

**MICHIGAN ELKS ASSOCIATION**  
**BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS**  
**A Fraternal Organization**



Charitable Grant Fund Scholarship Commission

**“Gold Key” Scholarship Program**

The Michigan Elks Association is offering scholarship programs for special-needs students who want to pursue higher education at an accredited educational institution or a licensed vocational school.

This scholarship is intended to aid qualifying seniors in high school, who could not otherwise continue their educational or training past high school, and is available for study at an accredited college, university, licensed trade or vocational school. Our purpose is to help them become self-respecting, self-reliant, self-supporting, contributing members of society.

Known as the “Gold Key”, this scholarship truly represents a golden key of opportunity for special needs students. Special needs are defined as being physically challenged, currently eligible for special education services under the Federal guidelines or may be approved by the Gold Key Commission of the Michigan Elks Association.

Each scholarship award will be in the amount of \$2,000.00 per year. Each may be renewable for up to three additional years, upon re-application by a prior recipient, who must also provide proof of attendance and good academic standing. All scholarships are in the form of certificates of award conditioned upon enrollment.

A member lodge of the Michigan Elks Association must sponsor the applicant.

"Gold Key" Scholarship Program

**Each application must be accompanied by the following:**

1. Official high school transcript(s).
2. Completed Student Application Form.
3. A letter of not over 200 words from parent(s)/guardian describing your family obligation, resources and need for financial assistance.
4. Three letters of recommendation from a high school teacher/counselor, a special educator/therapist, and one other, such as a responsible community member.
5. **The Individual Education Program Report supplied from the student's school.**
6. **A letter from doctor regarding "special needs" if applicant does not have an I.E.P. from the school.**
7. **A letter of acceptance from a school.**

All of the above should be returned to the sponsoring Lodge for its consideration and judging.

**The student should submit their applications (must be submitted online with all of the substantiating documentation) no later than December 1<sup>st</sup> of the current school year, to be considered for the following academic year. Judging will take place during February and recipients will be notified no later than March 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**PARENTAL FINANCIAL ANALYSIS**

Father's annual income before taxes	\$
Mother's annual income before taxes	\$
Gross Income (total of above)	\$
Number of Dependents (excluding mother and father)	#
Number of Dependents attending college	#
Medical and Dental expenses not paid by insurance	\$
Emergency expenses	\$
Total market value of home	\$
Amount of unpaid mortgage	\$
Do you own a business farm?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If so, what is the market value?	\$
What is the <i>net</i> profit?	\$
Value of bank accounts	\$
Value of other investments (stocks, etc.)	\$

Any unusual circumstances, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNED BY \_\_\_\_\_

(Parent/Legal Guardian)

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**APPLICATION FORM**

(Applications must be submitted, online, by December 1<sup>st</sup>)

Student's Name: Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ms. \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle Initial

Student's Address: \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Phone number

\_\_\_\_\_ City State Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_ Email Birth Date Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_

High School(s) Attended: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name and address of school for which scholarship will be used:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Names and Titles of individuals submitting Letter of recommendation:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sponsoring Lodge Name and No.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Sponsor/Exalted Ruler Date

## “Gold Key” Scholarship Program

### STUDENT INFORMATION FORM

Please provide information about yourself and address the following questions. Use additional paper if needed.

1. What is the nature and degree of your special needs?
2. What school have you chosen and why?
3. What are your educational/career goals?
4. How do you anticipate financing school?
5. What special equipment, devices, and/or supportive devices do you require?
6. What are your extracurricular activities, interests and/or hobbies?

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Name of Applicant (Signature)

### LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION INSTRUCTIONS

Three letters of recommendation from a high school teacher/counselor, a special educator/therapist, and one other, such as a responsible community member, are needed. The person should not be related to the applicant.

The letter writer should state how long he/she has known the applicant and in what capacity. The letter may cover applicant's ability, work habits, leadership, personality and integrity.

Please make a frank evaluation of the applicant's character, sincerity of purpose, appropriateness of goals, and your estimate of applicant's probable success in college/vocational school.

Please use whatever space is needed, but be sure to sign your recommendation online and submit your application.