

**Rolling Thunder® , Inc.
Indiana Chapter #1
Scholarship Program
2022**



The lives of Military individuals and families are forever changed as a result of their service to country.

It is in this spirit of military fellowship that
Rolling Thunder Indiana Chapter #1
offers this scholarship to one student per academic year.

Preface

The Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Story

In the fall of 1987, Artie Muller and Ray Manzo, two Vietnam veterans met to discuss their personal concerns about the POW/MIA's from the Vietnam War. Having honorably served their country and having taken an oath to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies..." and to "bear true faith and allegiance to the same," they were deeply troubled by the abhorrent neglect of attention given to those who did not make it out with their lives or their freedom. These veterans discussed the more than 10,000 reported sightings of live Americans living in dismal captivity. Intelligence reports of these sightings were generally ignored by the government and mainstream press.

Incorporated in 1995, Rolling Thunder®, Inc. is a class 501(c) (4) non-profit organization with over 90 chartered chapters throughout the United States and members abroad. While many members of Rolling Thunder®, Inc. are veterans and many ride motorcycles, neither qualification is a prerequisite for membership. Rolling Thunder®, Inc. members are old and young, men and women, veterans and non-veterans. All are united in the cause to bring full accountability for the Prisoners Of War-Missing In Action (POW/MIA) of all wars, reminding the government, the media and the public by our watchwords: "We Will Not Forget.

The First Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Demonstration

The Founders of Rolling Thunder®, Inc., Artie Muller and Ray Manzo, were ordinary men who understood that they had a right to have their voices heard and proceeded to lay down the plans for a gathering in Washington, D.C. during the 1988 Memorial Day weekend. They reached out to their families, fellow veterans and veteran's advocates to unify and form a march and demonstration in the nation's Capital. Their arrival would be announced by the roar of their motorcycles, a sound not unlike the 1965 bombing campaign against North Vietnam dubbed Operation Rolling Thunder. Hence, they would call themselves "Rolling Thunder®, Inc." a title that would endure time and be trademarked in 1990. Word spread quickly and by Memorial Day weekend in 1988, approximately 2,500 motorcycles from all over the country converged on Washington, D.C. to demand from our leaders a full accounting of all POW/MIA's. As the Founders of Rolling Thunder®, Inc. made their stand that day in front of the Capitol, they reflected thankfully for the people who came in support of the POW/ MIA's and for the unity that was felt. This was the first Rolling Thunder®, Inc. demonstration. Only until ALL POW/MIA's ARE ACCOUNTED FOR, it will not be their last. On that day, the foundation was laid for the annual "Ride for Freedom" to the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Wall (also referred to as the "Ride to the Wall"). The number of participants/spectators in the Memorial Day weekend Ride for Freedom has grown from 2,500 to an estimated 900,000.

Mission Statement

The major function of Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Indiana Chapter #1 is to publicize the POW-MIA issue: To educate the public that many American Prisoners of War were left behind after all previous wars and to help correct the past and to protect the future Veterans from being left behind should they become Prisoners of War-Missing In Action. We are committed to helping American Veterans from all wars. Rolling Thunder®, Inc. is a non-profit organization, and everyone donates his or her time because they believe in the POW/MIA issue.

Purpose

Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Indiana Chapter #1 scholarship is intended to help recent graduating high school students or GED recipients seeking a higher education at a college, university or trade school in order to cover the costs of educational expenses (e.g. tuition, fees, books, and on-campus room and board ...) for the given year.

Scholarship Award

The scholarship is in the amount of \$1,000.00 and will be paid directly to the school the applicant has selected to attend. The scholarship is for an undergraduate or trade school applicant enrolled as a full-time student in an accredited institution. This is a onetime award for the applicant.

The scholarship will be awarded during the Rolling Thunder Indiana Chapter #1 July Chapter meeting at the Fort Harrison Veterans Center or at another designated time and place. Application deadline is April 30th and the Scholarship Committee decision will be made by June 30th.

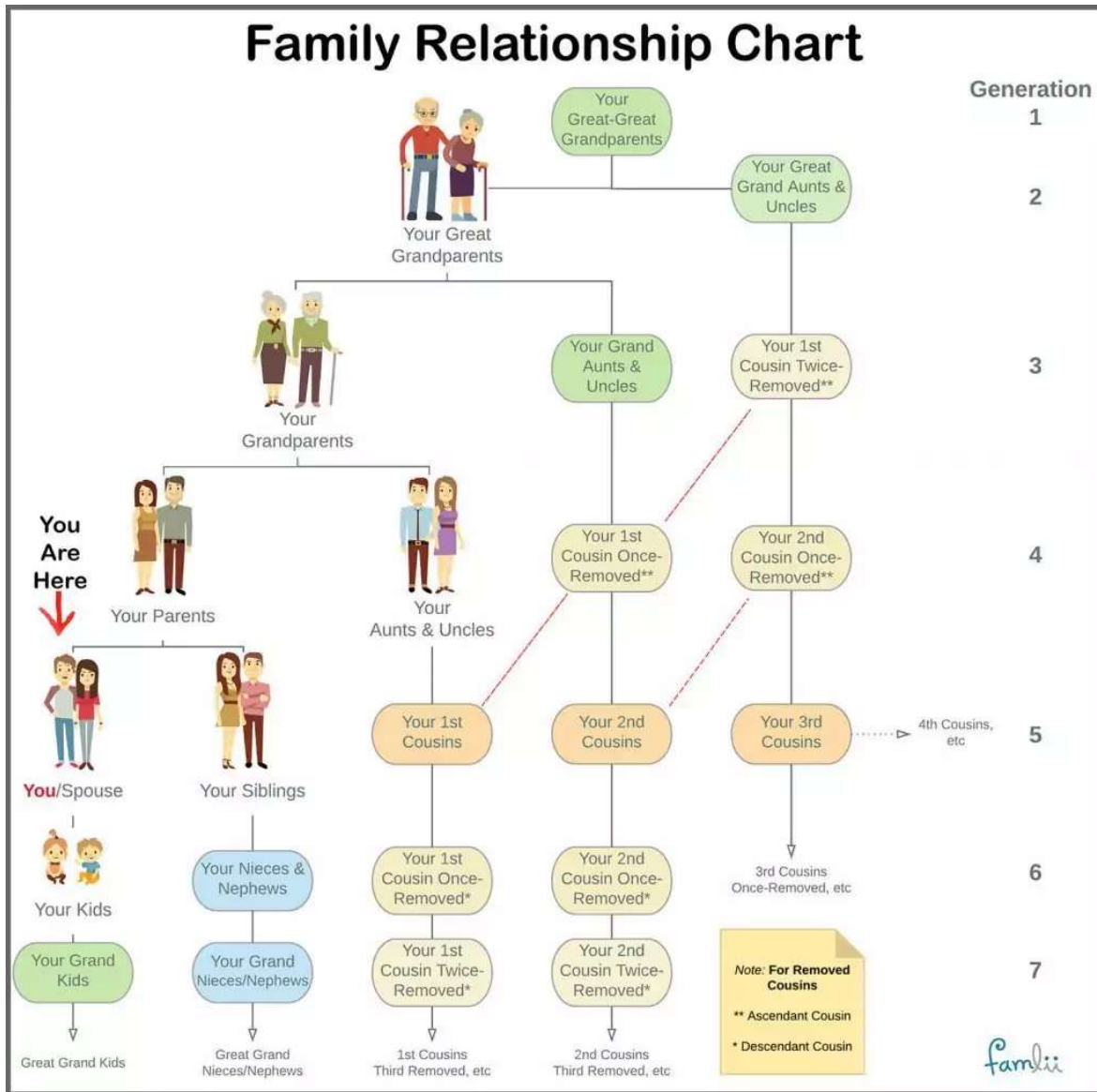
This scholarship is awarded based upon the decision of the Scholarship Committee and the Board of Directors.

Eligibility Criteria

- Applicant must be a family member of a former Prisoner of War (POW) or Service Member currently listed as Missing in Action (MIA). The service member's MIA status can be verified on the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) at <https://www.dpaa.mil>.
- Applicant must be a current resident of Indiana.
- A copy of the acceptance letter from an accredited college, university or trade school must be presented to receive the award.

Family Relationship

Family Member means a person who is a spouse, former spouse, child, stepchild, grandchild, parent, stepparent, grandparent, niece, nephew, aunt, uncle, cousin, mother-in-law, father-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother, sister, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law, including adoptive relationships.



If you have a family service member that is unaccounted for, or if you know of a family that has a service member unaccounted for, it is very important that the family members provide a DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) sample to the Armed Forces Identification laboratory for identification purposes. Please refer to the Family References Sample Program listed on our website at [Family Reference Samples \(FRS\) Program \(indianarollingthunder.com\)](http://indianarollingthunder.com) for more details.

Proof of Eligibility

- Explain how the applicant is related to the POW/MIA and provide verification of this relationship from an immediate family member of the POW/MIA.
- Proof of Indiana Residency.
 - Indiana Driver License, or
 - BMV issued ID Card.

Submission Requirements

- A few sentences about your educational goals.
- Write at least a 500-word essay on “The History of United States Prisoners of War (POW) and Missing in Action (MIA)”. Essays will be judged based on originality, creativity, organization of thought, and academics (e.g., spelling, punctuation, and grammar).
- Submit 3 references from non-family members (e.g., school counselors, teachers, pastors, adult friends, neighbors etc.). The reference should describe your qualifications, character, and any other personal information they would like to share with the Scholarship Committee.

How to Apply for a Scholarship

Applications are available from the Rolling Thunder Indiana Chapter #1 web site, <http://indianarollingthunder.com/scholarship.html>, or by writing or faxing to:

**Rolling Thunder Indiana Chapter #1
Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 26458
Indianapolis, Indiana 46226**

Fax 317-991-3188

All scholarship applications are to be submitted to the Scholarship Committee of Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Indiana Chapter #1 no later than April 30th of the requested academic year.

Please feel free to contact the Scholarship Committee Chair with any questions about eligibility or any other questions. Phone Number: 317-991-3085, Fax 317-991-3188, e-mail address: RTIN1.scholar@att.net.

Additional Notes

All essays submitted become the intellectual property of Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Indiana Chapter #1.

Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Indiana Chapter #1 will not use the private information or images provided by the applicants in any form other than the awarded recipient's name and photo images to be stated within Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Indiana Chapter #1 Newsletter and web site without their written permission.

Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Indiana Chapter #1 will not use your contact information to send you spam advertising messages or sell it to other advertisers.

It is not required but it would be appreciated if the Scholarship Award winner sends the Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Indiana Chapter #1 an acknowledgement that the school did receive the scholarship check and how it was used to further their education. This would be appreciated by the Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Indiana Chapter #1 members to encourage us to continue to provide this type of scholarship.



Rolling Thunder® , Inc.
Indiana Chapter #1
Scholarship Application

Applicant Information:

Name _____	<input type="checkbox"/> phone _____ <input type="checkbox"/> email _____ <i>Check preferred means of contact.</i>
Mailing Address _____	
City _____ State _____ Zip _____	

Educational Information:

I am currently pursuing a (<i>check one</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> high school diploma or <input type="checkbox"/> GED credentials from: _____ My date of graduation (<i>or expected date</i>) is: _____ My educational ambition is: _____ _____ _____
I plan to attend: _____ <i>College/University/Trade School</i>

Eligibility:

Name of the former POW or MIA that is your relation: _____ Explain the relationship you have with this POW/MIA (<i>attach additional information as needed to include verification of this relationship from an immediate family member of the POW/MIA</i>): _____ _____ _____
Proof of Applicant's Indiana residency: Enclose with this application a copy of your <u>Indiana driver's license or ID card from the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles.</u>

Optional notes or comments (additional information about yourself that you would like to Scholarship Committee to know about you):

_____ _____ _____ _____

Rolling Thunder® , Inc.
Indiana Chapter #1
Scholarship Application

Requirements:

- An essay of not less than 500 words is to be submitted with this application on the subject of:

**"The History of United States Prisoner of War (POW)
and Missing in Action (MIA)"**

The essay will be judged based on originality, creativity, organization of thought, and academics (e.g. spelling, punctuation, and grammar). The essay should be doubled spaced using 12 point font.

- This application and essay may be submitted by email to RTIN1.scholar@att.net or mailed to:

Rolling Thunder Indiana Chapter #1
P.O. Box 26458
Indianapolis, IN 46226

- 3 references from non-family members (e.g. school counselors, teachers, pastors, adult friends or neighbors etc.) attesting to your qualifications and character are to be submitted with this application.
- Application and paper must be received by April 30th of the current scholarship year. (Winner will be announced on or before June 30.)
- A copy of the acceptance letter from an accredited college, university or trade school must be presented to receive the award. A check in the amount of the scholarship will be issued to that school to be applied to cover any educational expenses, as necessary.

Attestation:

I _____ confirm the information submitted is correct and accurate, and that I authored the essay submitted.

Signature

Date

