**VLEI 2017 Joe Lipomi Memorial Scholastic Grant Application**

**Purpose:** The Virginia Lions Eye Institute Foundation (VLEI) gives these Grants to visually Handicapped Individuals who are sponsored by individual Lions Clubs of District 24-A. **The overriding objective of the grants is to enhance the potential of the recipients to achieve an independent and serf supporting life.** Grant dollars may be used for assistive devices, education / training expenses, and other expenses associated with the objectives of the grants and the recipient.

**Qualifications:**

1. Visual acuity must be limited to 20/70 or less best corrected in the best eye or a binocular visual field of 30 degrees or less. Sight must be documented by an eye care professional (ophthalmologist or Optometrist).
2. Sponsorship by a Lions Club with a recommendation from the sponsoring Club. VLEI will find a sponsoring club if the applicant needs that service.
3. The Grant Application must be accompanied by an attached separate Essay explaining why the grant is needed and how the funds will be used. It is helpful if the applicant can “introduce themselves” and describe their interests and objectives for the future. Other than 1) above, the essay is the only information the Board of Trustees has to distinguish between applicants when the number of applicants exceed the annual budget for Scholastic Grants. First time applicants receive priority over applications from those who have received previous Grants. The VLEI Board of Trustees will make the final determination for all approved Grant Applications.

**Required Personal Data (SSN may be attached on a plain sheet without name if desired)**

**Name:**  SSN:

Address : Phone:

Legible email address:

**Attach visual disability statement from the applicant’s eye care professional with signature and phone.**

**Attach the sponsoring Lions Club recommendation.**

**Completed applications must be mailed or emailed to Lion Elden Wright, 9310 Ashmeade Dr, Fairfax, VA 22032 and must arrive by 19 December, 2016**. Approved applicants will be notified in late December, 2016 or early January 2017. The majority of the Grants will be mailed to the recipients. A few or the Grants may be presented at the Winter Conference. Details will be announced when finalized. Email correspondence should subject the email “scholastic grant”. Questions( ?), [ewright22@aol.com](mailto:ewright22@aol.com) or 703-323-6915.