AFCEA Central Maryland Chapter Education Foundation
c/o VP, Scholarships
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2022 AFCEA Central Maryland Jeremy A. Pinkerton Cyber Scholarship Award

PURPOSE: AFCEA Central Maryland Chapter Educational Foundation seeks to recognize college students in their freshman, sophomore or junior year who have shown an aptitude for cyber security and who have dealt with academic adversity in their life. They must show how they are overcoming academic adversity to accomplish their career goal.

AWARD: Each Jeremy A. Pinkerton Cyber Scholarship is a one-time, $2,500 award to be applied towards the student's academic education. The award is named in honor of a University of Maryland student who persevered despite medical challenges, and found success through encouraging team learning in computer science at the University of Maryland.

Two types of students are eligible to apply:

1. Students currently attending a community college for the first two years as long as they will continue on to attend any four-year university or college in Maryland.

2. Students who are current freshman-, sophomore- or junior- level college students who attend a four-year university or college in Maryland.

CRITERIA: Applicants must:
- Be a well-rounded full-time student in their freshman, sophomore, or junior year at any university or college in Maryland who has shown an aptitude for cyber security and has dealt with academic adversity.
- Be a current student or accepted as a transfer student for the following fall semester at any university or college in Maryland.
- Be working towards a B.S. or a B.A. degree with a declared major in Computer Science with a focus on Cyber Security or other cyber related areas of study supportive of national defense.
- Stay in a field of study supportive of national defense through graduation.
- Have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.7 on a 4.0 scale, with demonstrated improvement over time.
- Be a U.S. citizen.

CEREMONIES Scholarship recipients will be notified in late March, 2022. The AFCEA Central Maryland Chapter will invite selected recipients and their parents to an awards dinner honoring them in early May, 2022, to accept their scholarship.

APPLICATION: Student scholarship submissions must include **all** of the following items (Applicants will receive email from the Scholarship Committee chair as materials are received. If applicant does not get an email, reach out to the email address above.)

1. A completed application form **submitted online** at https://centralmd.afceachapters.org/the-jeremy-scholarship-application which includes **general information** about the applicant. (sample application details the info to be submitted)

All interested students must submit their completed applications online by <u>March 1, 2022</u> to have funds applied to the Fall 2022 semester.

2. **Essay Section**: Please answer each of the six short essays to help the evaluators understand more about who you are. Please note that some questions have multiple parts. (You must respond to all parts of each question.)

   A. Three of the most important traits to having a successful STEM career are creativity, determination, and an ability to apply the scientific method to solve real world problems. Explain how you have demonstrated these traits in your academic and/or extra-curricular activities. (up to 300 words).

   B. Why are you pursuing a STEM education? (up to 200 words)

   C. 1. What is your ideal job after graduation? 2. Why? (up to 200 words)

   D. 1.Given all of the career choices you may have to work outside of Defense, Intelligence Community, or Homeland Security, what is it that specifically motivates you to pursue a job within Defense, Intelligence Community, or Homeland Security? 2. How do you see yourself supporting the Defense, Intelligence Community, or Homeland Security? (up to 300 words)

   E. Please explain how academic adversity has affected your life and how you have overcome or are addressing academic adversity to be prepared for a future career path in cyber. (up to 300 words)

   F. Why are you deserving of this scholarship? (up to 200 words)

3. A **resume** from the applicant detailing the applicant's accomplishments, work experience, leadership, and community involvement. The applicant should also detail hobbies or athletic activities that he/she especially enjoys and how he/she ties that to their accomplishments.

4. An **official, signed college transcript** of completed courses and grades mailed **directly** from school to the address in the header of this flyer or **emailed directly from the school** to scholarships@centralmd.afceachapters.org.

5. **Two letters of recommendation:** one letter must be from an academic person (i.e., a school official such as a teacher) and one letter must be from a non-academic person who knows the applicant's struggles and successes (i.e., a person outside of school – clergy, a person you work/intern for, a volunteer leader, a coach). Letters should be specific to this scholarship. **Letters from college advisors are not acceptable.** Letters may be emailed to scholarships@centralmd.afceachapters.org. Please follow up with the persons who are emailing letters of recommendation to ensure that they have submitted them. Letters of recommendation sent by the applicant will not be accepted.

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