

Maryland State Firemen's Association Scholarship Guidelines for Applicants:

Programs: Applicants may apply for scholarship assistance in the following areas:

- a) Fire Protection Engineering at the University of Maryland.
- b) Emergency Health Services at the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC). Current approved curricula are the Management and Paramedic tracks, which lead to a Bachelor's Degree.
- c) Any Maryland Community College, in a curriculum that leads to a Bachelor's degree in Fire Protection Engineering.
- d) Programs at any Community College in Maryland, in Fire Sciences or Emergency Medical Services leading to a Bachelor's Degree.
- e) Any Maryland University, in a curriculum leading to a Bachelor's Degree in Fire or EMS related fields.
- f) Programs at any Community College in Maryland, in Emergency Medical Services leading to an Associates Degree.
- g) This scholarship is paid directly to the educational institution for the purpose of tuition and fees. At no time will this scholarship be awarded directly to the student or third party for cash or payment.

The committee has assigned the following priorities to control scholarship grants:

- a) Fire Protection Engineering at the University of Maryland. (Junior's in good standing or higher standing, enrolled in a 4-year program, faculty recommendation.)
- b) Fire Science at the University of Maryland University College. (UMUC). (Junior's in good standing or higher standing, enrolled in a 4-year program.)
- c) Emergency Health Service Majors at the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC). (Junior's in good standing or higher standing or higher, enrolled in a 4-year program, faculty recommendation.)
- d) Community College in Fire or EMS related programs leading to a Bachelor's Degree.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS

Application must be submitted by **April 15** to be considered for scholarship assistance for the ensuing academic year. Currently supported students will be required to submit a supplemental application form for consideration for continued support. Applications are available via download from the MSFA Web Site.

Minimum requirements:

All applicants must enter full time or part-time status as a student in his/her respective College/University to be eligible for the scholarship. Verified acceptance by the respective College/University with confirmation of approved program acceptance will be a prerequisite for receipt of a scholarship..

The awarded scholarship will be made available to the finance office of the College/University specified in the application at the beginning of the academic school year or designated semesters. At no time will the scholarship be awarded as cash funds to the individual recipient. Unused funds are to be returned by the academic institution at the end of the academic year.

Applicants are required to advise the committee of any other grants or scholarships that have been awarded or for which the applicant is eligible at the time of application. The respective campus finance office will be asked to review each application for scholarship assistance.

All applicants must be Maryland State High School Graduates or hold a GED. Verification of five years of active volunteer service in a Maryland fire or EMS company/department may be substituted for this requirement.

The applicant for any approved degree program shall be required to submit a letter of recommendation from his/her volunteer Fire /Rescue or EMS Company. This letter must be signed by the President of the applicant's member company and accompany the application for scholarship.

Applicant's must have completed one year of study at a college/ university earning no less than 12 credit hours per semester and have been accepted to participate in an approved degree program.

Currently supported college level students will be required to maintain an acceptable Grade Point Average (GPA) 3.0 to be eligible for scholarship support for the ensuing academic year. Currently supported college level students who have not maintained an acceptable GPA of 3.0 but have a GPA above 2.5 or greater will be placed on academic probation and required to bring their GPA back to the accepted standard with in one academic year to remain eligible for the scholarship.

New sophomore applicants are required to have a GPA of 3.0 or higher to be eligible for the program.

All students that have been awarded a scholarship are required to submit their transcript with at the completion of each semester while receiving the scholarship. Failure to present current grades at the completion of each semester to the scholarship committee may result in future funds being with held and ineligibility for future academic years.

Students must maintain full time status and carry no less than 12 credit hours per semester to be eligible for the scholarship. Students dropping below the required credit hours per semester will forfeit their scholarship and be required to reimburse the Maryland State Fireman's Association the full amount of the scholarship.

Students changing to a major not supported by the program or dropping out of school may be required to reimburse the Maryland State Fireman's Association the awarded scholarship or a portion thereof.

Applications submitted without all supporting documentation are subject to rejection and will not be reviewed by the selection committee. It is the responsibility of the applicant not the committee, to ensure that parties entrusted with submitting supporting documentation follow through by the appointed deadlines.

In an effort to conserve funds and to give our younger persons the opportunity for a college experience, committee policy is to deny scholarship support to those applicants currently holding a Bachelor or equivalent degree.

For more information, please contact:

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