Greetings,

Applications are now open for convention assistance through the Gwen and George Rittgers convention Memorial fund. Applications must be submitted on-line or by E-mail using the attached form by March 12,2024 at 5:00pm. Applicants will be notified by March 17 of the committee’s decision. The preferred application method is completing the on-line form using the convention assistance link in the state convention section of the [www.nfbmo.org](http://www.nfbmo.org) website which should be available shortly. Applicants should make hotel reservations but should NOT register for the convention until after they are notified of the results of their application.

Rittgers Stipends are based on financial need and, therefore, those applying for funding should lay out their needs so that the Rittgers committee can get a picture of your situation so we can make the most informed decision. Applications are kept strictly confidential and are shared only on an absolute need to know basis. Also, keep in mind that funding is very limited and will only cover a part of your expenses but the hope is that it will be enough to make the difference on applicants ability to attend the state convention. Please read the bylaws below that govern Rittgers Funding.

RITTGERS FUND APPLICATION

Complete and return to [GCoulter@NFBMO.org](mailto:GCoulter@NFBMO.org).

Name:

1. Address:

City, State:

Zip Code:

1. Phone:

1. What, if any, Missouri Chapter/Division are you a member of?:

1. Have you ever attended a Missouri State Convention?:
2. Have you ever received any Funds from the Rittgers Fund?:
3. Are you receiving any financial assistance from your chapter or other source? If so what is the source and amount?
4. Will you be arriving on Thursday or Friday?
5. Will you have a roommate or are you willing to share a room?
6. Why do you want to attend this Convention?:

1. What level of Financial support would you need from the fund?:
2. Additional Comments:

5.00 George and Gwen Rittger’s Stipends for state convention

5.01. The state board will allocate the maximum amount to be

used from the fund by January 31 of each year.

5.02 An individual application must be made 30 days before the

beginning of convention by the person requesting the funds, or by their

chapter president, which explains the reason for the request.

5.03 It is not intended that these funds pay the entire cost of

convention attendance, and the committee is only to allocate funds based

on need and will not use the entire allocated amount unless recipients

needs justify it.

5.04 The state president may authorize funding after the

deadline in extraordinary circumstances if funds remain in the

allocation.

5.05 Whenever practical, funds will be directly paid either to

cover hotel costs or convention registration and meals.

5.06 New or perspective members will be given highest priority

in their request.

5.07 Persons who have previously attended a Missouri convention

will then be given consideration.

5.08. No person shall receive funds a second or subsequent time

unless they experience an unexpected financial crisis that would otherwise prevent their attendance.

1.07 Affiliate Scholarships, Rittgers Funding, or National Convention Stipends

which require attendance at any convention shall not be awarded to any person who has not attained their 18th birthday prior to the convention unless accompanied by their parent or guardian.