**2010 NFB**

**Convention Assistance Form**

The National Federation of the Blind 2010 convention will take place July 3 through July 8 in Dallas, Texas. Because affiliate resources are restricted, everyone will receive partial assistance only. Please complete this form and the letter requested and return them to the President **before May 1**. Requests received after that date will not be considered. If you have questions about the form or the process, contact the President at 1-800-396-6326 or at jwsmithnfb@verizon.net for information or help. Those seeking assistance to attend their first national convention are asked to apply for assistance from the Jernigan Fund. We will look with much more sympathy on requests for assistance of first-timers who enclose their application letters to the Jernigan Fund. For your convenience, this packet includes the information about the Jernigan Fund application.

 If you request cash assistance, be sure to sign the blank expense reimbursement form attached to this application. Without a signed blank form that we can fill out with the amount of cash granted, we cannot advance funds. If you are requesting help with hotel or transportation only, we will take care of them directly; so you need not return the signed form.

 For ALL assistance you are requesting, please attach a letter explaining why you wish to attend the convention and what you hope to accomplish as a result. If we should know about extenuating circumstances before making a decision about your application, please explain them briefly. A supporting letter from a chapter President or another appropriate NFB-O leader can only help given our severe financial constraints this year!

 No one applies for assistance without financial need, so this request is for information about extraordinary needs only.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Number of adults:\_\_\_\_\_ Children:\_\_\_\_\_

Date of arrival: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of departure: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The maximum stipend to offset convention expenses is $30 a day for adults and $15 a day for children.

Are you requesting cash assistance for convention expenses? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No

Are you requesting assistance with your hotel room? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No

If the answer is No, skip the following section.

Have you made a room reservation? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No

If you are a single adult, are you able to share a room with one to three people?

\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No

Should a roommate know about any habits or health problems? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No

If yes, please explain.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Are you requesting transportation assistance? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No

If you answered no, skip the following section.

Are you planning to drive to the convention? \_\_Yes \_\_\_No

If so, how much assistance are you requesting? $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(We reimburse at 48 cents a mile.)

If you have already made transportation arrangements, please explain them.

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**Miscellaneous Expenses**

Will you need childcare? \_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_No If yes, for how many? \_\_\_

Parking is $25 a day for valet and $20 a day for self parking at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center. Are you requesting assistance with parking? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No

Together registration and banquet will cost about $50. Are you requesting assistance with these important fees? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No

(Please note that this year preregistration is available online and by mail. We urge everyone to save money by preregistering.)

Mail before May 1 to:

NFB of Ohio

PO Box 458

Athens, Ohio 45701-0458

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND OF OHIO

EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_DATE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 The NFB of Ohio reimburses expenses incurred by people doing NFB-OH business in accordance with agreed upon terms. These include, but are not limited to actual hotel room costs, bus, train, and air fares, and up to $30 per diem food cost (excluding alcohol); 48 cents per mile for mileage. Whenever possible receipts or copies of bills should be attached to this form.

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| **Date** | **Transportation** | **Food** | **Room** | **Tips** | **Phone** | **Misc.** | **Total** |
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Submit to:

NFB of Ohio

PO Box 458

Athens, Ohio, 45701-0458

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Convention Scholarships Available**
**by Allen Harris**

**From the Editor: Allen Harris chairs the Kenneth Jernigan Convention Scholarship Fund committee. He has an important announcement for those who would like to attend this year's national convention but find themselves short of funds. This is what he says:**

The Kenneth Jernigan Convention Scholarship Fund is looking for individuals who can use some financial assistance to attend our national convention in Dallas, Texas. In 2010 our convention will begin on Saturday, July 3, and run through Thursday, July 8. This will be only the second year that we have operated on this abbreviated schedule. The convention is a day shorter than you might expect, ending with the banquet Thursday evening.

**Who is eligible to receive a Kenneth Jernigan Convention Scholarship?**

If you are a member of the National Federation of the Blind, you are eligible to apply. Preference, however, will be given to first-time convention attendees. The scholarship selection committee is able to make an occasional exception, but first-time convention participants are the target group.

**What do I have to do to apply for a Kenneth Jernigan Convention Scholarship?**

You must do the following and are responsible for these application requirements:

1. Find out who your state NFB president is and get him or her to write a letter of recommendation for you, or you may have a chapter president or other officer write a letter of recommendation, but we must have a letter from a Federation leader who is familiar with you.

2. You must write a letter to the Kenneth Jernigan Fund committee expressing the reasons why you want a scholarship. Describe your participation in the Federation and what you think you would get and give to the convention. Please send all information to Allen Harris, 5209 Sterling Glen Drive, Pinson, Alabama 35126, or email the information to <[allen.harris@dwx.com](http://us.mc458.mail.yahoo.com/mc/compose?to=allen.harris@dwx.com)> or <[joy.harris@dwx.com](http://us.mc458.mail.yahoo.com/mc/compose?to=joy.harris@dwx.com)>.

3. You must register for and attend the entire convention, including the banquet.

**What else must I do to insure that my application will be considered?**

We must receive all of the following:
1. Your full name
2. Your address
3. Your telephone numbers (home, business, cell)
4. Your email address (If you have one)
5. Your state president's name and the name of your local chapter, if you attend one

**All applications must be received by April 14, 2010.

How do I get my scholarship funds?**

You will get a debit card at the convention loaded with the amount of your scholarship award. The times and locations to pick up your debit card will be listed in the notice you receive if you are a scholarship winner. The committee is not able to provide funds before the convention, so work with your chapter and state affiliate to assist by advancing funds you can pay back when you receive your scholarship.

**When will I know if I have been selected as a Kenneth Jernigan Scholarship winner?**

The committee makes every effort to notify scholarship winners by May 15, but you must do several things to be prepared to attend if you are chosen:

1. You must make your own hotel reservation. If something prevents you from attending, you can cancel your reservation.

2. You will receive a letter with the convention details which should answer many of your questions. It is also helpful to find a mentor from your chapter or affiliate to act as a friend and advisor during the convention. Although you will not know officially whether or not you have been selected until mid-May, you must make plans to attend and then adjust your plans accordingly.

This past summer in Detroit the Jernigan Fund scholarship committee awarded seventy Kenneth Jernigan Scholarships. The average grant was $600. You can include in your letter to the committee any extenuating circumstances which the committee may choose to take into consideration. Above all, please use this opportunity to attend your first convention and join several thousand other blind Federationists in the most important meeting of the blind in the world.

If you have questions or need additional information, call Allen Harris at (205) 520-9979 or email him at <[allen.harris@dwx.com](http://us.mc458.mail.yahoo.com/mc/compose?to=allen.harris@dwx.com)>. You may also email Joy Harris at <[joy.harris@dwx.com](http://us.mc458.mail.yahoo.com/mc/compose?to=joy.harris@dwx.com)>. We look forward to seeing you in Dallas.