

September 8, 2020

**For immediate release,**

Once again it is time to seek outstanding high school seniors to apply for the second largest scholarship program in the nation; The Elks “Most Valuable Student Scholarship Award Program”.

The Elks help students recognize their academic dreams. Each year, the Elks National Foundation awards more than \$3 million in college scholarships to at least 800 outstanding, service-minded high school seniors. Once you're an Elks scholar, you're family.

For local students who apply, the Yankton Elks #994 will be awarding six (6) \$300 Most Valuable Student Scholarships, three (3) for boys and (3) for girls at the local level. The six (6) local winners will then advance on to the State level where the award winners could receive additional scholarship dollars.

Applications must be submitted by November 15, 2020 for the Most Valuable Student (any high school senior) are available on the internet at <https://www.elks.org/scholars/>

Legacy Awards (children or grandchildren of Elks) are also available to be completed online. The vocational grant application is still a paper form which can be requested via email at [steve.pietila@gmail.com](mailto:steve.pietila@gmail.com).

There are four opportunities available for students. Checkout the Elks websites for more rules.

**ANY high school senior** who is a U.S. citizen may apply for the Most Valuable Student Scholarships. Applications must be submitted online at <https://www.elks.org/scholars/> by **November 15, 2020**.

**For the children or grandchildren of dues-paying Elks**, they can apply for the The Elks National Foundation Legacy Awards. The application must be submitted online by February 5, 2021 at <https://www.elks.org/scholars/scholarships/Legacy.cfm>

The South Dakota Elks Association Vocational Grant is **for students who will be enrolled in a Post Secondary Vocational/Technical School program**. The paper applications must be submitted to the Yankton Elks Lodge, 504 W 27<sup>th</sup> Street, by **November 16, 2020**. They must be received by the Lodge prior to the deadline, **not** postmarked.

Emergency Educational Grants are also available to **children of deceased or totally disabled Elks members**. For more details on the Educational Grant program, please visit, <https://www.elks.org/scholars/scholarships/Eefgrants.cfm>

If you have questions, contact the local scholarship chairman, Steven Pietila, at 605-760-4916.