



# Become a HERO.

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## The Illinois Education Foundation Announces Scholarship Opportunity for Fire Science Technology Students

### Who is eligible?

- Students enrolled in or planning to enroll in the Prairie State College Firefighter/EMT-Basic Certification Program starting in the spring 2011 term;
- Applicants must be U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents eligible for federal and state financial aid and able to demonstrate proof of filing the FAFSA;
- Applicants must be highly motivated and committed to their own academic and professional success.

### How do I apply?

Students interested in learning more about how to apply should contact Keith Damm, Fire Science Coordinator, (708) 699-5397, [kdamm@prairiestate.edu](mailto:kdamm@prairiestate.edu) or Mark Florido, Program Associate, (312) 920-9605, [markflorido@iledfoundation.org](mailto:markflorido@iledfoundation.org).

Applications can be found online at [www.iledfoundation.org/apply](http://www.iledfoundation.org/apply)

**About the Illinois Education Foundation:** The Illinois Education Foundation (IEF) is a public/private partnership that broadens opportunities to low-income, high-potential community college students by providing a comprehensive scholarship program.



To learn more about the Illinois Education Foundation, visit our website: [www.iledfoundation.org](http://www.iledfoundation.org)



The Illinois Education Foundation (IEF) is proud to announce a new scholarship opportunity in support of Prairies State College students pursuing a Firefighter/EMT Basic Certificate starting January 2011. This year marks the IEF's fourth year of supporting community college students as they pursue their personal and professional goals.

To be considered for this scholarship, applicants must meet the following minimum requirements:

- Be enrolled in and pursuing a Firefighter/EMT Basic Certificate starting January 2011;
- A minimum 2.0 GPA;
- Be U.S. citizens or permanent residents eligible for federal and state financial aid and demonstrate proof of filing the FAFSA for the 2010-2011 academic year; and
- Applicants should be highly motivated and committed to their own academic and professional success and be willing to attend weekly supplemental instruction and periodic professional development activities.

Applicants selected for this application will benefit from financial, academic, and professional development opportunities including:

- A tuition scholarship and stipend to defray the cost of books, uniforms, and transportation;
- Weekly supplemental instruction; and
- Professional development and networking opportunities.

Applications for this scholarship will be accepted until, Monday, January 3, 2011. Completed applications should include:

- A completed application form;
- Student Aid Report (SAR) or other proof of filing the 2010-2011 FAFSA
- An unofficial transcript; and
- Two short essays.

To apply, visit, [www.iledfoundation.org/applynow](http://www.iledfoundation.org/applynow)

Questions about the application or this scholarship can be directed to Mark Florido, Program Associate, 312-920-9605 or [markflorido@iledfoundation.org](mailto:markflorido@iledfoundation.org).

### **Professional Development Program**

The IEF's professional development program will focus on expanding the scholars' sense of professionalism, personal presentation, and communication skills. In the short term, scholars will learn about professional norms and standards of communication which can be applied immediately and which they will also benefit from over the course of their internship and job searches. In the long-term, networking opportunities will yield contacts to industry professionals and broaden their job placement opportunities.

#### **Orientation:**

IEF Program Overview- Scholar Benefits and Responsibilities  
Workshop: Professionalism 101

#### **Session I:**

Workshop: Interpersonal Skills/Professionalism & Effective workplace Communication

#### **Session II:**

Ethics and Legal Issues

#### **Session III:**

Networking for your career & the IEF

#### **Session IV:**

Interview Skills Revisited & Resume Review

#### **Session V:**

You're Already In Management! Effective time management skills for school, work and life.

#### **Special Events:**

**Networking & Mocktail Reception, Mock Interview Night**

*The above topics are suggested topics*

### Program Calendar & Timeline:

Friday, December 3, 2010	Application launch on IEF webpage, and PSC webpage as soon as possible
Wednesday, December 22, 2010	First round of complete applications compiled and send to Keith Damm, Patty Valenziano, and Fire Science Technology Instructors for review.
Monday, January 3, 2011	Second round of complete applications compiled and send to Keith Damm, Patty Valenziano, and Fire Science Technology Instructors for review.  Meeting with Fire Science Instructors, 7p
Friday, January 7, 2011	Review of applications is completed scholarship recipients selected.
Monday, January 10, 2011	Scholarship Recipients Notified of Award
Wednesday, January 19, 2011	Scholar Orientation & Professional Development Intro  Scholar stipends distributed
Wednesday, January 26, 2011- Wednesday, May 11, 2011	Weekly Supplemental Instruction or Professional Development Sessions (exception, March 23, 2011, Spring Break)  Scholarship awards disbursed following midterm

Dates TBD: "It's Who You Know" Networking Night & Mock Interview Night