

NASDME

The National Association of State Directors of Migrant Education

Albert Lee Wright, Jr. Memorial Migrant Scholarship 2016 Application Guidelines

Purpose: To honor a migrant farmworker student who has overcome barriers presented by mobility, who has performed well academically, and who has provided service to his or her community. NASDME intends this scholarship (for at least \$3000) to go to a mobile student or students who have attended more than one school in a year and/or who have traveled on their own or with a parent or guardian in pursuit of qualifying agricultural, agriculture-related, timber or fishing work in the summer or regular school term. Students who have not moved will not be considered for this scholarship. Scholarships will be given only to graduating high school students entering college for the first time. Students who demonstrate a strong interest in Science, Technology, Engineering, or Mathematics are especially encouraged to apply.

Eligibility: A selection committee will screen candidates using the following criteria:

- Recent history of movement for agricultural employment
- Scholastic achievement as evidenced in an official transcript
- Financial need

Application Process: A completed application form must be **received** at the address specified below by **Friday, February 26, 2016** accompanied by:

- Two letters of recommendation, at least one of which must be from a school, community or educational agency representative with personal knowledge of the applicant's character;
- A personal essay of at least 500 words describing the applicant's background (which includes information about disrupted schooling and barriers presented because of agriculture/fishing-related mobility), the applicant's career and personal goals, and why he or she should receive this assistance;
- A copy of a high school transcript showing the most recent grades obtained;
- Proof of acceptance and/or enrollment at a post-secondary degree-granting institution. **If the student has not yet been accepted to any such institution, the student must provide a list of colleges to which applications have been submitted and the applicant MUST keep the committee informed by e-mail (abranzspall@mt.gov) regarding acceptance as soon as it is received;**
- Financial need documentation in the form of, but not limited to, a copy of the most recent school financial aid form, loan documentation, family tax return (include only the first two pages and black out any Social Security Numbers or ITINs); or other letter from an institution documenting financial aid; or, if these are unavailable, a descriptive narrative regarding the family's financial need;
- Proof of Migrant Education eligibility – (Attach a legible and clear copy of a "Certificate of Eligibility" showing qualification during the past three calendar years or any time during high school). This can be obtained from a local school district through the migrant education staff.

Submit completed application packet to:
Albert Lee Wright, Jr. Memorial Migrant Scholarship
ATTN: Samantha Murray
NASDME
1001 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Suite 915
Washington, DC 20036

Please Note:
Early applications are highly encouraged, since applications will be reviewed as they are submitted.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Complete Application must be RECEIVED by DEADLINE: Friday, February 26, 2016

No incomplete or late applications will be considered. No faxes or electronic transmittal will be accepted. Applicants must use THIS year's form. Please do not use forms from past years.

Who was ALBERT LEE WRIGHT, JR.?

For more than two decades, Al Wright, a native of Louisiana, served as Migrant Education's voice and as the program's quintessential advocate.

Long before e-mails and listservs, Al made sure that migrant educators and other farmworker advocates were kept informed about important national and state developments impacting migrant families through the nationally distributed publication, MEMO – Migrant Education Messages and Outlook. Al used his remarkable talent as a journalist to portray to MEMO's readers the many challenges faced by farmworker families—this nation's poorest and most disadvantaged people. He was living proof of “the power of the pen”.

Al also served as Migrant Education's historian and archivist. In addition, he wrote many of the National Association of State Directors of Migrant Education (NASDME) reauthorization position papers and developed much of NASDME's testimony to Congress on behalf of Migrant Education. He authored or co-wrote many articles for publication, including, “Children of the Road: Migrant Students, Our Nation's Most Mobile Population” commissioned by the Poverty and Race Research Action Council and published by Howard University. Al also co-authored an article entitled, “A History of Advocacy for Migrant Children and Their Families: More than 30 Years in the Field” for the book, Scholars in the Field, The Challenges of Migrant Education, published by ERIC.

Ensuring access to educational and supportive services for migrant children was a constant and recurrent theme of Al's work and one to which he remained true throughout his career. After his retirement from many years at the Louisiana Department of Education, Al stayed involved with the Migrant Education Program by accepting a job as NASDME's special projects and events coordinator. He skillfully staged several of the annual National Migrant Education Conferences, an event with thousands of participants from throughout the nation and the largest conference of its kind dedicated to the improvement of services to migrant children and their families.

Just as the lives of countless children were improved because of Al's life-long work on their behalf, so too were the lives of hundreds of his colleagues across the country just by having known him. Though he was a man who wrote beautifully on paper, in person Al Wright was a man of few words. But when he spoke, everyone listened. He was an eloquent, always rational speaker; an articulate debater; a true Southern gentleman – in the best sense of the phrase; and a man of the highest integrity and honesty who could not and would not tolerate injustice.

2016 Albert Lee Wright, Jr. Memorial Migrant Scholarship

APPLICATION FORM

This form must be **received** by Friday, February 26, 2016 with required documentation. **No application will be accepted after February 26, 2016.** Failure to submit a completed or timely application packet will result in disqualification. This application form may be photocopied. Neatly print or type. Please no faxes or e-mailed applications. We encourage students to apply early, well before the application deadline.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Last Name: _____

First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____

Home Phone number: _____ Cell phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Street/Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Address (if different from mailing address)

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

Name of school currently attending (_____) _____
Applicant school telephone number

School Address _____ Anticipated date of graduation

Guidance Counselor's Name (_____) _____
Guidance Counselor's Telephone Number

Name of post-secondary institution(s) to which you have been accepted (attach proof of acceptance, or if no acceptances yet, a list of colleges to which you have applied.)

FAMILY INCOME: In which bracket does your family income fall?

_____ 0-\$ 10,000 _____ \$10,001 - \$15,000 _____ \$ 15,001 - \$20,000 _____ \$ 20,001 - \$ 25,000 _____ \$25,001 - 30,000

_____ \$ 30,001 - \$ 35,000 _____ \$ 35,001 +

Number of persons supported by this income: _____

It is required that you provide supporting documentation for family income. Please black out Social Security Numbers or ITINs.

**APPLICATION MUST BE RECEIVED AT THE
WASHINGTON, DC ADDRESS BY
Friday, February 26, 2016.**

Application Checklist

- Two letters of Reference
- Personal Essay
- Clear Copy of Migrant Education Eligibility
- Proof of College Acceptance/Enrollment
- High School Transcript
- Financial Need Documentation
- Completed Application Form (2016 version)

**Please be sure all items are provided or your
application will be rejected as “incomplete”**

PLEASE MAIL YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:

Albert Lee Wright, Jr. Memorial Migrant Scholarship
ATTN: Samantha Murray
NASDME
1001 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Suite 915
Washington, DC 20036

NO FAXES OR E-MAILS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE SUCCESSFUL APPLICANT'S SCHOOL DISTRICT IS
ASKED TO PROVIDE TRAVEL SUPPORT FOR A CHAPERONE TO ACCOMPANY
THE WINNER TO THE NATIONAL MIGRANT EDUCATION CONFERENCE IN
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA IN LATE APRIL 2016.**

BECAUSE THIS SCHOLARSHIP HAS BEEN AVAILABLE FOR MULTIPLE YEARS, OLDER COPIES
OF THE APPLICATION MAY BE IN EXISTENCE.

**PLEASE USE ONLY THIS 2016 COPY FOR SUBMISSION.
DO NOT USE OLDER COPIES.**