



Heartland Regional Fire Training Foundation

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# Academy Scholarship Information

Presented by  
Heartland Regional Fire Training  
Foundation





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## GENERAL INFORMATION

The Heartland Regional Fire Training Foundation (HRFTF) is providing up to two (2) scholarships to individuals who wish to attend the Heartland Fire Academy but will not get their tuition covered through an agency sponsorship.

## SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS

The Foundation scholarship provides funds to cover a portion of tuition and books. The scholarship does not pay for mileage, insurance benefits, or a per diem.

The Foundation knows how difficult it is for a qualified person to commit financially to a fire academy program. It is believed that by offering this scholarship it will allow qualified recipients to attend the academy that otherwise may not afford to do so.

Scholarship recipients must attend the entire Recruit Firefighters Academy in its duration and pass all exams. Recipients, who fail to comply with provisions of their scholarship contract, for any reason, are liable to the Heartland Fire Training Academy for all tuition and fees.

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The following eligibility requirements apply:

1. Volunteer/Reserve.
  - a. A volunteer or reserve of a fire department that is currently associated with the Heartland Fire Training Authority JPA and who wants to obtain their Firefighter I Certification.

--OR--
2. Open Enrollee
  - a. Be currently enrolled at Southwestern College and in good academic standing.
  - b. Have a minimum cumulative academic college grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 grading scale.
  - c. Be a high school graduate or possess an equivalent certificate prior to acceptance into the Recruit Firefighter's Academy.
  - d. Meet the Academy Pre-requisite requirements.



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3. Character
  - a. Be of good moral character, as evidenced by participation as a member of his/her home community fire department or other emergency services provider that services the Heartland Fire Training Academy.
4. Citizenship
  - a. Must be a citizen of the United States.
  - b. Must be a California resident.
5. Age.
  - a. Be at least 18 years of age.
6. Motivation
  - a. Exhibits a strong desire to advance in the fire sciences.
7. Officer potential
  - a. Leadership potential will be emphasized as a very important factor in consideration for selection and continuance of the scholarship. Applicant must possess officer-like qualifications as evidenced by physical fitness, appearance and personality.
8. Moral Standings
  - a. Must not have any convictions under State and Federal law, other than minor traffic violations. You must sign a confirmation that you have not been convicted of any domestic violence crime. A criminal background check may be conducted.

### **OBLIGATION**

If selected for the Heartland Fire Training Academy scholarship and you accept, you are required to enter into an appropriate contract (Promissory Note) with the Heartland Regional Fire Training Foundation. This contract requires repayment to the Foundation for all aid received if an individual fails to comply with the terms of the contract and student requirements. This repayment may be monetary.

### **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

To apply, you must submit the items listed below to the Heartland Fire Training Foundation by 5:00 pm on September 15, 2023. Applications will NOT be accepted after this deadline.



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- a. Cover Letter
- b. Statement of Financial Hardship
- c. Response to Essay Questions.

### PROCESSING

When you have completed all the required documents, *return your packet with your fire academy application before the deadline to:*

**Heartland Regional Fire Training Foundation  
Attn: Heartland Fire Academy Scholarship Application  
1301 N Marshall Ave  
El Cajon, CA 92020**

Applications need to be received by 5:00 pm PST to be considered on time.

The Heartland Regional Fire Training Foundation will schedule and/or complete the following actions as needed.

- a. Interview (if applicable)

A panel of three Foundation Board members will form the Scholarship Committee and review the applications and conduct the interviews. The Scholarship Committee will grant awards to those applicants who demonstrate the greatest potential for positively impacting the fire service. Each applicant may be judged based on the following factors:

- a. Scholastic achievement
- b. Financial need
- c. Career goals and potentials
- d. Recommendations
- e. Academy application packet

### ANNOUNCEMENT OF WINNERS

The Coordinator of the Heartland Fire Training Academy will notify you of your status in writing as soon as competition results are released.



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### ESSAY QUESTIONNAIRE

(Please respond in paragraph format and keep your response to fewer than two pages)

- 1) How have you prepared yourself to attend such an arduous and lengthy program?
- 2) Pick an experience from your own life and explain how it has influenced your development.
- 3) Briefly describe your long- and short-term goals.
- 4) What do you expect to gain by attending the Heartland Fire Training Academy?
- 5) Describe your most meaningful achievements and how they relate to your future goals.

