

MEMORANDUM

**TO:** CSEA LOCAL & UNIT PRESIDENTS

**FROM:** DANNY DONOHUE, PRESIDENT 

**DATE:** February 27, 2009

**RE:** Jerry Clark Memorial Scholarship - 2009

AFSCME recently announced the 2009 Jerry Clark Memorial Scholarship Program for children of AFSCME/CSEA members. This scholarship was established in 1990 in honor of Jerry Clark who was deeply committed to progressive social and economic ideals and who served for many years as AFSCME's Political Action Director. This year, some changes have been made in the terms and criteria for the scholarship, as noted below.

The scholarship will be awarded to **two** students who are currently **sophomores** majoring in the **social sciences**. The winners will each receive \$5,000 per year for their junior and senior years of study, as well as an opportunity to intern with the International Union's Political Action Department.

A selection committee at the International Union will choose winners based on the following criteria:

- The student **must** be a **child or financially dependent grandchild of an AFSCME/CSEA member**.
- The student **must** have a **Grade Point Average of 2.5 or better**.
- The student **must** be in his/her **sophomore** year of study.
- The student **must** be a **social science (i.e., political science, sociology, ethnic studies, communications, etc.) major at an accredited college or university**.
- The student must demonstrate a commitment to social justice and political activism.

The application is enclosed. Additional copies can be obtained by writing, e-mailing or downloading, as follows:

**Jerry Clark Memorial Scholarship  
c/o AFSCME Education Department  
1625 L Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20036**

**e-mail: [education@afscme.org](mailto:education@afscme.org)**

**download: [www.afscme.org](http://www.afscme.org)**

Completed applications for the 2009 scholarship must be postmarked **NO LATER THAN April 30, 2009**. The winner will be announced by August 1, 2009.

DD/dmf  
Enclosure  
cc L. Hmeleski  
Member Benefits



# JERRY CLARK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

## OFFICIAL APPLICATION FORM

When completed, please return,

**POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN APRIL 30, TO:**

Jerry Clark Memorial Scholarship Program  
AFSCME

Attention: Department of Education and Leadership Training  
1625 L St., N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20036-5687

[www.afscme.org](http://www.afscme.org)

E-mail: [education@afscme.org](mailto:education@afscme.org)

## INSTRUCTIONS

The Jerry Clark Memorial Scholarship Program is an ongoing program available to children of AFSCME members who are interested in pursuing a career in political activism. Under the program, a scholarship in the amount of \$5,000 will be awarded annually to two students with a social science major for the junior and senior years of study. Each student will also be given the opportunity to intern at the International union headquarters in the Political Action Department during the summer between his/her junior and senior year or for one semester during his/her junior or senior year. Scholarship winners may also be eligible for a six-month job placement with AFSCME after graduation. The scholarship winners will be selected by a committee that will thoroughly examine all applications. Once awarded, the scholarship will be renewed for the senior year of study, provided the student remains enrolled in a full-time course of study as a social science major.

Any student in his/her sophomore year of study who is enrolled in a full-time, four-year degree program in any accredited college or university, and whose parent, legal guardian, or financially responsible grandparent is an AFSCME member, and who meets the following requirements is eligible to apply for the scholarship:

- a. The student must have a grade point average of 2.5 or higher.
- b. The student must be a social science major who is interested in pursuing a career in political activism.

## TO APPLY

1. Complete the applicant's section.
2. Provide an official copy of your transcripts for your freshman and sophomore years and proof of your social science major (i.e., sociology, ethnic studies, political science, communications, etc.).
3. Have your parent complete the AFSCME parent's section.
4. Attach proof of parent's AFSCME membership, such as a COPY of the membership card.
5. Make sure your complete application, with all support documentation, is mailed to AFSCME, **POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN APRIL 30.**

## SELECTION

1. All students who apply by the deadline and who meet the minimum requirements stated above will be eligible for the scholarship. The Scholarship Selection Committee will thoroughly examine all applications.
2. The announcement of the winners will be made by August 1.



**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE APPLICANT**

(Please print and please use black ink or type)

1. Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City) (State) (ZIP) Phone (Area Code) (Number)

Cell Phone (Area Code) (Number) E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

2. Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

3. Please have your college or university submit an official copy of your transcripts for your freshman and sophomore years. GPA \_\_\_\_\_

4. Indicate the name and address of the university or college you are attending \_\_\_\_\_

5. Please indicate the year you expect to graduate \_\_\_\_\_

6. Please submit proof that your major field of study is a social science, for example, a letter from a dean or registrar.

7. Please list your political experience and activities.

8. **Essay:** How can labor unions like AFSCME use their collective political power to make the lives of our members, their families and their communities better? (500 words or one page)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AFSCME PARENT, LEGAL GUARDIAN OR FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE GRANDPARENT**

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City) (State) (ZIP) Phone (Area Code) (Number)

Cell Phone (Area Code) (Number) E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

2. Work Location \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City) (State) (ZIP) Phone (Area Code) (Number)

3. AFSCME Council Number \_\_\_\_\_ Local Number \_\_\_\_\_ Retiree Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

**(You must attach proof of membership, such as a COPY of your AFSCME membership card)**

4. Check one:  Parent  Legal Guardian  Financially Responsible Grandparent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

DETACH AT DOTTED LINE

# GIRARD P. "JERRY" CLARK

## 1924-1990



For nearly two decades, Jerry Clark was at the helm of AFSCME's Political Action Department. During this time, he dutifully stood guard, keeping union-busting, anti-worker politicians away from public office and putting his political genius to work on behalf of those candidates who pledged to stand by public employees.

A soft-spoken, brilliant man, Clark was a committed trade unionist with a devotion to fairness and decency that is rare in the pressure-cooker world of electoral politics.

"His death was a great loss to AFSCME and to all of the American labor movement," said President Gerald W. McEntee, "but it is even greater to us who knew him as a friend.

"Jerry Clark really cared about ordinary people," McEntee continued. "He really cared about the health of our democracy. And he put his warmth, decency and his ideals into everything he did.

"With his encyclopedic knowledge of political campaigns, he will be remembered most for the training programs and the phone banks and door-knocking methods he perfected over the years to turn out high percentages of voters on Election Day."

Appointed by former AFSCME President Jerry Wurf in June 1967 to be director of what was then the AFSCME Department of Education and Research, Clark had a background in the trade union movement, government and journalism. He at one time headed the International union's Legislative and Community Affairs Department.

In 1971, as part of a major reorganization of AFSCME departments, Clark became the

International's director of the newly created Political Action Department and briefly served as the director of the newly created Retiree Department in 1978 and 1979.

A native of Wisconsin and a veteran of World War II, Clark graduated from the School of Journalism of Marquette University. He was editor of the West Point (Wis.) Pilot for a brief period before joining the Kenosha (Wis.) Evening News, where he was the labor and political editor. He organized the newspaper's editorial department in 1953 as a local of the American Newspaper Guild, AFL-CIO. He served as the first president of that unit and as a delegate to the guild's Midwest District Council.

Clark was president of the Kenosha County CIO Council in 1956, during which period he worked with AFSCME, organizing the Kenosha County courthouse, highway and city hall AFSCME locals.

He was named co-chairman of the statewide campaign committee for Senator William Proxmire in 1957 and served as Proxmire's top aide in Washington from 1957 to 1962.

Clark held a key post in the Wisconsin primary campaign committee for John F. Kennedy in 1960 and joined the Kennedy administration in 1963 as director of Equal Opportunity for the U.S. Defense Department.