

# The Bush Cares Project Scholarship Program

Scholarships offered through The Bush Cares Project have been made possible by the generosity of donors who help student veterans and their family members such as you plan and pay for post-secondary education. The **“Leave No Vet Behind”** Scholarship will provide tuition assistance to veterans who are no longer eligible for the GI Bill and cover living expenses (e.g. daycare costs, transportation, rent subsidy). The **“Laptops for Heroes”** scholarship will put a laptop in the hands of every veteran attending a college, university or technical institute. The **“You Served, We Served”** scholarship will pay the tuition and books of spouses and children of veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraqi Wars, not entitled to Survivors’ and Dependents’ Education Assistance Benefit. Scholarship applications are generally accepted and reviewed in the spring of each year.

## Instructions and Guidelines

Each scholarship fund has specific eligibility criteria. Please visit our web site, [www.bushcares.org/programs](http://www.bushcares.org/programs). We recommend you send your application and all of the supporting documents to us in one (1) envelope.

## Application

Applications must be complete to be considered. Include additional pages if necessary. **Do not staple documents.** Make sure all pages include your name and social security number. **DO NOT apply for any scholarship for which you do not qualify. If you are applying for more than one scholarship, please copy and/or complete one (1) application per scholarship. Remember to make a copy of the application for your files.**

## Applicant Letter of Recommendation

You must have one (1) Letter of Recommendation (See attached form). **The Recommendation Form** should be given back to you in a sealed envelope. You should send the envelopes to The Bush Cares Project unopened with your application. Letters of Recommendation that are sent separately must arrive by the deadline or your application will be considered incomplete and will not be reviewed.

Make sure your name and social security number are on the Recommendation Form before you give your Recommendation Form to your selected appraisers. Additional letters from teachers, advisors or employers must be on school or company letterhead. All letters must be signed and dated. These letters may be sealed in their own envelope and sent in with your application unopened.

## Financial Need

Part of the criteria for scholarship aid is financial need. You will need to describe personal or family circumstances that make it necessary for you to seek aid for your education. **To complete your application, attach a copy of the page from your Student Aid Report that shows Expected Family Contribution (EFC) as a result of filing FAFSA.** In addition, provide proof of income. One of the following documents will be accepted:

- Prior year tax return
- 2 current pay stubs
- Bank statements

## Military Life Experience/ Student Essay

On a separate sheet of paper in 250-500 words, describe in detail why you are requesting a scholarship and what you will do with the education you receive upon completion of your studies.

Describe an experience you have had or something you have learned from the military as a service member or family member that has given you great satisfaction. Describe the service you participated with during the last five years, including training, deployment, duties, and military activities. Tell us how this impacted you and your family. Tell us also what you have learned from this experience and how you will apply the lessons to your life. In addition, include in the essay your major area of study and why; your plans for the next three to five years; your future plans beyond five years; concerns about your financial situation; and the impact or unusual encounter of being a veteran or family member returning to college or to vocational training. The Bush Cares Project is a nonprofit organization built by volunteers and individuals who believe "Service" and "Volunteerism" are principles that should continue after military life. Explain what "Service" means to you.

Your written response to this section is your opportunity to address the Selection Committee. You must complete this section in order to be considered for this scholarship. **Please review your answers carefully to be certain that you have answered all questions in full and that your answers are legible, clear, and correct to the best of your ability.**

## Additional Requirements

Refer to each scholarship description for additional required materials.

- All applicants for The Bush Cares Project Scholarships must be a veteran or an immediate family member of a veteran. A DD-214 must accompany every scholarship application
- Applicants to the "You Served, We Served" scholarship must provide a DD-214 of the spouse or parent who served in Iraq or Afghanistan. The applicant must also provide a marriage license or birth certificate.

## Notification of Awards and General Correspondence

Notification of awards and other general correspondence related to this scholarship will be mailed to your permanent mailing address. Do not use your school address as announcements may arrive after the close of the school semester. Award approvals and denials will be announced mid-May by mail.

### Application Timeline

Your application, sealed recommendations, sealed transcripts and other supporting material must be received by The Bush Cares Project **on or before March 16, 2010**. Your transcripts may come directly from your school if it is the policy of that institution not to give official documents to students. Transcripts must arrive before the March 16 deadline. To ensure that your application is on time, you should request your transcript and recommendation letters before March 1. When mailing your application, be sure to allow sufficient time for delivery. It is important that ALL materials, including transcripts, recommendation forms and financial information, are mailed together with your application and/or arrive before the March 16 deadline. **Materials received after the deadline are considered incomplete and cannot be reviewed.** We are unable to accept faxed or e-mailed materials. Due to the number of applications we receive, we are unable to extend the deadline for any reason. **Applications must be postmarked by the deadline. In the event that the deadline falls on a weekend, applications will be accepted until 4:30 pm on the first business day after the deadline.**

**Please mail or deliver your application to:**

The Bush Cares Project  
Attn: Scholarship Committee  
PO Box 1846  
Houston TX 77251

Deadline for Applications: **MARCH 16, 2010**

For more information, visit our Web site [www.bushcares.org/programs](http://www.bushcares.org/programs)



From The Service to CEO.

Scholarship Committee  
PO Box 1846  
Houston, TX 77251-1846

I am applying for the (mark all boxes that apply):

- "Leave No Vet Behind" Scholarship
- Laptops for Heroes Scholarship
- "You Served, We Served" Scholarship

### Applicant Information

Full legal name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last, First, Middle)

Sex: \_\_\_M \_\_\_F

Permanent address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street, City, State, ZIP)

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security No. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Month/Day/Year)

Branch of service: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of service \_\_\_\_\_

### Marital Status

Are you: \_\_\_Single \_\_\_Married

Annual household income:  
\_\_\_Under \$20K \_\_\_\$20-\$30K \_\_\_\$30-\$40K \_\_\_\$40-\$50K \_\_\_\$50K+

Name and address of your nearest relative and/or spouse:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have dependents? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No

If yes, please list their names and ages:  
\_\_\_\_\_



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Are you now employed? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  
If so, please tell us about your current employee position, beginning date, annual salary:

\_\_\_\_\_

Have you applied for a Bush Cares Project Scholarship in the past? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Are you, or any member of your immediate family, an employee of Bush Cares Project?  
\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

## Educational Information

### High school

High school \_\_\_\_\_  
GED Program attended \_\_\_\_\_  
Year graduated \_\_\_\_\_  
GED average score/Grade Point Average (GPA) \_\_\_\_\_

### College

College or institution attending \_\_\_\_\_  
Program or major \_\_\_\_\_  
Degree/Certificate pursuing \_\_\_\_\_  
Have you applied and been accepted for the above college or program?  
\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  
(Enclose documentation – example: transcript, acceptance letter, grade card)

Are you currently enrolled in a college or vocational training program? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

If yes, GPA \_\_\_\_\_  
How long have you attended? \_\_\_\_\_  
Graduation year \_\_\_\_\_  
Cost of course(s)/tuition \_\_\_\_\_  
Cost of textbook/materials \_\_\_\_\_  
Scholarships you have received for the 2008-2009 school year: \_\_\_\_\_

Detail the amount of reimbursement of tuition or other related educational expenses you are eligible for or are receiving from the military.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



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Scholarship Committee  
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## The Bush Cares Project Scholarship Recommendation Form

Scholarship Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Business or Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please respond to each question below. If more space is needed, use the backside of this page or attach an additional page. Please print legibly or attach typed letter. **Please return this completed form to applicant in a sealed envelope or directly to The Bush Cares Project at the address listed above by March 16, 2010.** Failure to submit this letter of recommendation by the due date will disqualify the candidate for a scholarship.

1) How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity?

2) Why do you believe the applicant will be successful in higher education?

3) What are some unique factors that make the applicant especially worthy of receiving scholarship support (talent, self-directed, leadership qualities, community involvement, single-parent, low income situation, etc.)? Particularly address his/her unique needs as a returning veteran or family member of a returning veteran.