicant:

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

DATE _____

Signature of parent or legal guardian who is an AFT member:

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

DATE _____

BEFORE MAILING, CHECK TO MAKE SURE:

- The application is completely filled out.
- The parent/guardian who is an AFT member has signed the form.
- You have signed the Authorization for Release of Information form to release your secondary school transcript.
- Your parent/guardian has signed the Authorization for Release of Information form.
- The Secondary School Report is signed by a school official.
- You have signed the form certifying that the information provided is true and correct.
- You have included letters of recommendation.
- You have included your **official** transcript.

This form, including the Secondary School Report, should be completed and returned to:

Robert G. Porter Scholars Program, 555 New Jersey Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20001-2079.

This application must be postmarked no later than **March 31, 2012.**

SECONDARY SCHOOL REPORT

AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, a school must have signed authorization before releasing information about a student. Both student and parent or legal guardian should sign and date this authorization.

Permission is hereby given to school officials to release the secondary school record and other requested information to the Robert G. Porter Scholars Program for consideration for possible financial aid.

Student signature:

Parent or legal guardian's signature:

PRINT FULL NAME _____

PRINT FULL NAME _____

SIGNATURE _____

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

DATE _____

APPLICANT TESTING

ADDITIONAL SCHOOL PROGRAM INFORMATION

AMERICAN COLLEGE TEST (ACT) SCORES

Grade point average at the end of the last academic year or through the first semester of the current academic year, whichever is higher: _____

DATE TESTED _____

Please describe any advanced placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate Program classes that you may have completed. If not applicable, please write "N/A." Attach a **separate sheet**, if necessary.

COMPOSITE _____

SCHOLASTIC ASSESSMENT TEST (SAT) SCORES

DATE TESTED _____

CRITICAL READING _____

MATH _____

WRITING _____

TOTAL _____

You may show the highest scores from different dates if it is to the applicant's advantage.

NOTE TO SECONDARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL OR GUIDANCE COUNSELOR:

The above student is applying for a scholarship through the Robert G. Porter Scholars Program. We ask your cooperation in completing the Secondary School Report.

Please complete this page as accurately as possible. Sections left incomplete will limit the Robert G. Porter Scholars Program Committee's ability to adequately evaluate the applicant.

The above information is, to the best of my knowledge, true and accurate based on facts found in the official record. (Additional comments may be provided to the Robert G. Porter Scholars Program Committee in an accompanying letter typed on school letterhead.)

NAME _____

TITLE _____

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____