ARMY EMERGENCY RELIEF
2017-2018 MG James Ursano Scholarship Program for Dependent Children of Active, Retired and Deceased Soldiers

GENERAL INFORMATION
Army Emergency Relief (AER) is a private non-profit organization with the primary mission of providing financial assistance to Soldiers and their dependents in time of valid emergency need. The MG James Ursano Scholarship Program was established in 1976 as a secondary mission to help Army families with undergraduate college expenses for their dependent children.

We communicate by email, therefore we advise you to add scholarships@aerhq.org to your email contacts to prevent our communications from being labeled as spam. If you need assistance or have questions during the application process, email scholarships@aerhq.org.

SCHOLARSHIP DETAILS
- The MG James Ursano Scholarship Program offers scholarships based solely on financial need as evidenced by the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) reported on the Student Aid Report (SAR) from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- The MG James Ursano Scholarship Program is not an entitlement and applications are not automatically approved. Students must reapply each year and are eligible to receive funds for up to four academic years.
- Award amounts vary and are not guaranteed year to year. Award amounts are determined based on the total budget allotted, the number of applications received, and each applicant’s Expected Family Contribution (EFC) reported on the SAR. The annual awards for 2016-2017 ranged from $500 to $2,900.
- The MG James Ursano Scholarship will not be awarded for second undergraduate degrees or for graduate degree programs.
- The scholarship funds are mailed directly to the school prior to each fall and spring semester. Funds are not provided for summer classes. The funds may be used for tuition, fees, books, supplies, and school room and board (either on or off campus).

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
- Student must be a dependent of a Soldier on federal active duty, a retired Soldier, or a deceased active or deceased retired Soldier.
- Student must be registered in DEERS (Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System).
- Student must be under the age of 23 (eligibility ends at the end of the semester/term in which the student reaches their 23rd birthday. Example – turning 23 in December would mean the scholarship would be awarded for fall term ONLY.)
- Student must remain unmarried for the entire academic year.
- Student must not be a member of the National Guard, Reserves, or other military branch
- Student must be enrolled, accepted, or pending acceptance as a full-time student in an accredited post-secondary or vocational institution listed in the US Department of Education’s Database of Accredited Postsecondary Institutions (http://ope.ed.gov/accreditation/Search.aspx). Because financial need is already met, students attending Service Academies are not eligible.
- Student must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Student may not already be fully funded by other sources. Any MG James Ursano Scholarship recipient who also receives funding from other sources (i.e. GI Bill, scholarships, VA benefits, etc.) may not be eligible to receive their full scholarship from AER. No student can receive funding above the school’s established Cost of Attendance – once all costs are covered, the school must return any remaining funds to AER. The Financial Aid Office at each school will determine the recipient’s final eligibility based on the student’s complete financial aid package.
SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

The application is available after 1 January 2017 on our website, www.aerhq.org. Under “Apply for Scholarship”, choose “Military Spouse” or “Dependent Children” to get started. The link to apply is at the bottom of each page. Returning applicants will login and begin the application. New applicants must first create an account. Then, the application may be completed. Once the application is completed, the required documents will be displayed. The application and all required documents must be submitted online by 3:00 pm EDT on 1 April 2017. Do not mail or email documents.

DESCRIPTIONS OF REQUIRED DOCUMENTS – ALL DUE BY 3:00 PM EDT ON 1 APRIL 2017.

1. APPLICATION
The 2017-2018 MG James Ursano Scholarship Application is available on our website after 1 January 2017.

2. LEAVE AND EARNINGS STATEMENT (LES)
If the Soldier sponsor is on active duty, the December 2016 LES must be provided.

3. TRANSCRIPTS
Transcripts must include all completed course work through the student’s fall 2016 semester and reflect the cumulative GPA based on a 4.0 scale. If the student has previous college credit, submit college transcripts. If no previous college, submit high school transcripts. Unofficial transcripts are acceptable as long as they include the student’s name, school name, and cumulative GPA based on a 4.0 scale. Transcripts must be in a non-editable format (such as pdf).

4. 2017-2018 STUDENT AID REPORT (SAR)
We use the Student Aid Report (SAR) from the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) to determine each applicant’s need. The FAFSA must be completed after 1 October each year at www.fafsa.ed.gov. The SAR can be downloaded from the FAFSA website a few days after the FAFSA application is completed. Be sure to complete the FAFSA early enough to allow time to receive your SAR. We require the COMPLETE SAR – please see our SAR instructions for more information.

5. FEDERAL TITLE 10 ORDERS (if applicable)
If the Soldier Sponsor is on Title 10 Active Guard or Reserve orders, upload a copy of the Title 10 Orders showing federal activation for the entire academic year (August 2017 – May 2018).

6. CASUALTY REPORT (if applicable)
If the Soldier died while on active duty, upload a copy of the casualty report. If you have already provided this document, it is on file and you will not be required to provide it again.

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PLEASE NOTE: All documents and the application must be submitted online. AER assumes no responsibility for applications or supporting documents not received by this office or not received in a timely manner. All changes to information furnished to AER must be submitted in writing to scholarships@aerhq.org. APPLICATIONS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER 3:00 pm EDT ON 1 APRIL 2017.

Updated 8 December 2016