SUBJECT: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

QUESTION: Must I be Jewish to apply for a grant from the JWV-MI—Kaye Foundation?

ANSWER: Yes. While membership in a synagogue, temple, or congregation is not required, the applicant must demonstrate commitment to the beliefs and values of Judaism.

QUESTION: What is the minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) to qualify for a grant?

ANSWER: We seek to award grants to well-rounded students who have demonstrated the ability to succeed in post-secondary school educational pursuits. While there is no minimum GPA to apply, prior academic performance will be evaluated with a priority to serious students based on verified performance. Please see the application for all of the required documentation.

QUESTION: Are these grants only for Veterans?

ANSWER: No. While the priority audience is Michigan Jewish Veterans and Active Duty Service Personnel of any component (active, reserve, National Guard, ROTC/NROTC) who are pursuing post-secondary education, direct lineal descendants of Jewish Veterans and Active Duty Service Personnel who reside in Michigan are eligible and strongly encouraged to apply. See the Application Form for qualifying information and submission requirements.

QUESTION: Are the grants restricted to Jewish applicants?

ANSWER: Yes. While recipients need not be members in good standing of a synagogue, temple, or congregation, they must identify as Jewish and attest to their belief in, and practice of, Jewish values. See the Application Form for qualifying information and submission requirements.

QUESTION: What is the timeline for application and award?

ANSWER: The Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) will be announced no later than 30 November annually and will coincide with applications being made available on the Foundation website. Applications and all supporting documentation must be submitted via US mail not later than 28 March annually. Awards will be made not later than 30 June annually.

QUESTION: Will checks be given directly to award recipients?

ANSWER: No. Checks will be forwarded by the Foundation to the financial aid office, bursar, or equivalent representative of the institution the applicant commits to attend?

QUESTION: Must I remain in good standing during the academic period covered by the award?

ANSWER: Yes. Awardees are expected to maintain satisfactory progress academically with the institution they are attending. Additionally, any loss of good standing as a result of disciplinary, conduct, or other reasons will be cause for the grant to be cancelled and for the recipient to reimburse the Foundation.

QUESTION: Who evaluates the applications?

ANSWER: Applications are evaluated by a panel composed of Foundation members and adjunct evaluators with experience in counseling students seeking post-secondary education.

QUESTION: What is the basis of award for these grants?

ANSWER: Grants are merit-based and awarded to the best qualified applicants. Evaluators review applicant-provided information regarding personal information, commitment to Judaism, relationship to a Jewish Veteran, military service, academics, leadership, and long-term goals and objectives. In 2027, four awards are projected as follows:

1. $2500 each for two students pursuing a baccalaureate degree
2. $2500 each for two students pursuing qualified vocational training.

In the event there are less than two qualified applicants in one of the categories (i.e., baccalaureate degree or vocational training), additional awards up to a maximum of four may be made in the other category.

QUESTION: What are the residency requirements for applicants?

ANSWER: Applicants must reside in Michigan as of the date of submission of the application.

QUESTION: If I receive a grant must I attend a school in Michigan?

ANSWER: Applicants are not required to attend postsecondary education at an institution in Michigan.

QUESTION: I am a Veteran or on Active Duty and currently receiving educational benefits form the Department of Veterans Affairs. Do those benefits disqualify me from receiving a grant?

ANSWER: No. The Foundation provides merit-based grants. Financial need is not a consideration and applicants are not required to submit financial information or otherwise demonstrate financial need. Grants may be applied to any legitimate educational expenses (i.e., tuition, lab fees, books, room and board) incurred in the normal course of academic studies and can supplement any other financial aid received.

QUESTION: I have never served in the US Armed Forces. Can I apply?

ANSWER: Yes, provided 1) you are Jewish, 2) you reside in Michigan when you apply, and 3) you are the direct lineal descendant of an honorably discharged Jewish Veteran.

QUESTION: I am Jewish and am currently enrolled in a college which hosts a Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) program. Can I apply?

ANSWER:

1) If you are a direct lineal descendant of an honorably discharged Jewish Veteran you may apply whether enrolled in ROTC or not.
2) If you are not a direct lineal descendant of an honorably discharged Jewish Veteran and are enrolled in the advanced ROTC curriculum (i.e., have contracted with the Department of Defense or relevant Military Department to complete pre-commissioning requirements) you are encouraged to apply since for purposes of evaluation your status is qualified as currently serving in the US Armed Forces.

QUESTION: Are these grants different from those offered by the Jewish War Veterans Foundation?

ANSWER: Yes. These are separate and distinct from the grants offered by the Jewish War Veterans Foundation. For more information on Jewish War Veterans Foundation grants go to: https://www.jwv.org/programs/engaging-youth/grants/.

QUESTION: Where can I find more information on these grants.

ANSWER: For more information, do any of the following:

1. Go to our Foundation website: https://JWV-MI--KayeFoundation.org/
2. Send an email to Secretary@JWV-MI--KayeFoundation.Org and put your question in writing
3. Contact the Foundation by phone at (248) 750-9048 and request to speak with a representative who will call you back.

QUESTION: Who was Charles Kaye?

ANSWER: Charles Kaye, of Blessed Memory, was a US Army Infantryman during World War II. He landed at Utah Beach one day after D-Day, was a recipient of the Bronze Star for actions against the German Army as he fought across Europe on his way to the Battle of the Bulge and was awarded the Purple Heart as a result of wounds suffered in the Ardennes. In 2010, Mr. Kaye was awarded the French Legion of Honor, that nation's highest and most prestigious decoration, bestowed upon U.S. and Allied veterans who fought on French soil to liberate that country from Nazi occupation. He and his wife Mildred were fiercely supportive of education. He cherished his relationship with the Jewish War Veterans, and he always spoke fondly of how much he enjoyed lunches with his fellow members over the years. He obtained his accounting degree, benefitting from the GI bill, and he became a certified public accountant establishing and guiding Charles Kaye & Co., for 42 years merging ultimately with a regional accounting firm. As a first generation college graduate, he strongly valued the benefit, and appreciated the challenge of funding, a college education. His family has previously established scholarships at the Mike Ilitch Business School, WSU's College of Education, and at the University of Michigan Law School.

QUESTION: The name of the foundation is Jewish War Veterans Department of Michigan—Charles Kaye (Z"L) Scholarship Foundation (or JWV-MI—Kaye Foundation). Is it part of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America?

ANSWER: No. The name was selected specifically to honor Charles Kaye (Z"L) and his long association with JWV as a member and past post commander. The Foundation is a separate and distinct entity from JWV at the national and state level. It has its own Constitution, Bylaws, Articles of Incorporation with Michigan, and unique determination by the IRS as a 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt organization.