



# GUIDE TO THE 11th ACVVC SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Effective January 1, 2018

## 11th Armored Cavalry Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia

Scholarship Chairman Michael "Doc" Rafferty

Scholarship applications for each school year beginning Fall Semester must be received by May 15 of the same calendar year.

The following information is provided to help our members and their children and grandchildren understand how our Scholarship Program works and how the program was developed.

### THE 11<sup>th</sup> ACVVC SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

The number of **11<sup>th</sup> Armored Cavalry Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia** Scholarship Awards may vary from year to year based upon the amount of donations received from the Association's fund raising activities and the size of each award as determined by the Board of Directors. The Scholarship Awards will **only be paid directly to the recipient's educational institution** for valid educational expenses incurred up to the total amount of the award.

In addition, one recipient will be selected to receive a special **Colonel Charles L. Schmidt Leadership Scholarship** award in honor of former 11<sup>th</sup> ACVVC President Chuck Schmidt for his leadership and his complete dedication and devotion to the **11<sup>th</sup> Cavalry "Blackhorse" Troopers** of the Vietnam War. **Chuck died on Veterans Day 2007** as a result of Agent Orange related cancer shortly after being elected to his third term as President.

### THE CRITERIA FOR APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

**An applicant must fall into one of the following categories:**

- 1. A child or grandchild of a deceased 11<sup>th</sup> Armored Cavalry Regiment trooper who was killed in action or died as a result of their service in Vietnam or Cambodia.**
- 2. A child or grandchild of a current member of the 11<sup>th</sup> ACVVC in *good standing*.**
- 3. "Child" is defined as a natural born, adopted or step-child.**
- 4. "Grandchild" is defined as a natural born, adopted or step-grandchild.**
- 5. The trooper sponsoring the applicant must be a life member of the 11<sup>th</sup> ACVVC or an annual member for at least 1 year as of the May 15<sup>th</sup> deadline.**

### ADDITIONAL CRITERIA AND INFORMATION

There is no age limit for applicants. Scholarships are **for undergraduate studies only**. Enrollment in Trade School and vocational school programs are also acceptable as long as they are post-high school. A maximum of one scholarship award will be approved for any applicant.



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## HOW TO APPLY

The applicant must **[1]** Fill out the Scholarship Application Form completely; **[2]** Attach grade transcripts from the most recent two years of high school or college (**A 3.0 minimum GPA is required**). The Scholarship Chairman must receive both of the above items from the applicant **no later than** the deadline of **May 15** of each year or any announced extension of that date.

The Scholarship Application is available on the website at [www.11thcavnam.com](http://www.11thcavnam.com). An Application may also be requested by mail or email from the Scholarship Chairman.

## JUDGING

### Scholarship Applicants are judged in two categories:

- 1. Grade Point Average (GPA) from the most recent two years in an educational institution (minimum requirement of 3.0).** The Scholarship Chairman shall determine the GPA for each applicant.
- 2. Extra-curricular and volunteer activities.** A qualified person who is not a member of the 11<sup>th</sup> ACVVC will determine a score for the volunteer and extra-curricular activities listed on each applicant's application (maximum score 1 point).

**Scoring Example:** An applicant has a GPA of 3.42 and in addition receives a score of .75 for their extra-curricular activities. The two scores are added together for a final score 4.17.

## DETERMINATION AND NOTIFICATION OF SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The 11<sup>th</sup> ACVVC Board of Directors will determine the number of Scholarship awards to be granted in any given year based on the available donated funds and the dollar amount determined for each scholarship award. **The Scholarship Chairman will then apply that number to the list of applicants in descending score order to determine who will receive scholarships.**

Every effort will be made to notify all recipients of an 11<sup>th</sup> ACVVC Scholarship in writing by early August. The recipient's notification e mail will include instructions to arrange for the scholarship funds to be sent to the educational institution the recipient is attending. Recipients will have up to **36 months** from the date of the notification e mail to provide verification of enrollment and to arrange for payment of scholarship funds, as directed in the notification e mail, to the educational institution.



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**Colonel Charles L. Schmidt's Leadership Scholarship Award:** A designated representative or family member of deceased Colonel Charles L. Schmidt will decide the recipient of the special Colonel Charles L. Schmidt's Leadership Scholarship award. The representative will select one recipient based on criteria of her/his choosing, but with an emphasis on demonstrated leadership. Currently, the designated family member is Colonel Charles L. Schmidt's widow, **Mrs. Bonnie Schmidt**. Mrs. Schmidt has committed to pay **\$1000** from Colonel Schmidt's estate to the recipient of this award. The **\$1000** will be paid **in addition** to the 11<sup>th</sup> ACVVC Scholarship Award.

## **HISTORY OF THE 11th ACVVC SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

The 11<sup>th</sup> Armored Cavalry Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia is an IRS 501(c)(19) non-profit association chartered in 1986. The membership decided at the 1996 Reunion Membership Meeting to form a scholarship committee to establish a Scholarship Program exclusively for 11th ACVVC members, children of our members, children of our KIAs, and children of our deceased members. The program has evolved and grown over the years. From 1996 through 2017, **397 scholarships totaling \$1,294,000** have been awarded by our membership to deserving students. Member donations and fund raising activities within the 11<sup>th</sup> ACVVC membership are the primary means of funding the Scholarship Program. The annual fund raising activities include donations received for the Blackhorse Calendar, a Raffle, and a Silent Auction held each year at the annual reunion.

The Board of Directors voted in 2001 that a portion of the income generated from the Association's investment accounts might be used to help fund the Scholarship Program. During the 2001 Scholarship season, it was decided that the intent and spirit of the 11<sup>th</sup> ACVVC Scholarship Program was to benefit the children of all members - and members themselves if qualified. After a long discussion, the consideration of financial need was **removed** from the criteria.

The Board of Directors voted in January 2006 that the 11th ACVVC Scholarship program would only award scholarships to undergraduate students.

In August 2008 the Board of Directors determined that it needed to allocate the first \$25,000 of donations received from 2009 calendar sales to offset the deficit on the improvement and preservation of the 11<sup>th</sup> Armored Cavalry Regiment's Memorial at Fort Knox.

Effective for 2008, each recipient's Scholarship Award will be dedicated to honor the service and the ultimate sacrifice of a specific 11<sup>th</sup> Cavalry "Blackhorse" Trooper who was Killed In Action (**KIA**) in Vietnam or Cambodia. The Blackhorse KIAs to be honored each year will be selected on an impartial and random basis.

In 2013 the 11<sup>th</sup> ACVVC Board of Directors voted to make Graduate and Doctoral students eligible for the scholarship program.



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In 2017 the 11<sup>th</sup> ACVVC Board of Directors voted to make grandchildren of our membership as well as grandchildren of deceased 11<sup>th</sup> Armored Cavalry troopers who died as a result of their service in Vietnam or Cambodia eligible for the scholarship program. The Board of Directors also voted to remove graduate students from eligibility in the program. Finally, the Board approved requiring sponsors of applicants to be life members of the 11<sup>th</sup> ACVVC or annual members for at least one year.

We thank the thousands of Troopers, their supportive families and loved ones, and all who have contributed so generously over the years to make this program a success. All of us together, contributing what we can, have helped make this program one for which we can all be proud.

### **Address for Completed Applications with Attachments:**

**11th ACVVC Scholarship  
ATTN: Mike "Doc" Rafferty, Chairman  
PO Box 13188  
Las Cruces, NM 88013**

**For QUESTIONS**, please send me an e-mail at: [platoonmedic36@gmail.com](mailto:platoonmedic36@gmail.com). E-mail is my preferred method of contact but if you do not have access to E-mail you may call me at 575-915-2921.

Sincerely,  
Mike "Doc" Rafferty  
11<sup>th</sup> ACVVC Scholarship Committee Chairman  
Board of Directors Member  
G Troop medic (1969-1970)