

## Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation of North Carolina Firefighter Stipend and Scholarship Program

### Eligibility Requirements and Student Applications (Three Options)

The Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation of NC Firefighter Stipend and Scholarship Program will provide stipends of \$500 per term or scholarships up to \$1,000 per term for eligible community college students pursuing NC Firefighter Certification courses or courses leading to an eligible associate degree, as described in the [three options detailed below](#). These funds are designated to assist North Carolina fire and rescue departments with recruitment and retention of firefighters. A particular emphasis is in supporting the recruitment and training of individuals in achieving their Firefighter I & II certifications to impact the number of firefighters within the state.

This funding is available to students at 20 designated NC Community Colleges: Beaufort CC, Bladen CC, Blue Ridge CC, Caldwell CC&TI, Central Carolina CC, Cleveland CC, College of The Albemarle, Halifax CC, Isothermal CC, James Sprunt CC, Montgomery CC, Nash CC, Richmond CC, Robeson CC, Southwestern CC, Stanly CC, Surry CC, Vance-Granville CC, Wayne CC, and Wilson CC.

Each college will determine which options are available and the application processes for each. Program options are as follows: **1) BCBS Foundation Firefighter Stipends**; **2) BCBS Foundation Firefighter Scholarships to Adults**; and/or **3) BCBS Foundation Firefighter Scholarships to High School Students**. Please contact the local college financial aid office for details.

#### 1. BCBS Foundation Firefighter Stipends

##### Recruitment and retention of NC firefighters

While registration fees are waived there are significant costs associated to accessing any training including materials, travel, and personal resources. The BCBS Foundation Firefighter Stipends are intended to offset out-of-pocket expenses a student could incur in order to participate in training leading to Firefighter I & II, NC Driver/Operator Pumps, or Emergency Vehicle Driver Certifications

##### Stipend Award

- \$500 per term (must reapply each term)
  - Funds are disbursed to the student's college account to cover any expenses for the program/courses to cover instructional costs (books, materials, etc.) associated the designated fire fighter training within a NC community college. Any balance of funds will be allocated to the student.

##### Eligibility Requirements

- The student must enroll in course(s) required to achieve the NC Firefighter I & II, NC Driver/Operator Pumps, and/or Emergency Vehicle Driver certifications.

## 2. BCBS Foundation Firefighter Scholarships to Adults:

**Incentive to engage to advance as a firefighter with path to broader public safety career goals.**

Eligible programs: Fire Protection Technology, Public Safety Administration, Emergency

Management or Emergency Medical Science curriculum associate degree programs and Workforce

Continuing Education courses that tie directly to a college's approved EMS Bridge program and is specifically part of the student's pathway to EMS associate degree completion.

### Scholarship Award

- Up to \$1,000 per term (must reapply each term)
  - Funds are disbursed to the student's account to cover any expenses for the program/courses to cover instructional costs (tuition, fees, books, materials, supplies, etc.) associated with an eligible curriculum program. Any balance of funds will be allocated to the student.

### Eligibility Requirements

- Hold an active NC Firefighter I & II certification
- Student must successfully complete courses covered by the scholarship in any previous term to be eligible for funding in a subsequent term.

## 3. BCBS Foundation Firefighter Scholarships to High School Students:

**Incentive to engage to advance as a firefighter with path to broader public safety career goals.**

Eligible programs: Fire Protection Technology, Public Safety Administration, Emergency

Management or Emergency Medical Science curriculum associate degree programs and Workforce

Continuing Education courses that tie directly to a college's approved EMS Bridge program and is specifically part of the student's pathway to EMS associate degree completion.

### Scholarship Award

- up to \$1,000 per term (must reapply each term)
  - Funds are disbursed to the student's account to cover any expenses for the program/courses to cover instructional costs (tuition, fees, books, materials, supplies, etc.) associated with an eligible curriculum program. Any balance of funds will be allocated to the student.

### Eligibility Requirements

- Successful completion of a Career & College Promise – Workforce Continuing Education (CCP – WCE) Fire Academy pathway.
- Student must successfully complete courses covered by the scholarship in any previous term to be eligible for funding in a subsequent term.

### Attachments

Form A: BCBS Foundation [Firefighter Stipend](#) Application Form

Form B: BCBS Foundation [Firefighter Scholarship to Adults](#) Application Form

Form C: BCBS Foundation [Firefighter Scholarship to High School Students](#) Application Form



### Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation Firefighter Scholarship to Adults Application

Please confirm if your college is an eligible college and if it is offering this option for the term you are interested in. Return the completed application form to the college Financial Aid Office by the deadline specified by the college.

**Scholarship Award:** Up to \$1,000 per term (must reapply each term). Funds are disbursed to the student’s account to cover any expenses for the program/courses to cover instructional costs (tuition, fees, books, materials, supplies, etc.) associated with an eligible program as listed below. Any balance of funds will be allocated to the student. **Eligible programs:** Fire Protection Technology, Public Safety Administration, Emergency Management or Emergency Medical Science curriculum associate degree programs and Workforce Continuing Education courses that tie directly to a college’s approved EMS Bridging program and is specifically part of the student’s pathway to EMS associate degree completion. **Eligibility Requirements: 1)** Hold an active NC Firefighter I & II certification; **2)** Successfully complete courses covered by the scholarship in any previous term to be eligible for funding in a subsequent term.

<b>College Name</b>	
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Student Information (please print)

Full Name	
Home Address	
City/State/Zip Code	
Email Address	
Phone Number	
Mobile Number	

**Specify Term Applying For:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Example: Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Summer 2021)

<b>List eligible course(s)/associated degree program student has enrolled in for the term specified:</b>

I have provided evidence that I have an active Firefighter I&II certification.

If I was awarded this scholarship in the past, I have provided evidence of successfully completing previous courses.

I have read and understand the requirements for this funding. I hereby declare that the information provided on this form is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge.

**Applicant Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_