

Charles W. Riley Firefighter and Ambulance and Rescue Squad Member Scholarship Program

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How do I apply?

Submit an application in MDCAPS and **upload** the required documentation by April 15, 2025. Required documents will be listed under “Check Application Status” in MDCAPS once the application is submitted.

Late applications and supporting documents will be accepted and only considered if there are funds available after all eligible on-time applicants are awarded.

2. Who may apply?

Actively engaged career or volunteer firefighters, ambulance or rescue squad members. Actively engaged is defined as either:

-a volunteer member within a county or municipality who has earned at least 50 Length of Service Award (LOSAP) points or its equivalent (if not under LOSAP system) in 2020 tax year while in service;

OR

-a career member who has worked a minimum of 1,000 hours as part of a fire, ambulance, or rescue squad in 2023 tax year

3. What are the required documents to be considered?

Required documentation is dependent on your status at the time that you apply.

Volunteer firefighter, ambulance, or rescue squad members in Maryland must submit:

-Riley Service Verification Form (Downloadable under “Check Application Status” in MDCAPS);

-Documentation of LOSAP points or its equivalent in 2023 tax year;

-For initial applicants only, official letter of acceptance in a program of fire service technology, emergency medical technology, fire service management, or public safety administration with a minor or concentration in fire service technology or fire service management at the institution.

For active career firefighter, ambulance, or rescue squad members in Maryland:

-Riley Service Verification Form (Downloadable under “Check Application Status” in MDCAPS);

-For initial applicants only, official letter of acceptance (at institution) in a program of fire service technology, emergency medical technology, fire service management, or public safety

administration with a minor or concentration in fire service technology or fire service management.

4. Do I have to complete the FAFSA to be considered for the scholarship?

No, the FAFSA is not required to be considered for the Charles W. Riley Firefighter and Ambulance and Rescue Squad Scholarship.

5. What is the application deadline date?

The application and all required documents must be submitted by April 15th.

6. What is the GPA requirement to be considered?

There is no GPA requirement for an initial applicant. To be considered for a renewal award, you must maintain a 2.5 GPA. *The institution will update the student's GPA at the end of each academic year in MDCAPS.*

7. What is the service requirement?

A recipient is required to serve for 1 year as a volunteer or career firefighter or ambulance or rescue squad member, in a full-time or part-time capacity, of an organized fire department or ambulance or rescue squad in the State after completion of an eligible program.

8. Can I use the award toward courses that are not required for my degree program?

No, the award may only apply toward courses credited toward a degree in fire service technology, emergency medical technology, fire service management, or public safety administration with a minor or concentration in fire service technology or fire service management.