

# **Corvallis Rural Fire Protection District Locke Scholarship Policy**

The purpose of this policy is to set the procedures for the award and administration of the Locke Scholarship Program. The Corvallis Rural Fire Protection District may provide scholarships to qualified students assigned as Rural Resident Volunteer (RRV) firefighters at the Locke Fire Station and under the Corvallis Fire Department Volunteer Program. Scholarships are meant to encourage professional and academic development of these RRV firefighters. This Scholarship is not intended, nor will it, cover all the costs associated with an academic degree at an institution of higher learning. Interested parties may submit an application to the Corvallis Fire Department Lieutenant in charge and overseeing the operation of the Locke Fire Station.

## **Eligibility**

To be eligible for a Locke Scholarship an applicant must:

1. Be a member in good standing of the Corvallis Fire Department's Volunteer Program before and during the time an award is made.
2. Reside at the Locke Fire Station.
3. Be admitted to participate in a degree program at an accredited college or colleges.

**Exception:** RRVs will be eligible for up to \$2,100.00 in scholarship reimbursement for an EMT class, held at the Locke Fire Station, provided through a cooperative effort with Lane Community College. The RRV must complete the class, apply for and obtain his/her EMT certification with the State of Oregon, then he/she may request a reimbursement scholarship. If the RRV then applies for 4 college credits through Lane Community College, he/she will be entitled to an additional \$600 scholarship. These reimbursement exceptions will not be included in limits stated below.

4. For term and semester system colleges and universities: Maintain a 2.0 or better grade point average on a 4.0 G.P.A. scale (C or better on a grade system), in each course taken, once admitted to an accredited college or university.

RRVs at Locke Fire Station who voluntarily or involuntarily separate from the Corvallis Fire Department Volunteer Program or fail to maintain the "eligibility requirements" listed above may owe a reimbursement of their full scholarship to the Corvallis Rural Fire Protection District for the term/semester impacted. The amount will be judged and determined by the Corvallis Rural Fire Protection District Board.

## **Scholarship Amounts and Timing of Awards**

For 4 quarter "term" schools: Scholarships will be awarded on a "credit hours taken" basis at the current rate of \$230 per credit hour up to a limit of 18 credit hours per term. Thus, an RRV enrolled in eighteen (18) credit hours will receive a scholarship award of \$4,140.00 per term for up to four (4) terms and/or a maximum limit of \$16,560.00 scholarship award per calendar year. RRVs must take a minimum of two (2) credit hours to apply for a scholarship during any one term. Scholarship awards will not be made for courses that have been repeated when an award was earned during past terms.

For the semester system: Scholarships will be awarded on a "credit hours taken" basis at the current rate of \$306.67 per credit hour up to a limit of 18 credit hours per semester. Thus, an RRV enrolled in eighteen (18) or more credits per semester will receive a maximum scholarship award of \$5,520.00 up to three (3) semesters and/or a maximum limit of \$16,560.00 scholarship award per calendar year. RRVs must take a minimum of two (2) credit hours to apply for a scholarship during any one semester. Scholarship awards will not be made for courses that have been repeated when an award was earned during past semesters.

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Scholarship awards will be distributed at the end of each term/semester and will be based on an RRV's official enrollment in college level courses. RRVs who begin their residency at the Locke Fire Station after the school term/semester starts will receive an award on a prorated basis. (Example: An RRV who begins his/her residency five and a half (5 1/2) weeks into an eleven (11) week term will receive half (1/2) of the scholarship amount determined by the formula in the paragraph above.)

Courses where a field internship is a requirement, in addition to classroom time, will be added together for the length of the class. This consideration is important when an RRV leaves the volunteer program at Locke Fire Station before completing the course. The length of the course will be determined by the week of beginning classes until the final week of the in-the-field internship. Repayments of the scholarship will be determined by the RRV's final grade and/or the prorated time the RRRV is living at the Locke Fire Station during the class or classes taken.

The CRFPD will no longer offer "advance payments" although those RRVs who have previously been advanced payments will be "grandfathered" in and if in good standing will continue to be considered for advanced payments of scholarships. As in the past, a promissory note will be required to secure this loan from the CRFPD.

### **Reporting Requirements**

RRVs will be expected to report to the lieutenant any credit hours that they add, drop, withdraw from or fail to pass during the term/semester.

At the end of each term/semester, RRVs will provide a copy of their final grades to the Locke Fire Station Lieutenant for review and compliance with the standards set above. The lieutenant will then report the grades to a selected Corvallis Rural Fire Protection District Board Member before scholarships for that term/semester will be awarded.

### **Acknowledgement:**

The undersigned hereby applies to be a participant in the Corvallis Rural Fire Protection District's Locke Scholarship Program. I affirm that I am admitted to and in good standing with the Corvallis Fire Department Volunteer Program and understand the conditions of the Locke Scholarship Policy set forth above:

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Rural Resident Volunteer

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

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

Corvallis RFPD Board Member

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature