

**Kansas Scouting Program
2025-2026
Gerald Humbert Scouting Scholarship**

The first-place selectee will be declared the “Kansas Scout of the Year” and receive a \$300.00 scholarship. He or she will also be awarded a Plaque and a “Letter of Congratulations” signed by the Department Commander. The second-place runner-up in the Kansas competition will receive a \$ 200.00 scholarship, a “Letter of Congratulations” for this achievement.

- The sponsoring VFW Post has the “Option” to reward their winning entry a cash award and a “Letter of Congratulations” from the Post Commander.
- All scouts submitting an entry for the Kansas “Scout of the Year” competition will receive a Certificate from Department Commander.

All scouts as defined in the VFW National Scout of the Year Official Entry Form are eligible compete for the Kansas Scout of the Year awards. All competing scouts must reside in the State of Kansas and comply with the deadlines as defined by the VFW National Headquarters. Entry forms are available on-line at <https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/scout-of-the-year> or call: 816-756-3390 ext. 6155 and request the official entry form and a copy of the “Scout of the Year Judge’s Score Sheet”.

- Any Scout who obtains his/her organization’s highest rank can compete for the Kansas Scout of the Year. They must be between 15 – 18 years old and still in high school.
- **There is no limit as to how many scouts a VFW post can sponsor** for Scout of the Year if they meet the requirements of eligibility listed on the VFW entry form.
- Please note, the Post **will forward ALL entries for Scout of the Year to the State Scouting Chairperson in order that all entries are judged using the same standards by members of the Selection Committee. (The Post is relieved of judging the entry.)**
- Note: Once the scout completes all the necessary VFW requirements as listed on the entry form, he or she delivers the entry information to the sponsoring VFW Post’s Scouting representative by the dates outlined on the entry form.
- The Post’s scouting representative should review each candidate’s resume package to insure it meets **all the necessary requirements**. Each resume package should include the scout’s GPA, rank in class, specific achievements and honors achieved and letters of recommendation and a Picture in Uniform recommend size 3"x5". This data will assist the **Department’s Selection Committee in the grading process.**

March 1st, 2025 - Deadline for entry to a local VFW Post.

April 1st, 2025– All judged entries with winners to Department Chairman.

May 1st, 2025 - Deadline for submission to (National HQ. from the Department Headquarters)

The Department of Kansas **will issue a reminder to every VFW Post for a donation** to assist in funding the costs of the Scouting program. This donation is due **March 1st of each calendar year**. Any Post not donating or submitting a Scout of the Year Packet will not be eligible for that part of the All-State program.

- Kansas VFW “All State” Award. For a Post to qualify for “All State” status they must sponsor a minimum of one candidate for “Scout of the Year” plus a \$10.00 donation to Kansas Scouting Fund or without a packet donate \$25.00 to the Kansas scouting fund.

Community Service Reporting

Reporting your involvement with local Scout Units is important to ensure National’s continuing support of the scouting program. You can report the activity on the Community Service Report on the Website. Report all contact and activities your Post participates with local Scout Units. Use of Post facilities; VFW members that are Scout Leaders; or helpers in sponsoring a scout unit; donations to Department Scouting Programs; Any Scouts that help in with your projects; or donating to Scout projects need to be reported. Remember all Scouting activities count so report it.

Thank you for your support and involvement in Scouting.

Paul Saliger
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Veterans of Foreign Wars
of the United States
SCOUT OF THE YEAR

Application Instructions

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY SCOUT OF THE YEAR CANDIDATE:

Section A -- HIGH SCHOOL PARTICIPATION RECORD

Please submit a resume of your High School Activities (9th-12th) to include a listing of offices held, honors received and significance of your participation in these activities. *The resume of these activities should be contained on one 8 1/2 X 11-inch page. The screening committee at all levels will only consider the information contained on this one page (one side only).*

Section B – ENTIRE SCOUTING RECORD

List your complete scouting record from Cub Scouts/Brownie (this includes Girls Scouts) on up, to include years of participation, Unit Numbers and Sponsors. Include information on when your Eagle Scout, Girl Scout Gold Award, Venture Summit or Sea Scout Quartermaster and Palms was received. Make sure you include any leadership positions held at all levels; list other Scouting activities you have participated in such as Jamborees, Order of the Arrow Conferences, etc....and succinctly describe your Eagle, Venture, or Quartermaster Project. *The resume of these activities should be contained on three 8 1/2 X 11-inch pages. The screening committee at all levels will only consider information on these three pages (front side of each sheet only).*

Section C – COMMUNITY SERVICE RECORD

Use one page to list community service and religious organizations you have participated in (excluding high school and scouting) and the activities that you were involved with as a part of these organizations. Note any leadership positions held and any accolades received. *The resume of these activities should be contained on one 8 1/2 X 11-inch page. The screening committee at all levels will only consider the information contained on this one page (one side only).*

Section D – LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

The screening committee will carefully review the letters submitted. Only five (5) letters will be allowed. One letter each from your school, community, and scout leader must be submitted. Two additional letters are allowed from other individuals within your community who may have a special knowledge of your abilities and/or accomplishments. *The screening committee will only consider five (5) letters at most. (Note: Letters should not exceed 2 pages.)*

- ▶ *Please be sure to use only this form when applying. Any other form or format will not be accepted into the competition.*
- ▶ *Please follow the procedures and requirements as written, to ensure that your application is reviewed and processed as quickly and accurately as possible. (Note: All typewritten entries must be legible and easily read.)*
- ▶ *Do not send completed application directly to VFW National Headquarters; all applications must be submitted to a VFW Post for initial consideration. The VFW Post will then submit to the Department for consideration as the Department winner.*

AUTHORIZATION

SCOUT CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the foregoing information is accurate and if I am the national winner, I will make myself available to receive the award at a presentation ceremony as designated by the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

SCOUT SIGNATURE _____ **Date:** _____

SCOUTMASTER OR VENTURE CREW ADVISOR CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the above-named Scout is an active member of our unit and the information supplied by the candidate is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

SCOUTMASTER OR ADVISOR SIGNATURE _____ **Date:** _____

PARENT'S CONSENT

I hereby certify that all information on this application is correct. I willingly submit this name for consideration as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Scout of the Year. If this individual is selected as the national winner, I will ensure that he/she can attend a presentation ceremony as designed by the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

FATHER, MOTHER OR GUARDIAN SIGNATURE _____ **Date:** _____

(SPECIAL HAND- OUT TO ASSIST ALL SCOUTS COMPETING FOR SCOUT OF THE YEAR)

INFORMATION EVERY SCOUT SHOULD INCLUDE WHEN COMPILING A RESUME FOR THE VFW KANSAS SCOUT OF THE YEAR AWARD!

General:

- a) Read and UNDERSTAND the information required as listed in the VFW Scout of the Year Brochure completely as published by the National VFW Headquarters.
- b) Be sure you meet all the eligibility requirements completely (especially the age requirements (15-18 yrs. old) and that you are still in high school.
- c) Be aware of specific deadlines.

Preparing Your Official Entry Information:

(This is the most important part of information that will be judged and graded using a specific point system by a Scout of the Year Selection Committee.)

- 1) Obtain a copy of the VFW Scout of the Year Judges Score Sheet. Call 816-756-3390 ext. 6155 and request a copy be E-mailed to you. This is the exact sheet used to grade all entries. It provides a breakdown of the four Classifications (that the judges use to award a maximum of 210 points) based on the information you submitted.
- 2) Package your data as if applying for college or a job. Make it stand out as professionally as possible in the order as listed on the VFW entry brochure.
- 3) High School Achievements (40 pts.) Scouts should obtain a copy of their High School Transcript which provides your GPA, Rank in Class, as a source of information.
- 4) Scouting (60 pts.) record is important. Explain the who-what-where- and why of your project. When describing your accomplishments- use specifics- tell why and how you accomplished your objective. Describe your Eagle, Gold, Summit and Sea Scout Project in detail. Use pictures or published articles.
- 5) Address why you should be the Kansas Scout of the Year.
- 6) Community Service (40 pts.)- Same as item (4).
- 7) Letters of Recommendations (70 pts.) These letters receive the most scrutiny of the committee and thus carry the most importance in grading points. The writer should not rely on generalities, but emphasize specifics, factual data that makes you stand out above your peers.

Below is the link for the Scout entry form/brochure

<https://vfworg-cdn.azureedge.net/-/media/VFWSite/Files/Community/Youth-and-Education/Scout-of-the-Year/ScoutoftheYearBrochureandEntryForm.pdf?v=1&d=20210708T183715Z&la=en>