**VLEI 2016 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 Grant dollars is to improve the recipient’s potential to achieve an independent self - supporting life**. The 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 applicants “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 exceeds the 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 on 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

Visual acuity with best correction Right Eye Left Eye

Visual field (binocular) Degrees

Attach an evaluation of the applicant visual disability (Ophthalmologist/Optometrist with signature and phone).

Sponsoring Lions Club: (assistance will be provided by VLEI when required)

All applications must be submitted to Lion Elden Wright at ewright22@aol.com subject “vlei scholastic grant application” no later than 4 December 2015. Applications may be mailed to Lion Elden Wright, 9310 Ashmeade Drive, Fairfax, VA 22032. Approved Grants will be awarded at the Lions Winter Conference in February when possible or mailed to the recipients when that is not possible.