



# Woody and Louise Reed “Bridge to Life” Scholarship

*A Bridge to Higher Education*

The Woody and Louise “Bridge to Life” Scholarship program provides support to burn survivors and immediate family members of burn survivors who seek financial support to continue their education or receive technical training. Through the Woody and Louise “Bridge to Life” Scholarship, the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation and Reed family support burn survivors and immediate family members of burn survivors to reach their highest potential through continued education beyond high school.

For more information on how to apply for the Scholarship or to receive an application, please contact us at 1-800-242-BURN (2476) or visit [www.aarbf.org](http://www.aarbf.org).

## ELIGIBILITY

Qualifying applicants must be a burn survivor or the immediate family member of a burn survivor; had his/her life and livelihood impacted by a burn injury and meet each of the following requirements:

1. Applicants must provide proof of enrollment in one of the following accredited institutions:
  - Two year college (Junior College)
  - Four year college (University)
  - Post-graduate program (Master’s or PhD)
  - Trade/Vocational School
2. Current GPA of 2.5 or greater (on a 4.0 scale)
3. **Burn Survivor Applicants** must have an established rapport with the burn community through:
  - Past Champ Camp camper or past/current Counselor-in-Training (CIT) experience;
  - Champ Camp counselor experience;
  - Attended four (4) AARBF burn support group or recreational activities; or
  - Provide a referral from a burn foundation or burn unit for leadership and volunteerism within their programs.
4. **Immediate Family Members of Burn Survivor Applicants** are defined as a spouse, domestic partner, cohabitant, child, stepchild, grandchild, parent, stepparent, mother-in-law, father-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, grandparent, great grandparent, brother, sister, half-brother, half-sister, stepsibling, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, or first cousin. Immediate Family Members of Burn Survivor Applicants must have an established rapport with the burn community through meeting at least two of the following criteria:
  - Have supported the survivor through his or her recovery as described in the personal essay;
  - Have attended or volunteered at (3) AARBF burn survivor support groups, holiday parties or recreational event;

- Provide a referral from a burn foundation or burn unit for leadership and volunteerism within their programs.
5. Submit a complete application packet that includes:
- Completed application
  - Copy of FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form or letter stating why a FAFSA form is not available
  - Personal Essay describing the impact of the burn injury on the life of the applicant and its effect on the applicant's educational goals (12pt font, double spaces, 1 inch margin, 500 words maximum)
  - Two letters of reference
  - Official high school and College transcripts (if applicable)

### **Selection Process**

1. Scholarships up to \$2,000.00 each are awarded each year.
2. Scholarship applications and materials must be postmarked no later than \_\_\_\_\_ to be eligible for the 2019-2020 school year.
3. The Scholarship Review Committee will evaluate applications based on eligibility, greatest need and overall educational achievement.
  - Awards will be announced by \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Notifications will be send to all applicants regardless of scholarship was awarded.
4. Applicants may apply annually for the Scholarship. Previous receipt of a Scholarship does not guarantee nor preclude an applicant from future Scholarship awards.

### **Financial Disbursement**

1. Each individual disbursement made will be 50% of the total Scholarship award amount directly to the educational institution, to be used over the academic year. Total award amounts must be distributed by August \_\_\_\_\_. All unclaimed funds will be forfeited. Disbursements may be determined by:
  - Quarterly/and or semester sessions;
  - Proof of continued enrollment; and
  - Proof of a GPA of 2.5 or higher.
2. The disbursement will be used only for the following purposes:
  - Registration fees and/or
  - School supplies (required text books, required materials and classroom fees).
3. The disbursements shall be sent directly to:
  - Financial Aid Office of educational institution;
  - Educational institution (or approved) bookstore; or
  - With prior authorization only, to the individual on a reimbursement basis (receipts MUST be provided by the recipient).

**If any time any of the above criteria are not met, the Scholarship will be revoked.**



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## Scholarship Application

### 1. BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: Street and Number \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a high school diploma?  YES  NO Year Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Check One:  Burn Survivor  Immediate Family Member of Burn Survivor

### 2. EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION: Please answer according to your current educational institution.

Institution Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Grade Level in Fall Semester:

Freshman  Sophomore  Junior  Senior  Graduate  Other

Check here if you are applying for a Graduate Program (Master's Degree or higher) and would like to be considered for the "Aiming Higher" Scholarship.

Most recent GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ Institution's GPA scale (i.e. 4.0 Scale): \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit your Official High School and/or Official College Transcripts (if applicable). *Unofficial Transcripts may be accepted if accompanied with a letter explaining why Official Transcripts are unavailable. Final transcripts must be received before first award disbursement is made.*

**3. AARBF AND BURN COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION: Please list AARBF and/or burn community events that you have participated in. Be sure to include dates and roles. (Example: Champ Camp, June 2017, Camp Counselor). Attach additional sheet if necessary.**

EVENT

DATE(S)

ROLE

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**4. PERSONAL ESSAY: Include a Personal Essay on a separate sheet that addresses the following Questions (12pt font, double spaces, 1 inch margin, 500 words maximum):**

- What is your major and why did you choose this field of study?
- What are your career goals and how will your education help you reach those goals?
- **Burn Survivor Applicants:** How has your burn injury affected your educational goals?
- **Immediate Family Members of Burn Survivor Applicants:** What is your experience of supporting a loved one through his or her burn injury and how has the experience affected your educational goals?

**5. STUDENT FINANCIAL INFORMATION: Please complete as reported on your most recent FAFSA form or tax return.**

Your residence during the school year:  Family Home  Dorm  Other

Student Annual Income: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Annual Income: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you financially supported by parents, guardians or other family members?  Yes  No

Value of the monthly monetary or living support provided by the family: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you receiving educational grants and scholarships?  Yes  No

Please list all financial support you will receive in 2019-2020 (Attach additional sheet if necessary):

| Name of Scholarship/Grant | Year Awarded | Award Amount |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|
|                           |              |              |
|                           |              |              |
|                           |              |              |

Are you the sole wage earner?  Yes  No      Are you supporting dependents?  Yes  No

Number of dependents supported: \_\_\_\_\_ Dependents' Age(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete all anticipated out-of-pocket educational expenses for the academic year

| Category                     | Cost | Details |
|------------------------------|------|---------|
| Registration Fees            |      |         |
| Text Books                   |      |         |
| Required Classroom Materials |      |         |
| Other Classroom Fees         |      |         |

Please include a copy of your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form for income verification. If a FAFSA form was not completed or applicable, please include a letter stating why a FAFSA form is not available.

**6. LETTERS OF REFERENCE:** Please include two (2) letters of reference from an employer, educational institution or personal contact that detail a positive working relationship and belief in your future success.

**Scholarship Awardee Agreement**

- I understand that any Woody and Louise Reed “Bridge to Life” Scholarship awarded to me will be contingent on my continued enrollment and maintaining a 2.5 GPA.
- I agree to only use the Scholarship funds for tuition, required textbooks, class materials and fees related to my education at an accredited institution of higher learning in the United States.
- I agree to send a thank you note and photo of myself to the Scholarship Committee, no later than after the first Scholarship award disbursement.
- I agree to submit a one-page report upon the final disbursement of the Scholarship award, updating the Scholarship Committee as to how the funds were used and how the Scholarship has positively impacted my life.
- If I withdraw from school during the term, I will immediately notify the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation and may forfeit any unused portion of the award amount.
- I further understand that I may reapply for this Scholarship annually.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*By my signature, I certify that the information provided on this application is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge.*



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## Check List

Deadline for Scholarship applications is \_\_\_\_\_.  
Applications postmarked after this date will not be considered.

Please be sure to include all of the following **required items** in your Scholarship submission:

- Complete application
- FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form or letter stating why a FAFSA form is not available
- Personal Essay
- Two** (2) letters of reference
- Official High School and/or Official College Transcripts (if applicable). *Unofficial Transcripts may be accepted if accompanied with a letter explaining why Official Transcripts are unavailable. Final transcripts must be received before first award disbursement is made.*

### Important Dates

| Application Deadline | Award Notification | First 50% Award Disbursement | Final 50% Award Disbursement |
|----------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
|                      |                    |                              |                              |

**Please submit Scholarship items to:**  
Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation  
Woody and Louise Reed “Bridge to Life” Scholarship  
50 N. Hill Ave. Suite 305  
Pasadena, CA 91106

For questions or assistance with the Scholarship application, contact Jan Share, Operations Manager at 1-800-242-BURN (2876) or [jshare@aarbf.org](mailto:jshare@aarbf.org).