

May 1, 2008 Deadline for NYS HESC Volunteer Recruitment Service Scholarship (VRSS)

The Regional EMS Office would like to remind all volunteer EMS and Fire agencies that the New York State Higher Education Services Corporation (HESC) Volunteer Recruitment Service Scholarship (VRSS) program aimed at volunteer EMS providers and firefighters, has a new deadline for 2008.

Instead of August 1st , as in past years, the 2008 deadline for agency selection criteria and applications is MAY 1st.

In case you have not received this information from the state, included with this memo is a FAQs sheet for this scholarship and its application.

These materials are also available on the HESC website:

http://www.hesc.com/content.nsf/SFC/2/NYS_Volunteer_Recruitment_Service
Applications AND Selection Criteria MUST be postmarked by MAY 1, 2008.

All volunteer firefighters and ambulance personnel are eligible for this award whom:

- * Have been New York State residents for at least one year
- * Are enrolled in an approved undergraduate degree program in New York State.
- * Have a course load of at least six credits per term
- * If 23 years of age or older, have less than six months of volunteer service at time of initial award
- * If under 23 years of age, no minimum or maximum time of volunteer service is required at time of initial award
- * Are not in possession of a baccalaureate degree or higher
- * Are attending a college/institution within 50 miles of the volunteer organization, or if no college is available within the 50-mile limit, the nearest college/institution. Program of study is not a determining factor. Recent legislation allows for an exception to the fifty mile radius requirement if you enter into a joint service agreement with your company and a "Host" company whose service area contains the school where you are enrolled.
- * Have a high school diploma or equivalent
- * Have applied for state and federal financial aid

Each agency is responsible for selecting a candidate for this program and submitting him or her to HESC for consideration. The scholarships will then be chosen randomly by HESC.

Please contact HESC if you have any questions about this program.

1-888-NYS-HESC
1-518-473-1574 / 1-800-445-5234 (TDD)
New York State Higher Education Services Corporation
99 Washington Avenue, Albany, New York 12255
www.hesc.org <<http://www.hesc.org/>>

