Harry “Diddle” Blackwell Memorial Scholarship

**Background:** Harry “Diddle” Blackwell was a community member, Vietnam Veteran, and former Green Beret. This pillar of the community passed away in 2017, but will be memorialized through the Harry “Diddle” Blackwell Memorial Scholarship.

**PADDLE4TROOPS, INC** is a community organization that was created to assist active and prior military who have sacrificed so much. Through their paddleboard fundraiser each year, we have been able to support our bravest service members and their families through medical care, mental health services, professional training, education, and scholarship. Founded in Surf City, NC, by Joshua Torres as a senior project, **PADDLE4TROOPS, INC** is now its seventh year of making a difference in the lives of those willing to sacrifice their own.

Understanding the importance of a quality education, **PADDLE4TROOPS, INC** created the Harry “Diddle” Blackwell Scholarship to enable children of active or prior military to better focus on their intellectual development and career goals.

**HOW TO APPLY**

Eligible Students Must:

- Write an essay of no fewer than 800 words to the prompt below:
  - How has your experience as a dependent child of a person in the military helped shape you as a person?
- Include a **Letter of Recommendation** by a teacher or employer.
- Email required documents as separate attachments (.doc or .pdf) to scholarship@paddle4troops.com
  - Essay
  - Application
  - Letter of Recommendation
  - DD-214 demonstrating applicant is dependent of Active or Prior Military personnel.
WHO CAN APPLY

Any dependent of an Active, Prior, or Retired Military personnel may apply who is:

- Age 21 and under
- a 2018 high school graduate accepted to attend a two or four-year college/university or a current full-time student currently attending a two/four-year college/university in the United States
- carries a 3.0 or better cumulative GPA.

WHEN IS THE DEADLINE TO APPLY?

Students must submit entries for the Harry “Diddle” Blackwell Scholarship by May 5, 2018, to be considered for the 2018/19 SY. Awardees will be notified by May 30, 2018. Awards will be announced to the public at PADDLE4TROOPS annual fundraiser on September 1, 2018.

AWARD AMOUNT

- Scholarships of $2500, $1000, or $500 will be awarded this fall semester.
- Scholarships of $1000 annually will be given for up to 3 additional years providing recipient is in good standings with scholarship for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place scholarship awardees.

SELECTION PROCESS AND NOTIFICATION

PADDLE4TROOPS Scholarship Committee will review each application and notify the winning student of their award by email. Scholarship winners are encouraged to attend annual fundraiser on September 1, 2018, to accept awards. This is not, however, a requirement of entry.

QUESTIONS

Please direct all questions to scholarship@paddle4troops.com.