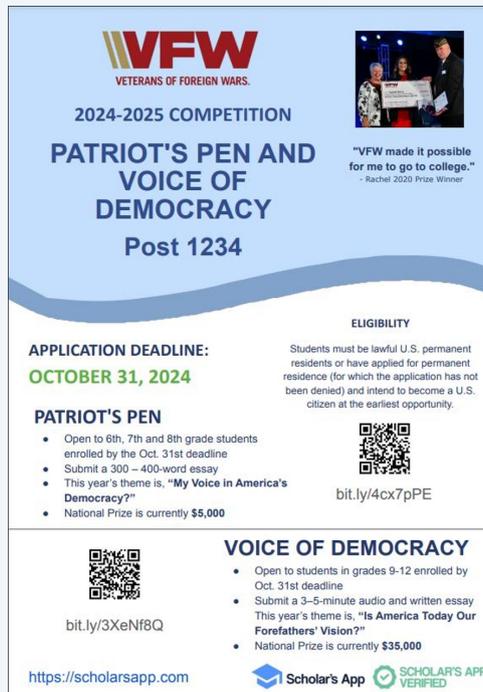


# VFW - Patriot's Pen - Application Tutorial

## 1 This is the VFW Flyer



The flyer is for the VFW 2024-2025 Competition, specifically for the Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy contests at Post 1234. It features the VFW logo at the top left and a photo of a student receiving a prize at the top right. The main title is "Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy" with the VFW logo above it. Below the title, it lists the application deadline as October 31, 2024. The flyer is divided into two main sections: "Patriot's Pen" and "Voice of Democracy". Each section includes a list of eligibility criteria and application requirements. There are two QR codes: one for the Patriot's Pen (bit.ly/4cx7pPE) and one for the Voice of Democracy (bit.ly/3XeNf8Q). At the bottom, there is a link to the ScholarsApp platform (https://scholarsapp.com) and logos for the Scholar's App and Scholar's App Verified.

**VFW**  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

2024-2025 COMPETITION

**PATRIOT'S PEN AND  
VOICE OF  
DEMOCRACY**

Post 1234

"VFW made it possible  
for me to go to college."  
- Rachel 2020 Prize Winner

**ELIGIBILITY**

Students must be lawful U.S. permanent residents or have applied for permanent residence (for which the application has not been denied) and intend to become a U.S. citizen at the earliest opportunity.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:**  
**OCTOBER 31, 2024**

**PATRIOT'S PEN**

- Open to 6th, 7th and 8th grade students enrolled by the Oct. 31st deadline
- Submit a 300 – 400-word essay
- This year's theme is, "My Voice in America's Democracy?"
- National Prize is currently \$5,000

bit.ly/4cx7pPE

**VOICE OF DEMOCRACY**

- Open to students in grades 9-12 enrolled by Oct. 31st deadline
- Submit a 3–5-minute audio and written essay
- This year's theme is, "Is America Today Our Forefathers' Vision?"
- National Prize is currently \$35,000

bit.ly/3XeNf8Q

<https://scholarsapp.com>

Scholar's App SCHOLAR'S APP VERIFIED

## 2 Access the VFW Scholarship using the ScholarsApp Platform:

- Scan the QR code provided in the VFW flyer.
- Alternatively, copy the link provided and paste it into your web browser to navigate directly to the specific scholarship page.

*(Instruction on how to use the QR code and link below)*

### 3 QR CODE

**VFW**  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

2024-2025 COMPETITION

**PATRIOT'S PEN AND VOICE OF DEMOCRACY**  
Post 1234

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### 4 LINK

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## How to use the QR code or the Link

**5** How to scan QR Code on your mobile phone.

- **Open the camera app on your phone.**
- **Point at the QR Code**
- **Tap the Notification:**
  - A link will appear on your screen. Tap it to open the webpage.



**6** Copy the link provided in the flyer and paste it into your web browser to navigate directly to the specific scholarship page.

7

After using the QR code or the link you'll land on this page

Click "Qualify" to begin the application process.

SCHOLARSHIP DETAILS

### VFW - Patriot's Pen - Test Department - District 1 - Post 1234

📅 10/31/24 CST 💰 0 - 5,000

Conducted nationwide, this VFW-sponsored youth essay competition gives students an opportunity to write essays expressing their views on an annual patriotic theme. We invite you to join the more than 73,000 students who participated last year in this contest. **What is the Theme?** VFW's Commander-in-Chief annually chooses the year's theme. The 2024-2025 theme is: **"My Voice in America's Democracy?"** The contest consists of four levels. The first level (entry) is sponsored by VFW Posts. Post winners advance, one for every 15 entries, to the VFW District (regional) level where the one first-place winner is advanced to the VFW Department (state) level. The first-place winner at the Department level is then advanced into the VFW national competition. Prizes and scholarships can be awarded at the Post, District, State and National level. Department (State) winners receive a portion of \$55,000 in national awards. National Winners will receive at least \$300. **The first-place national award is currently \$5,000.** All entries are submitted at the Post level. Contestants are allowed to enter only once each year if otherwise eligible (one Post competition). **Eligibility: Patriot's Pen is open to 6th, 7th and 8th-grade students** enrolled by the Oct. 31 deadline in public, private or parochial schools in the U.S., its territories or its possessions; or dependents of U.S. military or civilian personnel in overseas schools. Home-schooled students also are eligible. Although U.S. citizenship is not required, students must be lawful U.S. permanent residents or have applied for permanent residence (the application which has not been denied) and intends to become a U.S. citizen at the earliest opportunity allowed by law. (Foreign exchange students or former winners that placed in the National contest are ineligible). **Contest Rules:**

- You must write your own essay. The essay must be the contestant's original work and product of the contestant's own thinking.
- Use of ChatGPT or other AI tools is not allowed.
- Essays should be typed in English with no color or graphics. 300 - 400 words in length (+ or - 5 words max). Every word is counted.
- **In no way may the contestants identify themselves within their essay** (including, but not limited to, your name, school, city, state, race or national origin.)
- Do not put your name on your essay

**Judging Criteria:**

- **Knowledge of the theme is worth 30 points:** You must show a thorough knowledge of the theme in your work. Demonstrate that you have researched the issue extensively.
- **Theme development is worth 35 points:** Answer all relevant facts about the theme, such as the who, what, where, when and why. Relate the theme to your own experiences.
- **Clarity of Ideas is worth 35 points:** Write your essay in an easy-to-understand format. Leave your reader with a clear understanding of your explanation of the theme.

Essay(s) Required

Message

8

After you click "Qualify," the system will prompt you to either log in or create an account.

9

Students that have an existing login with Scholar's App can navigate to <https://scholarsapp.com/login> and login with your email and password

The image shows a login form titled "Log in". It contains the following elements:

- An "Email" input field.
- A "Password" input field with a red eye icon on the right to toggle visibility.
- A checkbox labeled "Remember me".
- A link labeled "Forgot password?".
- A blue "Log in" button.
- Text: "Don't have an account? [Sign up](#)" and "[California Privacy Policy](#)".
- Text: "Bypass Password Login" and "(Repeat this process every time you want to log in using this bypass.)".
- A grey "Password-Less Login" button.

10

If you do not have an existing ScholarsApp account

Navigate to <https://scholarsapp.com/login?m=signup> and create your account

Enter your email address, create a password, agree to the terms of service and privacy policy, and click "Continue."

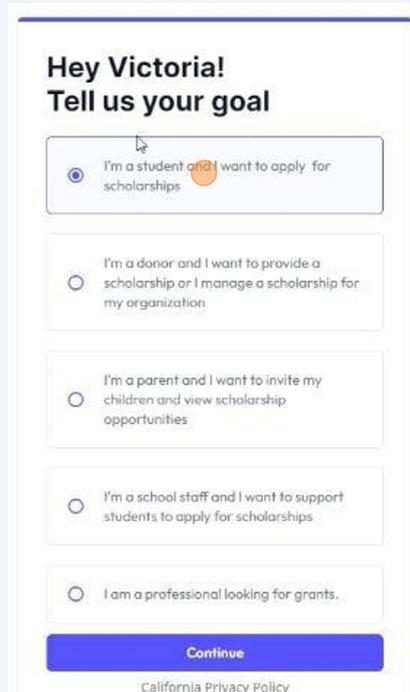
*(Continue button will only be enable when the required fields are filled out)*

The screenshot shows a 'Sign up' form with the following elements:

- Sign up** (Section Header)
- First name (Text input field)
- Last name (Text input field)
- Email (Text input field)
- Informational message: "We recommend you use a personal email instead of using your School's or Institution's email address. That way we guarantee you receive Scholar's App's email notifications." (Green box)
- Password (Text input field with a red eye icon for visibility toggle)
- I agree to the Terms of Service and Privacy Policy
- Continue (Grey button)
- Have an account? Log in
- California Privacy Policy
- Bypass Password Login
- (Repeat this process every time you want to log in using this bypass.)
- Password-Less Login (Dark grey button)

## 11 Specifying Your Role:

- Select that you are a student wanting to apply for scholarships and click “Continue.”
- If a parent is signing up on behalf of a student, create one student account per child.



**Hey Victoria!**  
**Tell us your goal**

I'm a student and I want to apply for scholarships

I'm a donor and I want to provide a scholarship or I manage a scholarship for my organization

I'm a parent and I want to invite my children and view scholarship opportunities

I'm a school staff and I want to support students to apply for scholarships

I am a professional looking for grants.

[Continue](#)

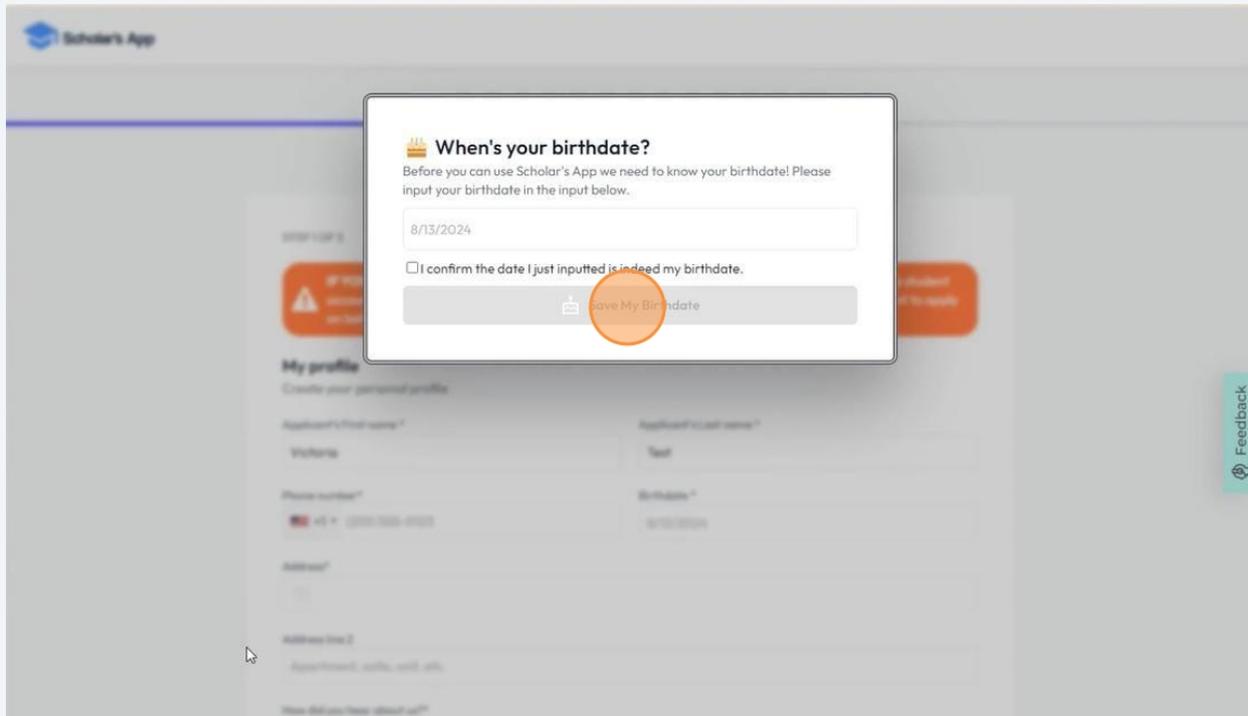
[California Privacy Policy](#)

12

You will need to provide your birth date, phone number, address and parent email in your profile.

Click the confirmation box then click "Save my Birthdate".

Once you're done setting up your profile, you will be redirected to the VFW scholarship that you want to apply to.



### 13 Qualifying for the Scholarship:

- Verify that you qualify for the scholarship, then click "Submit" to qualify.

#### Eligibility: VFW - Patriot's Pen - Test Department - District 1 - Post 1234

Answer questions below to see if you are eligible for this scholarship

I don't know if I qualify

This scholarship is for low income students

I qualify

Nope

This scholarship is for students who have done community service

I qualify

Nope

This scholarship is for students who have done community service

I qualify

Nope

Your current grade level matches one of the following: 2005, 2006 or 2007

I qualify

Nope

Cancel

Submit

14

You can now proceed to the application form.

Click "Apply"

SCHOLARSHIP DETAILS

### VFW - Patriot's Pen - Virginia - District 10 - Post 1503

Qualified 

10/31/24 CST \$ 0 - 5,000

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- In no way may the contestants identify themselves within their essay** (including, but not limited to, your name, school, city, state, race or national origin.)
- Do not put your name on your essay.

**Judging Criteria:**

- Knowledge of the theme is worth 30 points:** You must show a thorough knowledge of the theme in your work. Demonstrate that you have researched the issue extensively.
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Essay(s) Required

Discard Message **Apply**

## 15 Filling Out the Application Form:

- Complete all required fields marked with "Required".
- Provide any additional information requested in the application form.

*(All fields that marked as required are mandatory in order to submit the application)*

The image shows a digital form titled 'General' under the heading 'Student Information'. It is labeled 'STEP 1 OF 1'. The form contains four input fields, each with a 'Required' label in a pink box to its right. The fields are: 'First Name' (with 'Test' entered), 'M.I.' (with 'Test' entered), 'Last Name' (with 'Test' entered), and 'Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)'. The 'Required' label for the 'First Name' field is highlighted with a red border.

16

Upload necessary documents.

In the upload section, applicant can either drag and drop their documents or upload them by clicking the upload field.

**Photo** ^

Include a high resolution, forward-facing color headshot of the applicant, 300KB or larger.

**Headshot** Required

Click here to upload the required file

You will be required to provide a photo.

17

Ensure all required fields are completed; the "Submit Application" button will only be active once all required information is filled out.

**Signature of Student Participant (Type Name)** Required

victoria test

**Date** Required

7/10/2024

Parent Signature

**Signature of Parent/Guardian (Type Name)** Required

victoria parent

**Date** Required

07/10/2024

Save Application Submit application

18

You can also save your application without submitting if you're not ready to submit.

The image shows a screenshot of a web application form. It contains several input fields and buttons. The fields are: a date field with the value '7/10/2024', a text field for 'Parent Signature', a text field for 'Signature of Parent/Guardian (Type Name)' with the value 'victoria parent', and another date field with the value '07/10/2024'. Each of these four fields has a red 'Required' label to its right. At the bottom right of the form, there are two blue buttons: 'Save Application' and 'Submit application'. A mouse cursor is pointing at the 'Submit application' button.

## 19 Confirmation:

- Once you submit your application, it will update as "applied" on your main page.

SCHOLARSHIP DETAILS

**VFW - Patriot's Pen - Test Department - District 1 - Post 1234** Applied

10/31/24 CST \$ 0 - 5,000

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Essay(s) Required

View Application

## 20 Confirmation of Application:

- You will receive an email confirmation stating that you have applied to the scholarship.

Compose

Inbox 1

Starred

Scholar's App 7:46 AM

Scholar's App | Your Submitted Application Has Be...

Thank you for applying to the VFW - Patriot's Pen - Te... ☆

## 21 You can also verify your application status on the ScholarsApp search page under the "Applied" section.

22

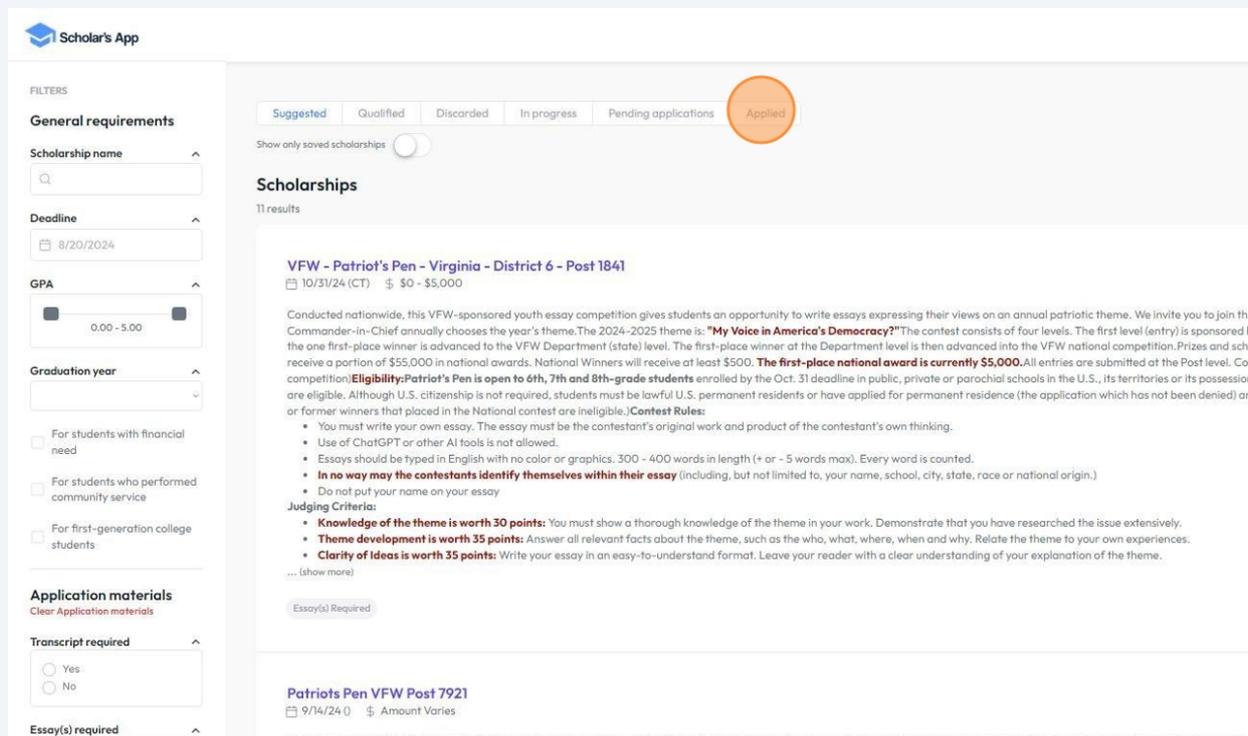
Click the human icon on the top right corner of your screen

In the dropdown click "Search Page"



23

Click the "Applied" section.



24

On this section you can view scholarships that you applied using ScholarsApp platform.

Suggested

Qualified

Discarded

In progress

Pending applications

Applied

## Scholarships

2 results

VFW - Patriot's Pen - Test Department - District 1 - Post 1234

10/31/24 0 \$ \$0 - \$5,000

Essay(s) Required

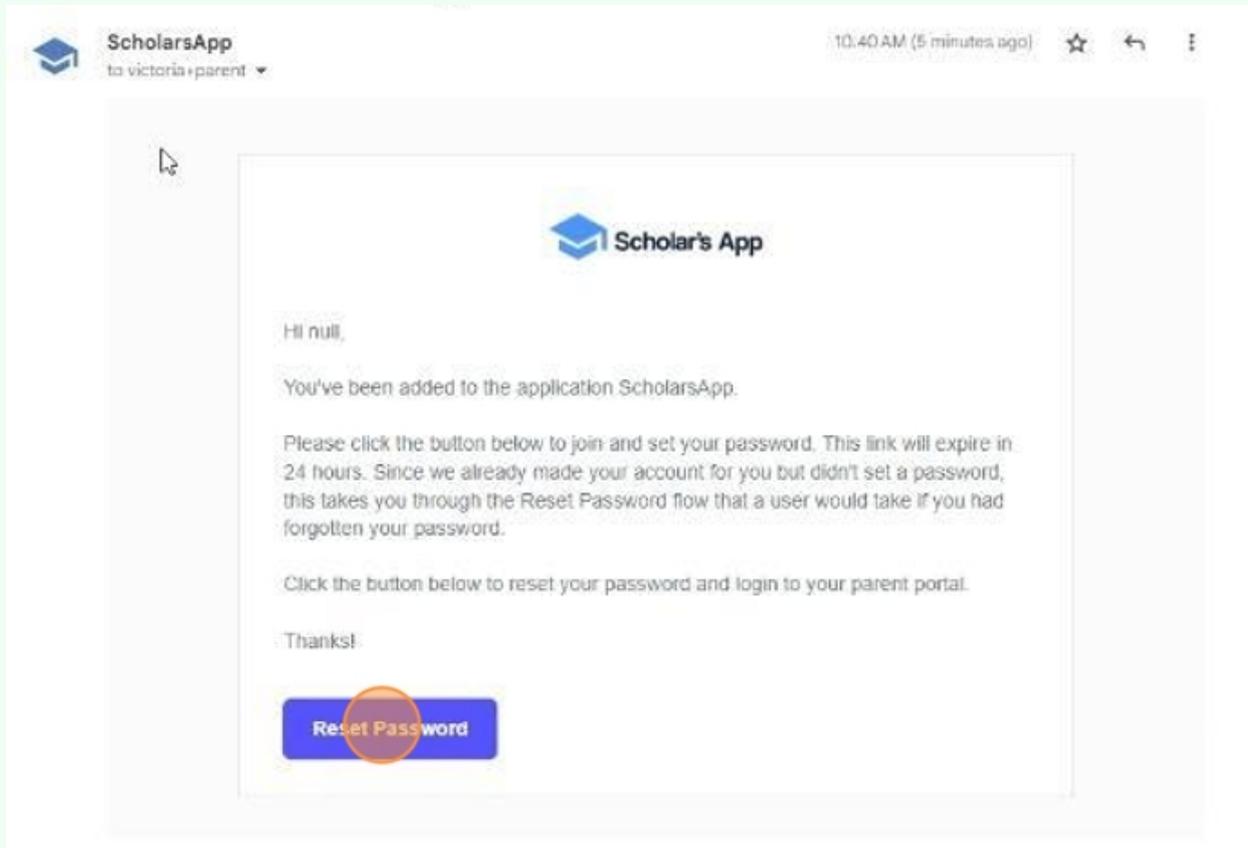




Tip!

### Parent Account Linking:

- Parents will receive an email to link their account to the student's account. Follow the instructions in the email to set up the parent account.



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By following these steps, you can efficiently apply for scholarships using the ScholarsApp platform.