

Jackie Wilkerson Memorial Scholarship

Qualifications:

Applicants must be a full time employee of the primary provider in one of the thirteen (13) counties identified as EMS Region 5 who are interested in a career in Emergency Medical Services or advancing their EMS license to either Paramedic or Critical Care Paramedic thereby attending said course within the MTEMS region. The Service of applicant must also be in good standing with the Director's Association.

Eligibility

- **General Requirements**
 - Applicant must be fulltime employee of EMS Region 5 service in good standing with the Director's Association
 - High school or GED graduate
 - Qualified for admission to an approved training program within MTEMS.
- **Deadline**- Return application with all requirements to the Region 5 EMS Consultant's Office by the deadline on the application.
- **Eligible applicants** - must plan to attend a State and MTEMS approved:
 - Paramedic Program
 - Critical Care Paramedic Course.
- **Essay** - Applicants must submit a single page typewritten essay explaining why they wish to pursue an EMS career or to further their training.
- **Letters of Recommendation** - A minimum of 2 letters of recommendation are required. Recommenders should provide at least the following information:
- Recommender's name and Applicants name;
 - Recommender's contact information including phone number, address and e-mail.
 - Length of time acquainted with and relation to applicant.
 - If the applicant is currently with an EMS, Fire or Health Care agency, one of the recommendations should be from a supervisor.
 - Recommendations from relatives are not permitted.
 - For those just completing secondary education required references include teachers and any employer if applicable.
- **Other Considerations** – Meeting minimum criteria does not guarantee a scholarship award. Other considerations include motivation, future potential, honors, area of specialization, economic status, and availability of scholarship funds, compliance with scholarship application deadline, and other requirements specified by donors of certain scholarships.
- **Second Degrees** – The assistance does not provide scholarship assistance to a student who has already earned a college degree from an accredited institution.
- **Physical Form** – Applicant must submit proof of a current physical (less than 6 months old) on the Tennessee EMS medical form with application.

- **Required Grade Point Average** – Recipients must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.0. When the cumulative falls below the required grade point average the recipient will be notified by the Association that he/she will not be eligible for a scholarship for the following semester. When the cumulative grade point average returns to the minimum required level, the recipient may apply for reinstatement to the Educational Assistance Program. Incomplete Grades – Incomplete grades which cause the grade point to fall below required levels must be made up within the first ten days of the following semester in order to stay in the program without interruption.
- **Maximum Eligibility** – A student can receive an Association grant for a maximum of three semesters.

Course Curriculum Requirements/Conditions:

- **Withdrawal or Failure from Classes** – The student must notify the Regional consultant when dropping, withdrawal or failure from classes. A student who withdraws from a class without authorization from the director, will be required to repay a proportionate amount of the monetary and loses eligibility for Grant.
- **Repeating Courses** – The Association does not pay for students to repeat courses. A repeat course does not count toward the twelve hour load requirements.
- **Grades** - Certified copy of Grades must be submitted to the Association at the end of each semester.
- **Employment Changes** - For those pursuing advanced certifications and the recipient's employment status changes, new letters of recommendation from the new employer and Medical Director must be submitted at the start of the next applicable semester.
- **Licensure** - For those pursuing advanced certifications the recipient must maintain licensure in good standing per MTEMSDA and TN State EMS regulations. Failure to maintain good standing will result in immediate suspension of the grant and require a full refund of all grant monies to the Association.
- **Other financial Aid** – The applicant is not eligible if he or she is receiving assistance/tuition from another EMS agency or Association.
- **Release of Information** – In applying for and accepting a grant from the Director's Association, the grant recipient agrees that his/her grade point average and pertinent information can be released to the officers of the Association or in publicity or correspondence regarding Association activities or programming.
- **Authority** – The Middle Tennessee Director's Association comprised of those in good standing with the Director's Association are the final authority regarding grant rewards. The Scholarship Committee may authorize or withdraw funding for a recipient at any time.
- **Admission**– The scholarship applicant should be accepted for entry into an approved education program before the grant application is submitted.

Grant Recipient Expectations:

- Maintain high standards that will reflect favorably on the recipient, their sponsoring service and Middle TN EMS Directors Association.
- Immediately notify MTEMSDA of any changes in status, class load or other pertinent matters.
- Abide by all Association Regulations as stated.
- Following completion of the program, the scholarship recipient must write an acknowledgement letter to the Wilkerson Family copied to the Association.
- Work within the Middle TN region for at least two years.
- Present to the MTEMS Director's meeting prior to receipt of award.

Scholarship Awards:

Selection of recipients will be made without discrimination as to race, sex, creed, or national origin.

Awards will be based on the following structure:

- EMT-P - Potential of 50% of program fees up to \$2,000
- CCEMT-P program - Potential of 50% of program fees up to \$500

Scholarship awards will be based on merit and need. Awards shall be made payable to an educational entity in the name of the scholarship recipient. If the recipient does not complete the program, he or she will be expected to return the award so that it may be allocated to another applicant. Awards made to applicants currently attending Paramedic or CCEMT-P programs will only be eligible to receive an award for the remaining tuition costs, not costs incurred in the past.