Applications are now open for stipends for the 2024 National Convention to be held in Orlando, Florida July 3-8, 2024. Stipends are based on financial need and, therefore, those applying for funding should lay out their needs so that the funding 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 fraction of your expenses, but the hope is that it will be enough to make the difference on applicants’ ability to attend the largest gathering of blind persons in the world. Please read the bylaws below that govern the stipends. Those awarded the stipend will receive a check from the affiliate treasurer shortly before the convention Lastly an application does not guarantee any funding due to our limited resources.,.

You must Email the application no later than 5:00 pm Central Time on May 20 to me at [GCoulter@NFBMo.org](mailto:GCoulter@NFBMo.org) to be considered. Use the form that is attached to this message or the form below. All applicants will be notified within a few days of the deadline of the committee’s decision.

Eugene Coulter, Rittgers Committee Chair

Phone:573-474-3226

NATIONAL CONVENTION STIPEND APPLICATION

5.20 National Convention Stipends

5.21 The state convention shall determine if stipends should be allocated to help persons who may otherwise have difficulty in attending our annual national convention, as well as the amount available, if any, to be allocated. The chair of the Rittgers Committee shall send out a notice via email and on the affiliate website within five days of the end of the state convention regarding funding availability.

5.22 If funds are available, the Rittgers Committee will accept the applications and determine the individual allocations.

5.23 The application deadline shall be 5:00 p.m. May 20 of each year.

5.24 Allocations shall be based on need, and first-time national convention attendees shall be given highest priority by the committee. The next priority will be given to those who have never received a stipend from this source. If, after the above categories are determined, and funding is still available, the committee may allocate funds to someone with a financial need to receive funding to the convention for a second time. However, no one shall receive funding for a third or subsequent time unless they have a very extreme verified financial need, and a compelling reason to attend the national convention.

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.

4.15 When advance payment is issued, the recipient must provide receipts for expenses within fifteen days of the conclusion of the event. In addition, they must be accompanied by any funds advanced but not spent on the event. Persons not providing such receipts shall not be granted advance payment in the future.

National Convention Stipend Application Form

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

Name:

Complete Address:

Cell Phone:

Home Phone:

Chapter:

 Will you be at least 18 years of age prior to July 3, 2024?:

Have you ever attended a National Convention?

Have you ever received any Funds from the state affiliate to attend the National Convention?:

IS your chapter providing any financial assistance, how much, if known?

Have you applied for assistance from the Jernigan Fund?:

What will be your arrival/departure dates at the convention?

Why do you want to attend this Convention?:

What level of financial support would you need from the fund? Explain your financial circumstances.:

I certify that I have read and understand all of the information that accompanied this application?

Your Additional Comments: