Society of SAME
American Military Engineers
Pittsburgh Post

Allegheny Arsenal Memorial Scholarship

Image: James C. Horton; https://hortonart.net/portfolio-viewer?collection=100743#lg=1&artworkid=3272232
History and Significance of the Society of American Military Engineers Pittsburgh Post’s Allegheny Arsenal Memorial Scholarship:

The Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) is a national professional society founded in January 1920. Dedicated to "patriotism and national security," this new "association of engineers" sought to bring engineering professionals from the public and private sectors together to foster readiness and preparedness vital to national security. Sixteen local Posts were chartered in 1920, including the Pittsburgh Post. Since SAME’s inception, it was recognized that the sustained security of the nation would depend on military and industry working together. The Society’s mission is to lead collaborative efforts to identify and resolve national security infrastructure-related challenges, uniting public and private sector individuals and organizations from across a broad range of engineering and science and related disciplines in support of national security and infrastructure resilience.

The Pittsburgh Post has a long history of supporting Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education for high school students. As SAME entered its second century in 2020, the Pittsburgh Post elected to create a scholarship fund for students pursuing STEM degrees at accredited colleges and universities.

The Post has always recognized the importance of close cooperation between civilians and the military, both for national defense and homeland security. Therefore, in establishing the Post’s annual college scholarship fund, the Post wanted to honor those civilians who perished in Lawrenceville while preparing ammunition for the Union troops at the Allegheny Arsenal. On September 17, 1862, a series of explosions at the Allegheny Arsenal killed seventy-eight people, mostly girls (possibly as young as 14), rolling cartridges for Union soldiers. With men off fighting the Civil War and concerns of horseplay among boys in a dangerous work environment, girls and young women were relied upon to roll ammunition for the troops in a true civilian-military partnership. In recognition of the tragic loss of these young arsenal employees killed while working at the arsenal, the SAME Pittsburgh Post, as part of its centennial observance, established the Allegheny Arsenal Memorial Scholarship Fund.
About the SAME Pittsburgh Post’s Allegheny Arsenal Memorial Scholarship:

The SAME Pittsburgh Post has set aside funds with the SAME Foundation that will generate an annual investment income to fund the Allegheny Arsenal Memorial Scholarship on a continuing basis, in lasting memory of the 78 workers killed in a series of explosions at the arsenal in Lawrenceville on September 17, 1862.

The Post is offering a scholarship to assist college students who are pursuing careers in STEM fields including: engineering, architecture, mathematics, technology, computer, or related science (chemistry, biology, physics, environmental) degree programs. A $1,500 scholarship will be awarded each year (subject to future Board revisions), based on applications received for the academic year. Students enrolled full-time as a freshman, sophomore, junior or senior in college for academic year 2023-2024 can apply. Anyone receiving the Allegheny Arsenal Memorial Scholarship may reapply in subsequent years but will be considered among the full pool of applications received for that academic year.

The annual scholarship will be awarded to a U.S. citizen regardless of race, color, creed, gender or sexual orientation. In addition to other application materials, two short essays are required for all applicants each year they wish to be considered for the Allegheny Arsenal Memorial Scholarship. Students who are receiving a full-tuition military scholarship, or are enrolled in military schools [e.g., DoD Science, Mathematics, and Research for Transformation (SMART) scholarship or attending a tuition-free U.S.
Service Academy] are NOT eligible to receive the Allegheny Arsenal Memorial Scholarship.

Application Instructions: Interested students must electronically submit a completed application (typed or neatly printed) between August 25, 2023 and midnight, September 25, 2023 to pittsburghpost@gmail.com. The Scholarship Committee will review all scholarship applications received and make a recommendation to the Board of Directors by mid-October, with the intent to announce the scholarship recipient and have him or her attend the December Post meeting on December 12, 2023.

Scholarship Criteria

The following criteria are in order of importance to our selection Board.

Mandatory Criteria (Must meet all):

- Applicant must be a U.S. Citizen
- Applicant must reside in the geographic bounds of the Pittsburgh Post, which is generally defined as extending from the northwest border of Pennsylvania, extending eastward to Bradford, then south to Johnstown, PA and Elkins, WV, then northwest to Hannibal, OH and northward to Warren, OH and the northwest PA border. This area can be seen in this image or viewed at https://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/Portals/72/docs/About/District_weblinked.JPG
- Applicant must be enrolled at an accredited engineering or science college (4-year) as a student in a STEM related (see “About the …Scholarship” above) degree program.
- Cumulative High School (if a freshman) or collegiate grade point average of at least 3.2 on a 4.0 scale (4.0 on a 5.0 scale; other grade scales will be adjusted proportionally).

Graded Selection Criteria – Clearly Address These in your Application:

- Superior academic performance - comparison of grades, courses, and class ranking (15 points)
- Work history, preferably with engineering firms, construction firms, environmental firms, or other STEM related employment (15 points)
- Affiliation with STEM related clubs, organizations, societies (5 points)
- Degree of involvement in community leadership or service (10 points)
- Degree of involvement in sports and/or extracurricular activities (5 points)
• Participation in science and engineering fairs/activities/extra learning/related college classes (10 Points)
• ACT/SAT Score (5 points)
• ESSAY 1 – 500 words (15 points): Describe how learning about the deaths of the Allegheny Arsenal employees, primarily young women and girls, has made an impact on you.
• ESSAY 2 – 500 words (20 points): Describe how you intend to use your STEM education to improve society or the resilience and preparedness of the U.S. or local communities.

100 Points Maximum Achievable for Criteria Above + Bonus Points Below

• Honor society membership (5 points)
• Special achievement awards (5 points)
• Membership in the Society of American Military Engineers (5 points)
• Membership in JROTC/ROTC Unit (5 points)
• Honorably discharged veteran or active member of a military reserve unit or National Guard unit (5 points)
• Attendee of a live or virtual summer STEM Construction Camp sponsored by the SAME Pittsburgh Post (5 Points)

Advice to Applicants: The Scholarship Committee is looking for students with well-developed backgrounds in all areas: academic achievement, community involvement, and work activities. Your application and any supplementary materials, including the two essays, are all the committee has available to judge you as a candidate. Be complete in your application and submit supporting materials useful to the Scholarship Committee.
APPLICATION FORM

(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)

TIMING/DEADLINES:

• Applications will be received from August 25, 2023 through midnight, September 25, 2023 via email at: pittsburghpost@gmail.com
• The Selection Committee will review applications and select a recipient by mid-October. The recipient will be notified and asked to attend the Post’s December monthly meeting on December 12, 2023.
• Remaining applicants also will be notified regarding their status in late September.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name: _____________________________________________________________

Home Address: ______________________________________________________

City/State/Zip: _______________________________________________________ 

Telephone: _______________ (home) __________________ (cell)

Email Address: ______________________________________________________

US / Eligible non-citizen: ____ Yes ____ No (Citizenship is required)

Residency within geographic bounds of SAME Pittsburgh Post: ____Yes____No

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY ENROLLMENT

College Name: ______________________________________________________

College Address: _____________________________________________________

Enrolled as: _____ Freshman _____ Sophomore _____ Junior _____ Senior

Program of Study: ___________________________________________________

Anticipated College Graduation Date: _____ Degree:_______________________
ACADEMIC AND COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENT INFORMATION

Name of last High School attended: _____________________________________

High School address: _________________________________________________

Date of High School graduation: __________________

If Applicant is a Freshman:  High School GPA_____; High Rank #____ of #____

If Applicant is in Sophomore, Junior or Senior Year of College:  College GPA____

Describe your participation in STEM-related clubs, organizations, and societies:

______________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________

Describe your degree of involvement in community leadership or service:

______________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________

Degree of involvement in sports and/or extracurricular activities:

______________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________

Describe your participation in science and engineering fairs/activities/extra
learning/related college classes:

______________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________

Are you an Honor Society member? ___Yes___No;  Society Name________________

Have you received any special achievement awards? ___Yes ___No;  Describe:

______________________________________________________________________
Did you attend a summer STEM Construction Camp sponsored by the SAME Pittsburgh Post? ___Yes ___No; Camp and Date:______________________________________

MILITARY AFFILIATION INFORMATION

Are you a member of a ROTC Unit? ___Yes ___No; Unit________________________

Are you an honorably discharged veteran or active member of a military reserve unit or National Guard unit? ___Yes ___No; Discharge or Current Unit Information:
______________________________________________________________________

SAME AFFILIATION AND PARTICIPATION

Are you currently a member of SAME? _____Yes ____ No; Post____________________ 

Have you attended a SAME event? _____Yes____No

If “Yes” to either question above, please list the event and describe in no more than 50 words how your membership or the event you attended has benefited you.
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________

WORK EXPERIENCE: (List any full or part time jobs held including any internships within the last 2 years beginning with most recent)

Employer Name:
______________________________________________________________________

Your Position: _____________________________ Hours per week: ______________

Duties:
______________________________________________________________________

Employer Name:
______________________________________________________________________
Your Position: ____________________________ Hours per week: _____________

Duties:
_____________________________________________________________________

Employer Name:
_______________________________________________________________

Your Position: ____________________________ Hours per week: _____________

Duties:
_____________________________________________________________________

PERMISSION TO RELEASE INFORMATION

By signing this application, I authorize the SAME Pittsburgh Post to confirm and/or release any information included on this application to the SAME Pittsburgh Post Scholarship Committee Members. If awarded a scholarship, I agree to allow my selection and photo(s) to be shared with the general public (i.e., SAME national and Pittsburgh Post web sites and local newspapers). Furthermore if awarded a scholarship, I agree to become a SAME Pittsburgh Post member (free for students).

__________________________   _______________
Applicant Signature                                            Date

_____________________________   _______________
Parent or Legal Guardian if under 18               Date

Note: All applicants will receive written notification of whether they were selected as a recipient or non-selected. Anticipated notifications will occur in late September.
SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

The completed package should include these attachments in Adobe Acrobat PDF format:

- ___ Completed and Signed Application Form
- ___ Transcript (High School if a Freshman Applicant, Otherwise College)
- ___ Documentation of ACT/SAT Score(s)
- ___ Essay #1, 500 words: *Describe how learning about the deaths of the Allegheny Arsenal employees, primarily young women and girls, has made an impact on you.*
- ___ Essay #2, 500 words: *Describe how you intend to use your STEM education to improve society or the resilience and preparedness of the U.S. or local communities.*

Scan and email your completed application materials as a single document between August 25, 2023 and midnight, September 25, 2023 via email to: pittsburghpost@gmail.com

(Incomplete/late applications will be rejected)