

Tuition Assistance Program Guidelines

Effective Date: July 10, 2022

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to establish a guideline for the Tuition Assistance Program (T.A.P.) of the Blacksmith Association of Missouri (B.A.M.).

Scope

This procedure is to be followed by all members and T.A.P. committee for the process of applying and reviewing applications for this program.

- 1:** The T.A.P is for non-B.A.M. classes.
- 2:** The applicant must be a B.A.M. member in good standing for two years prior to applying.
- 3:** The Program is to be capped at a maximum of \$1,000 dollars per application.
- 4:** The program is to provide assistance for tuition and travel expense (e.g. gas, lodging, and materials).
- 5:** Once assistance is granted, there is a waiting period of two years before the applicant can be eligible for another T.A.P.
- 6:** Maximum of two T.A.P. applications per year provided funds are available from the B.A.M. treasury.
- 7:** It is the treasurer's responsibility to determine if B.A.M. is in a financial position to provide T.A.P.

8: If T.A.P. funds are not awarded in the calendar year they are “lost”, there is no accumulation of T.A.P. available from year-to-year.

9: If the treasurer determines that B.A.M.’s finances would be detrimentally affected by issuing T.A.P. then no funds would be available for that year.

10: T.A.P. is to provide assistance to attend hands-on classes at an established teaching facility, or one-on-one instruction at another smith’s shop.

11: T.A.P. approval is up to the discretion of the T.A.P. committee.

12: The T.A.P. committee has the power to revise this guideline at any time and submit to B.A.M. officers for approval.

13: The T.A.P. guideline shall be reviewed every five years and reapproved by the B.A.M. officers.

14: B.A.M. members using T.A.P. funding are required to submit an article about the education experience attended with appropriate notes and diagrams of the items made or techniques learned in the class to the Tuition Assistance Committee to be reviewed and published in the B.A.M. newsletter no later than 3 months after attending the class.

15: B.A.M. members using T.A.P. funding will present a demonstration of the newly learned skills at a B.A.M. meeting or complete a video to be placed in the B.A.M. library within 1 year of the class.

16: One third of the total assistance amount will be awarded before the class,

one third on submission of the article to the Tuition Assistance Committee, and one third after presenting the demonstration or video at a B.A.M. event.

17: T.A.P. committee members are not eligible for the assistance from the program.