



The
North Attleborough Federation of Teachers
Local 4292, MFT-AFT-AFL/CIO

Newsletter

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Newsletter prepared by Lori-Jeanne Veit

From the Desk of the President

Welcome to our "Scholarship Issue." If you or a family member are considering continuing your education in the next year, there may be a union scholarship that you qualify for in this issue. We encourage you to seek further information and apply.

A happy and healthy holiday season to all!

AFL-CIO Scholarships

The Massachusetts AFL-CIO, along with our affiliated local unions and labor/non-labor organizations, offer a scholarship program providing hundreds of scholarships totaling over one million dollars to union members, their children/step children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and non-union Massachusetts high school seniors. Please note that for union scholarships, each scholarship that is offered has its own criteria set by the donor. Students must meet the criteria in order to be eligible for that scholarship. To obtain information about this scholarship program, visit the Massachusetts AFL-CIO website.

NAFT Scholarships

The North Attleboro Federation of Teachers will award two \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors who are dependants of NAFT members. Applications will be available in February from your building representative.



Lee Anne Todd, *President*
Anne Oberti, *VicePresident*
Michael Stetkiewicz, *Treasurer*
Patty Coogan, *Secretary*

AFT Porter Scholarships

With input from AFT leaders, members and staff, and with the wholehearted approval and direction of the Porter family, the Robert G. Porter Scholars Program was established through a resolution passed by the AFT executive council in 1992.

There could be no finer way "to recognize the contributions and memory of Robert G. Porter, in perpetuity" than to foster the education of AFT members and their families, reasoned the drafters of the resolution.

A mix of national AFT contributions and voluntary contributions from AFT affiliates, members and friends make the scholars program possible for two purposes: to encourage members in good standing to learn more about labor or further their own career, and to support members' dependents.

All students must submit a well-researched essay as part of the application (see relevant application form for topic). As a measure of assistance, a list of relevant Web sites is recommended. Grant applicants must also submit an essay explaining how they would use the grant if awarded.

Program eligibility requirements

One-time \$1,000 Grant

- Must be an AFT member in good standing for at least one year
- Pursuing courses in their field of work.
- No full- or part-time AFT staff, state or local, may apply.

Four-year \$8,000 Postsecondary Scholarship

- Must be an AFT member's dependent
- Graduating high school senior

Parent or guardian must be an AFT member for at least one year

Check the AFT website for applications!



Union Plus Scholarship Program

The **Union Plus Scholarship Program**, sponsored by the Union Plus Education Foundation, is open to students attending or planning to attend a four-year college or university, a community college or a technical college or trade school.

Since 1992, the Union Plus Scholarship Program has awarded more than \$1.8 million to students of working families who want to begin or continue their secondary education. The program is open to members, spouses and dependent children of unions participating in any of the Union Plus programs. Members are not required to purchase any Union Plus products or participate in any Union Plus program to apply.

The amount of the award ranges from \$500 to \$4,000. This is a competitive one-time cash award sent to individual winners for undergraduate study beginning in the fall of the same year.

Winners are chosen based on academic achievement and potential, character, leadership, social awareness, career goals and financial need. Applications are judged by a committee of impartial post-secondary educators.

Horace Mann Scholarship

Looking to continue your education? Horace Mann Scholarships are awarded annually in May and are paid directly to each recipient's college or university for tuition, fees and other educational expenses. Go to:

www.horacemann.com/resources/scholarships/eligibility.aspx

Scholarships include:

- One \$5,000 scholarship payable over four years.
- 15 \$1,000 scholarships payable over two years.
- 20 one-time \$500 scholarships.

You're eligible to apply if you're:

- A K-12 educator, with at least two years of teaching experience;
- Currently employed by a U.S. public or private school; and
- Planning to enter a two- or four-year accredited college or university.

Applicants will be judged on a written essay and their school and community activities.

AFT Mass Scholarships

AFT Massachusetts will award eight \$1,500 scholarships to graduating high school seniors. The criteria for the scholarship was recently published in the AFT Massachusetts Advocate newspaper.

To be considered for one of the scholarships, the student must be a dependent of an AFT Massachusetts member, a high school senior, and be a student at a college or other post secondary school in the fall of 2010.

Members must submit their application to the AFT Massachusetts office by Friday, December 18, 2009. To obtain an application call Jennifer Daniel at 617-423-3342 or 1-800-279-2523 or write to jdaniel@aftma.net.

Students must take the labor history exam on Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2010. To take the labor history exam, students should apply directly to their guidance office, social studies teacher, or principal by December 16, 2009. A packet including one labor history study guide and one application is sent to each high school in MA in November. To download a study guide, go to the Massachusetts AFL-CIO website:

www.massafcio.org/scholarship-program

AFT MASSachusetts—GET ACTIVE!

AFT Massachusetts has launched a new advocacy e-mail center. Given the major bills currently being considered by our legislature, it is vital that members let our representatives and senators know the detrimental effect these bills will have on our public schools and teachers' voices.

Visit the AFT Massachusetts Website at www.aftma.net. Click on the Take Action button.
