



FAREMS FALL 2008 PARAMEDIC SCHOLARSHIPS Application Guidelines

The Florida Association of Rural EMS Providers, Inc. (FAREMS) is dedicated to supporting rural Florida EMS agencies in their efforts to improve pre-hospital emergency care in their communities. In order to improve the level of emergency medical care provided to rural Florida citizens, in October 2008, FAREMS will award paramedic scholarships in the amount of \$2,500 each to selected EMTs currently working in Florida's 33 rural counties*. These scholarships must be used to pay tuition and books for the candidate to attend a Florida state-approved paramedic certification program. Awardees demonstrating need and adequate progress toward their degree, may be eligible to receive an additional \$2,500 following completion of their first semester of paramedic school.

Applicant Eligibility

To be considered for this scholarship, candidates must:

1. Currently work as a certified EMT in one of Florida's 33 rural counties* that is a current Agency Member of FAREMS;
2. Have a minimum of six (6) months work experience as an EMT; and
3. Complete and submit the scholarship application form and required attachments in its entirety so that it is received in the FAREMS office by **5:00 pm on September 19, 2008.**

Application Review Criteria

Applications meeting the eligibility requirements as stated above will receive an objective and independent review by FAREMS Scholarship Committee members. This committee is composed of rural Florida EMS leaders, State Office of Rural Health and Bureau of EMS staff, and educators committed to supporting rural Florida EMS. No committee member will evaluate an application from the county(ies) in which he/she works or resides. A maximum of 100 points will be assigned by each committee member to each eligible application based on the following review criterion. The average of all committee member point scores will compose the final score for the application. The applications with the top scores will be chosen to receive scholarships. The review criteria are:

1. 40 points—Application demonstrates that applicant is committed to and involved in rural county of applicant's current employment. Judges will be seeking candidates they believe will remain in rural county after paramedic certification.
2. 30 points—Application demonstrates that applicant has leadership capabilities. Judges will be seeking candidates they believe have the ability to progress to leadership positions within an EMS organization.
3. 20 points—Application demonstrates a need in the county for additional licensed paramedics.
4. 5 points—EMT transcripts and other college level transcripts demonstrate academic aptitude.
5. 5 points—Submitted application is legible and complete.

Terms of Scholarship Award

Upon receipt of a FAREMS Paramedic Scholarship, awardees must:

1. Enroll in a Florida state-approved paramedic certification program beginning no later than June 1, 2009
2. Maintain a "C" grade average or above in all coursework applied to the paramedic degree
3. Submit grades or transcripts to FAREMS after each completed semester of the paramedic degree
4. Sign a two-year paramedic employment contract with the rural EMS agency of current employment

If an awardee fails to comply with any of the above Terms of Scholarship Award, the awardee must repay FAREMS the award amount on a prorated basis.

*Florida counties considered rural by Florida statute are: Baker, Bradford, Calhoun, Columbia, DeSoto, Dixie, Franklin, Gadsden, Gilchrist, Glades, Gulf, Hamilton, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Liberty, Madison, Monroe, Nassau, Okeechobee, Putnam, Sumter, Suwannee, Taylor, Union, Wakulla, Walton, and Washington.

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Application Guidelines

Application Instructions

1. Complete the attached application form in its entirety.
2. Attach the following to the completed application form:
 - a. Copy of applicant's current EMT certification
 - b. Copy of transcripts from school(s) where applicant received EMT certification and completed any other college level courses
 - c. Letter of recommendation from the EMS medical director in the county of applicant's current employment
 - d. Letter of recommendation from the EMS agency director in the county of applicant's current employment, including statement describing the need for additional licensed paramedics in their county
 - e. One page typed and double-spaced statement from applicant describing applicant's commitment to and involvement in rural county where scholarship is awarded.
3. Mail or deliver completed original signed application with attachments and six (6) complete copies (no faxed applications will be accepted) so that it is received in the FAREMS office by **5:00 pm on September 19, 2008** to:

FAREMS
Scholarship Applications
PO Box 358582
Gainesville, FL 32635-8582

NOTE: Incomplete applications or applications not including the required number of copies will be deemed incomplete and will NOT be reviewed by the Scholarship Committee.

Please direct any questions regarding this scholarship opportunity to Tracy Burger, 352-256-5503 or tburger@FAREMS.org.



FAREMS FALL 2008 PARAMEDIC SCHOLARSHIPS Application Form

Please type or print all information.

I. Applicant Information

Applicant Name _____ DOB _____

Personal Information:

Home Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ County _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

EMS Agency of Current Employment:

Agency Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ County _____

Total length of service: at this agency _____ as an EMT _____

Average number of service hours per week _____

Current certifications (EMT, CPR, etc.) _____

Additional education/awards/special recognition _____

II. Additional Information

Include the following with this application upon submission:

1. Copy of applicant's current EMT certification
2. Copy of transcripts from school(s) where applicant received EMT certification and completed any other college level courses
3. Letter of recommendation from the EMS medical director in the county of applicant's current employment
4. Letter of recommendation from the EMS agency director in the county of applicant's current employment, including statement describing the need for additional licensed paramedics in their county
5. One page typed and double-spaced statement from applicant describing applicant's commitment to and involvement in rural county where scholarship is awarded.

III. Signature

I certify that the above information is correct and that I have read and understand the Terms of Scholarship Award. If any of the above information is found to be false, I understand my application will be determined invalid. I understand that if chosen to receive a scholarship, I will be required to sign a two-year paramedic employment commitment with my current EMS agency employer upon completion of paramedic training.

Applicant's Signature

Date

Completed and signed original applications and required copies should be mailed or delivered (no faxed applications will be accepted) so that it is received in the FAREMS office by **5:00 pm on September 19, 2008** to:

FAREMS, Scholarship Applications, PO Box 358582, Gainesville, FL 32635-8582