William W. “Bill” Skerpon, a high school geography and Pennsylvania history teacher, taught at Sayre Area High School for 25 years, retiring in 1980. Over the years, in addition to teaching, he served as the Athletic Director, and coached numerous football, and track teams as well as started the golf program at Sayre Area High School as well as coached the program until his retirement.

Bill served his country in World War II as a staff sergeant in the European, North African and Pacific Theaters. A graduate of State Teachers College at Lock Haven, Skerpon was a boxing standout, and took third in Nationals, and was the last boxer from Lock Haven to have achieved a National title.

Bill's widow, Charlotte Skerpon, and his five children established the scholarship to honor his memory as a dedicated and loving husband, strong role model to his children, and a memorable teacher that was committed to teaching and coaching students in their high school years. The scholarship will be presented to a graduating senior planning to attend college to study education beginning in May, 2013.

**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**
1. Graduating seniors of Sayre Area High School
2. Plans to attend a two- or four-year college, university, or trade school to study education.
3. Financial need

**HOW TO APPLY**
Complete the Scholarship Application form and submit it to the Sayre Area High School counseling officer. [Click here for the application.](#)

The following attachments must also be included with your application as indicated on the application form:
1. FAFSA Student Aid Report (SAR): Please attach the report in its entirety. This report must include the Estimated Family Contribution (EFC). Please be aware that the SAR is not the same as the Summary Report. In addition to the SAR, you may also provide a letter with information you believe will be useful in determining your financial need (e.g., family and student income). Are there extenuating circumstances of which we should be aware? For example, illness in the family, loss of employment, or other relevant information?
2. A personal essay describing why you are interested in a career in education. Essay should use 12pt font and be at least 500 words.

**RENEWABILITY**
This scholarship is a one-time only award.

**MATCHING AWARD OPPORTUNITIES**
AES/PHEAA’s PATH Program: Scholarship recipients are eligible to have their awards matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis by AES/PHEAA’s PATH (“Partnerships for Access to Higher Education”) Program. PHEAA may grant matching funds to scholarship recipients who are enrolled in an approved Pennsylvania college or career school as an undergraduate student on at least a half-time basis, who are a Pennsylvania state grant recipient and who demonstrate financial need. Students must also be a resident of Pennsylvania, not in default on any educational loans, maintain academic progress, and not be considered an incarcerated student. The match provides last-dollar support for tuition and fees. Scholarship funds used for reimbursement of textbook purchases are not eligible for a PATH Program match. The scholarship recipient's information is submitted to PHEAA by TFEC staff. No additional work will be asked of the scholarship recipient. For more information regarding AES/PHEAA, please refer to their website at [www.pheaa.org](http://www.pheaa.org).