

Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineer and Trainmen Illinois State Legislative Board

DON LITTLE

MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Brother Don Little a Locomotive Engineer with Metra Commuter Rail and a proud BLET member of Division 294 for over 35 years.

Don graduated from Lake Park High School in 1967 and later served on the 1st Calvary in Vietnam from 1968-1970. He was the Commander of the Elk Grove VFW, a member of the Marengo American Legion, and Zoning Board. Don was the BLET Mississippi State Legislative Board Chairman for several years and served over 10 years on the Executive Committee of the Illinois State Legislative Board.

Few people were more devoted to family, friends, and public service than Don; he accepted the railroad's way of life for what it was and made the best of the opportunities it had to offer. He did not wish to devote his time so much to the job itself, but to the benefit of his union brothers and sisters. While serving on the Illinois State Legislative Board, Don had a dream of establishing a scholarship program for the family members of fellow Brothers who worked in Illinois. Unfortunately, Don passed away in August of 2010 leaving behind Judith, his wife of 30 years and two daughters, Shannon and Lauren, before his work was completed on the scholarship fund.

In 2013 the Illinois State Legislative Board established the first annual Don Little Memorial Scholarship fund. Don's legacy is one of a great union brother, husband, father, friend, and colleague. This scholarship not only honors his name but also represents what he had in his heart: an unsurpassed passion to help people who are trying to get ahead in life yet may not have the resources to accomplish their dream.

Cory Martin- Chairman

Illinois State Legislative Board

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Scholarship Application (Instructions)

Scholarship applications with attachments **must be received** by May 1st, 2026.

The application must be signed and dated.

Completed applications must be submitted to the below listed email address.

For questions or assistance completing the application, contact:

Joyce A Piekarski
Selection Committee Chairperson
630-963-6099
Joyce.Piekarski@gmail.com

[cc: cory@bletislb.org](mailto:cory@bletislb.org)

A designated, independent and impartial committee was created to select and award these scholarships.

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Don Little Memorial Scholarship Application

Up to Three (3) \$1,000.00 scholarships will be awarded. Applicants must be 26 years of age or younger and have a Parent or Guardian that is in good standing in a BLET division represented by the Illinois State Legislative Board. Applicants may be current high school students who have applied for admission as full-time students in accredited post-secondary schools OR may be attending or enrolled as full-time students in accredited post-secondary schools.

1. APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Telephone Number: _____ Email: _____

Name of Division Member: _____

Division: _____ Relationship to member: _____

High School /College attending: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip Code: _____

School phone number: _____

Scholarship Application

(2)

Anticipated date of Graduation: _____

School that you anticipate attending: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip Code: _____

2. Statement of personal Goals

Describe in 300 words or less your educational goals and career objectives, need for scholarship and how this educational award will assist in meeting your goals. Statement must be typed and double-spaced.

3. LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Please provide one letter of recommendation from someone other than a family member.

4. STUDENT ACTIVITY SHEET

List school activities and/or community involvement for each of the past two (2) years. Statement may be narrative.

5. TRANSCRIPT

Attach a photocopy of your high school and or college transcript. Make no changes to the transcript.

6. GPA: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____