



Washington State School  
Retirees' Association

4726 Pacific Avenue SE  
Lacey, Washington 98503-1216  
1-800-544-5219 or 360-413-5496

Scholarship award  
information and regulations

for

**The Robert J. Handy  
Memorial Scholarship**

and

**The Washington State  
School Retirees' Foundation  
Scholarship**

*(Revised 11/2008)*

**IMPORTANT**  
**SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR 2009**

*(Please DESTROY ALL old copies)*

January 2, 2009

**TO:** Washington state high school principals/counselors/students  
**FROM:** Gene Forrester, President  
Washington State School Retirees' Association (WSSRA)  
**RE:** Sixteen Robert J. Handy/PEMCO Memorial Scholarships  
Nine WSSR-Foundation Scholarships

The Washington State School Retirees' Association (formerly the Washington State Retired Teachers Association) is pleased to invite senior students of your school to apply for the above scholarships.

Each year WSSRA selects outstanding high school seniors who are committed to entering the teaching profession (e.g., classroom teacher, school counselor, school nurse, communication disorder specialist, school physical therapies, school psychologist, reading specialist, librarian, etc.) to receive these scholarships.

The PEMCO Financial Center grants **sixteen** Robert J. Handy Scholarships in memory of Robert J. Handy who founded the Washington State Teachers Credit Union, which was later expanded to PEMCO. These scholarships will be granted in the amount of \$900 per year, renewable for a total of four years if grades, citizenship, self-reliance, etc., are maintained at acceptable levels.

The WSSR-Foundation grants **eight** scholarships in the amount of \$1,500 each, for one year only. Recipients of this scholarship will be selected from the first alternates for the Robert J. Handy Scholarships. Winners of all scholarships will be notified by May 1. An additional scholarship, the Don and Myrtle Bunt Scholarship will also be awarded to a recipient in SW Washington.

WSSRA conducts the search and review process and selects the recipients of the scholarship awards. **Principals, counselors and teachers are urged to encourage outstanding seniors interested in the teaching profession to apply.**

NOTE: ALL COMPLETED SCHOLARSHIP FORMS MUST BE  
POSTMARKED BY **MARCH 9, 2009** AND RETURNED TO:

**Students accessing the application online: please contact the WSSRA office at 800-544-5219 or 360-413-5496 (ask for Michelle Guerin) to obtain the name and mailing address of the WSSRA District Representative to return your application to. Please do not mail your application to the WSSRA office.**

*To applicants of the*  
**Robert J. Handy and**  
**WSSR-Foundation Scholarships**  
*Selection Criteria*

**1. Excellence of Moral Character**

The WSSRA Scholarship Committee will assume good moral character.

**2. Qualities of Leadership**

The Scholarship Committee is looking for demonstrated ability and achievement in positions of leadership, not just participation. This can include both elected and non-elected positions, and “unofficial” leadership roles.

**3. Seriousness of Purpose**

We are seeking demonstration of initiative and personal commitment to a goal or goals, as well as the ability to follow through. Look beyond the education for long-range direction.

**4. Qualities of Citizenship**

Qualities of citizenship are evidenced by activities which enrich the family or community as well as you, the student. Constructive involvement in activities of a social, political or charitable nature is important.

**5. Broadness of Outlook—Non-scholastic Activities**

Broadness of outlook is indicated by things that make a person interesting. Examples would include participation in drama, art, music, sports, Junior Achievement, church and exchange student programs. Such activities, along with other community involvement, expand the student’s outlook. The emphasis is on involvement and interest, not necessarily on achievement.

**6. Scholastic Achievement**

Scholastic achievement primarily means grades and relative class standing. The courses taken will be considered—their difficulty and level of study. Any improving trend is valuable. Scores from two or more of the following: CEEB, SAT, ACT, WASL (include the year the WASL was passed) must be included.

# APPLICATION FORM FOR THE ROBERT J. HANDY and WSSR-FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

(Limited to high school seniors committed to a career in the educational field)

To be eligible for consideration, all applications:

**Must be in approved form and  
MUST BE POSTMARKED BY  
MARCH 9, 2009**

Full name \_\_\_\_\_ Sex:  Male -or-  Female (check one)

Telephone Number (cell or home; include area code) \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' or guardians' names:

(Father) \_\_\_\_\_

(Mother) \_\_\_\_\_

2. **Home and mailing** addresses \_\_\_\_\_

4. Name, address, *Washington State* county and phone number of the school you are now attending (for overseas student applicants, the name of the Department of Defense contact person):

Name of your school's principal \_\_\_\_\_

5. Planned College or University \_\_\_\_\_

6. Planned Major in your chosen educational field \_\_\_\_\_

7. Cumulative High School GPA through the first semester of your senior year \_\_\_\_\_

8. Number of seniors in your class to graduate \_\_\_\_\_

9. Class rank \_\_\_\_\_

10. Test scores: WASL (**include year WASL was taken**) \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ SAT \_\_\_\_ ACT \_\_\_\_ CEEB \_\_\_\_

**Statement of Originality: My signature below indicates the statements I make are true and are original with me.**

(Signature) \_\_\_\_\_

(Date) \_\_\_\_\_

***For your application to be considered, the following items must be stapled behind pages one and two of this application:***

- Statement
- List your: activities, leadership and community work experiences. Describe no more than three (3) in each category.
- Three (3) letters of recommendation: one from a high school teacher; one from an administrator, and one from the private sector. **NO** letters of recommendation from relatives. Letters should address the applicant's potential for success in the field of education.
- High school transcript through semester one of grade twelve plus community college grade sheets and official transcripts (if applicable).

***IMPORTANT: Place all documents in a manila file folder. The folder should be labeled with the applicant's full name and school.***

*Applicants please print:*

**Applicant's Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant's school** \_\_\_\_\_

Each answer to the categories below is to be typed on separate sheets using body font size of 12 points; where sentences and paragraphing are used, single space paragraphs, double space between paragraphs.

**STATEMENT** Describe why you are applying for this award and how you will use it. (*Use complete sentences and paragraphs—maximum of one page.*)

**ACTIVITIES AND LEADERSHIP** List activities in and out of high school, offices held, and awards won e.g. Student Council, Clubs, National Honor Society, FFA, sports, 4-H. (*Describe no more than three of the above. Lists and phrases are acceptable; a maximum of two pages.*)

**COMMUNITY a.** Describe your accomplishments in improving or promoting the “quality of life” in your community improving or promoting the “quality of life in your community. (*Use complete sentences and paragraphs—maximum of one page.*) **b.** List and describe your high school occupational work experience, including full- or part-time employment both paid and unpaid. (*Lists and phrases are fine—maximum of two pages.*)

**EDUCATION FIELD a.** Explain why you interested in the field of education. (*Use complete sentences and paragraphs—maximum of one page.*) **b. In your own handwriting** describe your chosen educational field (teacher—indicate level, counselor, nurse, etc.) Limit statement to a paragraph or to a maximum of one page.

*Failure to address any of the above will result in disqualification of the application*

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