

Society of



American Military Engineers

Pittsburgh Post

Image: James C. Horton; <https://hortonart.net/portfolio-viewer?collection=100743#lg=1&artworkId=3272232>



**Allegheny Arsenal
Memorial Scholarship**

**SAME PITTSBURGH POST'S
ALLEGHENY ARSENAL
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**
(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)



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**.



Memorial Plaque at Allegheny Cemetery, Section 17/18 in Lawrenceville, PA for the Arsenal Workers Who Lost Their Lives

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 \$2,000 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 2025-2026 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 September 15, 2025 and midnight, October 31, 2025 to pittsburghpost@gmail.com . The Scholarship Committee will review all scholarship applications received and make a recommendation to the Board of Directors by mid-November, with the intent to announce the scholarship recipient and have him or her attend the December Post meeting on December 9, 2025.

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.

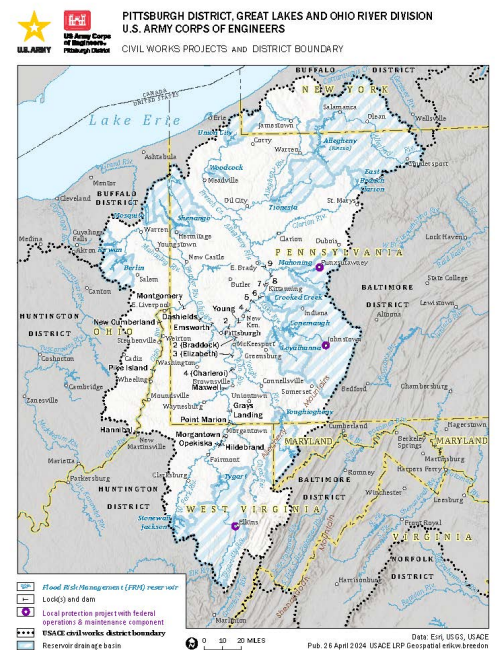
This area can be seen in this image or viewed at a larger scale at:

https://geospatial-lrp.usace.army.mil/PDFs/District/lrpmap_c1_civil_works_letter_20240426.pdf

- 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 September 15, 2025 through midnight, October 31, 2025 via email at: pittsburghpost@gmail.com
- The Selection Committee will review applications and select a recipient by mid-November. The recipient will be notified and asked to attend the Post's December monthly meeting on December 9, 2025.
- Remaining applicants also will be notified regarding their status in late November.

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 early November.

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 September 15, 2025 and midnight, October 31, 2025 via email to: pittsburghpost@gmail.com

(Incomplete/late applications will be rejected)