



## AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY – DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

PO Box 140, Portage WI 53901  
608-745-0124 ♦ Fax 608-745-1947

### M. LOUISE WILSON EDUCATIONAL LOAN FUND INFORMATION

On February 4, 1925, the Executive Committee of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Wisconsin, established the M. Louise Wilson Educational Loan Fund with the sum of \$200.00. Since 1925 the maintenance and growth of the fund has been entirely dependent upon the repayment of loans and voluntary contributions from Units and friends of the American Legion Auxiliary.

The purpose of the fund is to aid women veterans, and the mothers, wives, daughters, granddaughters, grandmothers, and sisters of honorably discharged veterans to attain a higher education. If living, the veteran is required to be a member of The American Legion or American Legion Auxiliary. A copy of the veteran's DD214 (discharge papers) is required.

An **interest-free** loan of \$800.00 may be paid annually and can be renewed for up to five years, for a total loan limit of \$4,000.00, to women enrolled in college on a full-time basis. There shall be no interest charge unless the loan is in default.

The usual time for processing a loan is approximately a month. All loans must be co-signed by a responsible party, usually a parent or guardian.

### GENERAL RULES

1. Applicant must be a resident of the state of Wisconsin and a member of the American Legion Auxiliary. Applicant must also keep her dues current while receiving loans and until her loan is paid in full. To find a unit in your area to join, call Department Headquarters at 608-745-0124.
2. Applicant must be a graduate of an accredited high school with a scholastic average that would place her in the upper half of her class.
3. A copy of the applicant's high school grade transcript. Three letters of personal references must also be sent with the completed application. References will be accepted from school superintendents, counselor/teacher, local businessman/employer, clergy, etc. (References from relatives are not acceptable.)
4. A copy of the Veteran's DD-214 discharge paper must be enclosed with the completed application.
5. Send completed loan application, references and copy of grade transcript to the current Department Chairman, Joan Chwala – W13567 County Rd M – Gilman WI 54433.
6. **VERY IMPORTANT** – Student must notify Chairman of change of address/phone number, graduation, or withdrawal from full-time academic status.

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7. When requesting successive loans, applicant is to send a letter of request to the current American Legion Auxiliary Chairman of the M. Louise Wilson Educational Loan Fund, along with a current transcript of grades to show her work is satisfactory. Loans can only be paid every 12 months.
8. When additional loans are granted, the original loan will be cancelled and consolidated with the new loan. In that way only one payment will be required per month, when reimbursement is made.
9. Repayment of loans shall be made in payments of not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) per month, starting within six months after the promissory graduates or ceases to be a full-time academic student. Payments are to be made by check or money order and made payable to M. Louise Wilson Educational Loan Fund and mailed to ALA Department Headquarters, P.O. Box 140, Portage, WI 53901. Applicant should keep cancelled check or money order as her payment receipt. The current Department Chairman will send an acknowledgement along with your current balance. Applicant should keep cancelled check or money order as her payment receipt.
10. **The student and loan co-signer are *legally* responsible to pay the balance of the loan when due, plus any additional costs or legal fees if the loan is in default and referred for collection.**

All questions regarding the M Louise Wilson Educational Loan Fund will be answered by the current Department Chairman.