AFCEA
Central Maryland Chapter – Education Foundation
ATTN: AFCEA Scholarships, P.O. Box 908, Savage, MD 20763
scholarships@centralmd.afceachapters.org

2022-2023 STEM Scholarship Award

Who: This scholarship is for graduating high school seniors who want to pursue a STEM education followed by a career in Defense, Intelligence Community, or Homeland Security.

What: Each scholarship is an award of $2,500 for each year of a four-year academic education totaling $10,000. This scholarship can be used to achieve education goals at the accredited school of their choice (except for military institutions) anywhere in the nation. All Merit Scholarships are STEM based. This is for a full-time student attending a four-year institution. Multiple STEM scholarships are available.

Note: AFCEA CMD expects any student recipient of an AFCEA scholarship who also receives a full-ride scholarship to the school of their choice to let AFCEA know and to return their AFCEA scholarship for another applicant.

Criteria: Applicants 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 Prince George’s.
• Be a U.S. Citizen.
• 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, or electronics) and can apply their studies directly to the Intelligence Community, homeland security, or national defense objectives. Please note: If you plan to pursue a degree in other sciences to include medicine (pre-med or nursing), law or pre-law, biology, environmental, or any form of engineering not listed above, you are unlikely to be considered for this scholarship. If unsure, please email scholarships@centralmd.afceachapters.org to clarify.
• Stay in a field of study supportive of national defense for the applicant’s education and graduate.
• Available STEM scholarships include:
  o Skinner, Sheahan, Cotter – Specific geographic boundaries and fields of study apply. See detailed description.
  o Women in Technology – for a graduating senior female.
  o Berganski – for a graduating senior female pursuing a cyber career. Essays should address cyber.
  o Cyber Studies – for graduating senior students who are interested in pursuing career goals in cyber. Essays should address cyber.
  o Future Minority Leaders – for a graduating senior minority student (may be used at a community college as well)
  o Freedom – for a graduating senior student who has experienced a hardship or adversity to themselves or their family. Essays should address this.
  o Pinkerton – for a graduating high school senior or college freshman, sophomore, or junior who shows an aptitude for cyber security and who has dealt with academic adversity. Essays should address this.

More detailed information about these scholarships is included with this flyer or is available at this link: STEM Scholarships | Central Maryland (afceachapters.org). The application asks applicants to choose up to three scholarships for which they would like to be considered. However, AFCEA CMD reserves the right to award any of these scholarships to those most deserving.

Maintenance: Scholarship recipients must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA for the duration of their education (see descriptions) to retain the scholarship. Recipients may change majors provided the new

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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 in June) to report how their studies are progressing to be eligible to receive the next payment as the scholarship is paid out the life of your undergraduate education not to exceed four years.

**Ceremonies:** Scholarship recipients will be notified in late February/early March, 2023. The AFCEA Central Maryland Chapter will invite recipients and their parents to an Awards Night event honoring them in early May, 2023.

**Application:** Student scholarship submissions must include all of the following items and must be provided as part of the on-line application process:

1. A completed application form submitted online at [https://afcea.eformsolutions.com](https://afcea.eformsolutions.com) which includes general information about the applicant. (Sample application details the info to be submitted.)

2. **Essay Section:** Please answer each of the six short essays to help the evaluators understand more about who you are. Please note that some questions have multiple parts. (You must respond to all parts of each question.)
   - A. Three of the most important traits to having a successful STEM career are creativity, determination, and leadership to solve real world problems. Explain how you have demonstrated these traits in your academic and/or extra-curricular activities. (up to 300 words)
   - B. What is your ideal job after graduation and why? (up to 300 words)
   - C. Tell us about an event or a person in your chosen career field that you admire and why (up to 300 words)
   - D. Why are you pursuing a STEM education? (up to 300 words)
   - E. Discuss your personal experiences with diversity, equity, and inclusion (up to 300 words)
   - F. Describe a hardship or adversity that you have encountered that may have challenged your education. (up to 300 words)

3. A **resume** detailing, at a minimum, the applicant’s accomplishments, work experience, and community involvement. (Submit with on-line application)

4. An **official, certified high school transcript** of completed courses and grades (Submit with on-line application)

5. **Test scores:** SAT or ACT scores from the testing center. (AFCEA Central Maryland is not listed as a site that scores can be sent to. Scan the report you receive and submit it with the on-line application). Be sure that the report has your full name on it.

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/inter 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. Provide the names of the two people that will be your recommenders and their email addresses. The online application ([https://afcea.eformsolutions.com](https://afcea.eformsolutions.com)) will send them an email asking them to upload a letter. You cannot submit your application until both letters of recommendation have been uploaded.

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