

## **AFT Connecticut Scholarship Program Guidelines**

The AFT Connecticut Scholarship Program provides funding to people selected by the Scholarship Committee based on applications submitted by those seeking a AFT Connecticut Scholarship. The Executive Committee votes on the recommendations made by the Scholarship Committee at its April meeting each year, and the Scholarships are presented at the Awards Banquet session of the Annual Business Convention.

The Scholarship Program will be announced in January each year, and will be advertised on [aftct.org](http://aftct.org) and in mailings to local presidents. The deadline for applications will be a postmark of April 1, or the closest business day to April 1 in each year. The deadline for submission of applications will be strictly adhered to. The applications must be complete and the responsibility for their completeness lies with the applicant. (The application requires submission of copies of 1040 Forms for verification of financial status. Applicants are welcome to include *(in addition to the 1040)* a Student Aid Report obtained from submission of a FAFSA.)

The awards will be presented to those candidates selected by the Scholarship Selection Committee, which will be appointed by the AFT Connecticut Executive Committee. The dollar value of each award will be determined each year by the committee based on academic promise, financial need, and other criteria the committee chooses. The George C. Springer scholarship will be awarded to an AFT Connecticut member meeting the eligibility requirements.

Scholarships paid to students are in accordance with Code Section 117(a), specifically Section 117(b)(2), of the Internal Revenue regulations, and as such are non-taxable. Should the money be used for any purpose other than as outlined in the IRS Codes, it shall be subject to the appropriate taxes, or forfeited by the recipient.

Persons eligible to apply for the scholarships are members, members' spouses or domestic partners, or children of members. Grandchildren of members are also eligible if they are legal dependents and/or the grandparents are financially responsible for the child. The member applicant or the member upon whom the applicant bases his /her eligibility must be must be a member of an AFT Connecticut local in good standing.

### **Primary Criteria for Selection**

- Grades/academic promise
- Ability to pay"/parent's financial status
- Extracurricular Activities/ Service to Community
- Ability to Communicate

### **Tie-breaking Criteria**

- Attendance at public v. private high school
- Has the local had previous scholarship winners?
- "Unusual" circumstances
- "Keeping the dollars in the state" (i.e., a preference for candidates attending CT institution)