



**KEAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS**  
*An Association of Professors, Professional Staff and Librarians*  
Local 2187, American Federation of Teachers  
Kean University, Union, N.J. 07083  
Phone 908 737-3925 Fax 908 737-3929 Website www.kft2187.org

Dear Kean Student:

The Kean Federation of Teachers (KFT) is the University's union of faculty, librarians and professional staff. The KFT advocates for working terms and conditions conducive to safety at the work place, professionalism, and academic freedom, as well as quality education that is accessible and affordable to all our students. It is anticipated that up to eight awards will be granted in the following categories:

- ◆ Full-time undergraduates (freshman, sophomore, junior, senior) \$1200
- ◆ Part-time undergraduates (freshman, sophomore, junior, senior) \$600
- ◆ Full-time Graduate students (masters' program or post baccalaureate) \$1500
- ◆ Part-time Graduate student (masters' program or post baccalaureate) \$750

Monies will be allocated at the discretion of the KFT Scholarship Committee. Scholarship recipients will be selected on the basis of academic achievement, financial need, and evaluation of an essay. Additional information is listed below and an application is attached.

*Eligibility Criteria*

You must be enrolled at Kean University as a:

- Full-time undergraduate student enrolled for at least 12 credits for the 2014 Fall Semester  
**OR**
- Part-time undergraduate student enrolled for up to 9 credits for the 2014 Fall Semester  
**OR**
- Full-time or part-time graduate or post baccalaureate student enrolled for the 2014 Fall Semester  
**AND**
  - 1) Have a record of academic achievement
  - 2) Have a financial need not fully met by other sources of aid
  - 3) Complete and submit an application and an essay as required

**PREVIOUS KFT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE**

The **application deadline is February 18, 2015 by 5 pm**. Submit all required documents to the **KFT Office, Hutchinson Hall, Room 201G**. The KFT office is open from **Tuesday through Thursday from 9 am to 5 pm**. You may put the application in an envelope and slip it under the door if the office is not open.

**NOTE: Applications that are incomplete without all required documents will not be reviewed.**

Cordially yours,

  
Ms. Lindy Foreman  
KFT Scholarship Committee Chair

## APPLICATIONS

Applications are available at the following locations:

- Financial Aid Office – Administration Building – Floor 1
- One-Stop Service Center – CAS, Floor 1
- Graduate Student Services – East Campus, Room 218
- KFT Office – Hutchinson Hall, Room J201G
- Applications also available on line at the KFT website: [www.KFT2187.org](http://www.KFT2187.org)

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: Wednesday, February 18, 2015.** Applications without all required documentation will not be reviewed.

## PRESENTATION

The scholarship awards presentation will be held in early May. Scholarship recipients will be honored at a reception for their families and friends, KFT representatives, Kean faculty, administrators and staff.

## INTRODUCTION TO THE ESSAY

Soon you will be on the threshold of graduation and enter into the work world of your field of study. There you will be in a position to provide quality services at work and advocate for causes that could enhance the lives of the people you serve. **Essays will be reviewed for grammar, spelling and punctuation. Points will be subtracted for essays that are not well written.**

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE ESSAYS

In a 500 to 800 word essay, address the value of collective action and social activism found in unionism and the function unions serve in our society. Reflect on ways in which the formation of unions may have impacted your experiences at school, home, your work place, and your community as a whole. Give consideration to the social causes for which you may want to advocate for the enhancement of the lives in the community you serve.

The essay must be **typed, double-spaced**, and with careful attention to punctuation and grammar.

You have the option to **choose one of the three categories** below to write an essay that represents pertinent issues and your personal view on the topic.

- A) An essay on a specific union - you have the option to explore unionism in any industry that interests you.
- B) The role of unionism in your field of study. You may explore how unionism has influenced the practice of professionalism in this field and the services it provides to our society. You may review literature on the topic and interview professionals in this field who have been affiliated with their unions so that you can obtain the necessary background.
- C) An essay on the activism inherent in unionism. Elaborate on how your community service and social activism are similar. Address the ways in which you have shown a commitment to serving a community that has been historically disadvantaged, underrepresented, or underserved socially, educationally, politically, or economically. Elaborate on your advocacy

role as a social activist and the contribution you are making (or have made) to this community.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR ESSAY A**  
*A Specific Union that interests me*

You may write an essay on a specific union and you have the option to explore unionism in any industry that has a union and that interests you.

1. Write a 500 to 800 word essay, typed, double-spaced, with careful attention to punctuation, grammar. The references used must current, i.e., published during the last several years.
2. Discuss the growth and development of the union for the industry you chose.
3. Has this industry's union changed for the better or worse since its inception?
4. How has the union changed the working conditions in this industry?
5. How has the union changed the services this industry provides to our society?
6. Finally, include a personal commentary on the value of the contributions of this specific union to its industry.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR ESSAY B**  
*The role of Unionism in my field of study*

In this category you have the option to explore the role of unionism in your field of study. You may explore how unionism has influenced the practice of professionalism in this field and the services it provides to our society. You may review literature on the topic and interview professionals in this field who have been affiliated with their unions so that you can obtain the necessary background.

1. Write a 500 to 800 word essay, typed, double-spaced, with careful attention to punctuation, grammar. The references used must current, i.e., published during the last several years.
2. Discuss the growth and development of the unions at the work place of your field of study.
3. Has the union in your field of study changed for the better or worse since their inception?
4. How has the union in your field of study changed the working conditions for its employees?
5. How has the union in your field of study changed the services provided to our society?
6. Finally, include a personal commentary on the value of the contributions of the union to your field of study.

## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR ESSAY C**

### *Activism inherent in unionism and my community service/social activism*

You may write an essay on the activism inherent in unionism and elaborate how your community service and social activism is similar. Address the ways in which you have shown a commitment to serving a community that has been historically disadvantaged, underrepresented, and underserved socially, educationally, politically, or economically. Elaborate on your advocacy role as a social activist and the contribution you are making (or have made) to this community.

1. Write a 500 to 800 word essay, typed, double-spaced, with careful attention to punctuation, grammar. You may use some current references on unionism.
2. Briefly review literature pertinent to your community service and the role of grassroots activism in the development of communities that are historically disadvantaged, underrepresented, and underserved.
3. How similar is your community service or social activism to that which unions follow in advocating for the working conditions and professionalism of their members.
4. What motivated you to assume the role of a social activist in your community and what are the long-term objectives for which you advocate?
5. How has your social activism and community service made a difference in the lives of the people in the community you serve?
6. Were you able to collaborate with other members in the community to make a difference collectively?
7. Include a personal commentary on the value of the contributions we can all make in our communities to make the world a better place for everyone.

## SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION - KEAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Cell/Other Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Check Applicable Status:** \_\_\_ Freshman \_\_\_ Sophomore \_\_\_ Junior \_\_\_ Senior \_\_\_ Graduate

\_\_\_ Part-time Student \_\_\_ Full-time Student \_\_\_ International Student

Major \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Chair/Program Advisor \_\_\_\_\_

### **AGREEMENT - PLEASE READ**

*I authorize the release of all academic records and transcripts from the Kean Registrar and all records on my funding sources from the Kean Financial Aid Office to the Kean Federation of Teachers.*

*I certify that I have accurately cited information from any sources referenced and have written the attached essay without plagiarism, and if it has been determined that it is plagiarized, or not independently prepared, my application will be disqualified.*

*I understand that my application must contain all documentation listed below and that an incomplete or late application packet will be disqualified.*

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### **APPLICANT - PLEASE CHECK - THE FOLLOWING MUST BE INCLUDED OR YOUR APPLICATION WILL NOT BE REVIEWED:**

- The essay (See Essay Requirements).
- Copy of most recent Kean transcript (Keanwise transcript is acceptable).
- Most recent student and/or family (if student is not employed) income tax return(s).  
For international students without income tax returns, additional information in a maximum of 100 words should be included in the *statement of financial need*.
- List of any other scholarships, financial aid or student loans for which you have applied or received. Please indicate "no scholarships, financial aid or student loans," if you are not receiving funding.
- Statement of financial need (100 word maximum).

**Return the application and all required documentation to the KFT Scholarship Committee, Hutchinson Hall, Room J201G.**