To: Maine Principals, Assistant Principals, Guidance Directors, School Counselors, JMG Specialists, CTE Assistant Directors  
From: Rebecca Lambert, MMA Municipal Issues Specialist  
Date: January 1, 2024  
RE: Scholarship Opportunity for High School Seniors - MMA Douglas M. Eugley Scholarship for Public Service  

The Maine Municipal Association (MMA) is pleased to announce that the scholarship for Maine high school seniors planning to enter post-secondary education to pursue a career in municipal government or public service, has been expanded and is open to accepting applications for 2024.

Due to the success of the program, this year the Douglas M. Eugley Memorial Scholarship for Public Service award was increased from three to five scholarships and the amount also increased from $1,000 to $1,500 per award. We hope you will encourage your students to apply.

MMA is committed to growing the next generation of municipal leaders and, as such, employs three programs to aid in the promotion of workforce development and citizen education: the 7th Grade Essay Contest, the MMA Summer Municipal Intern Grant program administered in partnership with the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center’s Maine Government Summer Internship Program, and the scholarship program that was created in 2023. The goal for these programs is to enhance and support workforce development within public service professions and/or municipal government and to encourage future leaders within our communities.

MMA values the commitment its own employees show to their communities and encourages staff to be involved and volunteer in their home towns and cities. Doug dedicated 15 years to MMA as a member of the finance department. He was unfortunately diagnosed with cancer in 2020 and succumbed to his illness quickly thereafter.

In life, Doug gave back to his community by serving on the Sidney select board for nearly 14 years. After his time on the board, he filled the role of town moderator and served on the appeals board and budget committee, in addition to various other roles.

Doug was very involved with his children’s lives, which included coaching youth sports. Not only were his children members of the teams he coached, but each player became one of “his kids” and this extended to their families as well. He loved working with all of them and being part of the fabric of his community.

Doug was also passionate about education, and to that end MMA’s Executive Committee thought it was appropriate to honor his commitment to local government service through the implementation of a scholarship in his name.
Program Details

The program consists of five (5) $1,500 scholarships and is open to all Maine high school seniors.

Eligibility Requirements: Any Maine resident, who is a high school senior, and plans to further their education at a community college, trade school or university, located in Maine, with the intent of pursuing a career in municipal government or public service is eligible.

Application Process: To apply, a student must complete an application form and submit it along with an essay, video, OR a creative presentation about “What Public Service Means to Me,” and one letter of reference from a person not related to the applicant. Creativity with presentations is strongly encouraged and can be in any form the candidate chooses, such as a video, PowerPoint presentation, or a story map. Presentations will follow the details listed below.

Essay Details: Essays must be no more than 2,000 words, double spaced in 12-point font, and printed on plain paper, if submitted by postal service. Electronic submissions will be accepted without the paper requirement.

Video or Creative Presentations Details: Videos must be no longer than eight minutes, adhere to the theme of “What Public Service Means to Me,” and submitted electronically, or on a thumb drive, with a workable link or attachment for viewing.

MMA encourages the use of creative presentations as an alternative way for students to convey the theme of “What Public Service Means to Me”. Presentations shall be no longer than eight minutes in length and submitted physically or electronically, with a workable link or attachment for viewing. Applications that contain links that do not work will not be considered.

Please note thumb drives containing application materials will be accepted in-person at the MMA office building during normal business hours which are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday – Friday, at 60 Community Drive, Augusta. Thumb drives will not be returned.

Application materials and work submitted will be judged by a panel, selected at the discretion of MMA. The letter of reference can be from a teacher, coach, or community member, but must NOT be related to the applicant.

Timeline: Applications are being accepted now and the application deadline is April 30.

Winners will be selected and notified in May, followed by a press release and an article in the following issue of the Maine Town & City magazine.

Scholarship Award: Award money will be deposited into the winning student’s account at their designated educational institution. Alternative methods of disbursement may be considered on a case-by-case basis, at the discretion of MMA.

Completed applications packets can be dropped off at our business office located at 60 Community Drive, Augusta, or emailed to rlambert@memun.org.