

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 3.7: SCHOLARSHIP POLICY

PURPOSE

To establish Illinois APCO Chapter policy with regards to awarding of the I. Otto Rhoades Scholarship.

AUTHORITY

The Association is authorized to present awards to those who have performed outstanding service in accordance with Article VIII of the Chapter Bylaws.

POLICY

1. I. Otto Rhoades is a former APCO National President and longtime Illinois APCO member. The I. Otto Rhoades Scholarship is named in honor of his commitment to the Chapter and APCO International. The Scholarship provides financial assistance for educational purposes to qualified members of the Illinois Chapter of APCO and their immediate family members.
2. Each year that this scholarship is to be offered by the Illinois Chapter of APCO, an announcement shall be made at the preceding December regular business meeting. Illinois APCO reserves the right to not offer the scholarship in any given year.
3. Written notice announcing the scholarship program and soliciting applications shall be mailed to all eligible Illinois APCO Chapter members.
4. An application must be submitted to be eligible to receive the Scholarship.
 - 4.1 The application must be returned to the Illinois Chapter by the announced deadline for it to be considered.
 - 4.2 The following documentation must be submitted along with the application:
 - 4.2.1 A copy of the applicant's high school diploma or valid GED certificate.
 - 4.2.2 A letter of recommendation from a high school instructor, college instructor or employer.
 - 4.2.3 A resume showing all educational and work related experience must accompany the application.
 - 4.3 Other instructions as stated on the application must be followed in order for the application to be considered.

- 4.4 If no applications are received, the Chapter reserves the right to discontinue the scholarship program for that year or to extend the deadline for applications.
5. The following eligibility requirements must be met:
 - 5.1 Chapter members shall:
 - 5.1.1 Be a current member (any class) of the Illinois Chapter.
 - 5.1.2 Have a minimum of two (2) years of consecutive membership in the Illinois Chapter from the date of the scholarship application.
 - 5.1.3 Reside in or have their principal place of business in Illinois if they hold multiple memberships.
 - 5.2 Chapter member's family members shall:
 - 5.2.1 Be a member's spouse who resides in the same household providing the member meets the requirements set forth in sections II (a), II (b), and II (c) above.
 - 5.2.2 Be a member's children providing the member meets the requirements set forth in sections II (a), II (b), and II (c).
 - 5.2.2.1 The term 'children' is defined as any child (natural born, adopted or step child) under the age of twenty-three (23).
6. The I. Otto Rhoades Scholarship will be awarded based on the following:
 - 6.1 The recipient must be enrolled in an accredited university, college, junior college or trade school, either as a full time or part time student. Other public safety related classes offered by a non-accredited institution would be considered on a case-by-case basis.
 - 6.2 The scholarship will be valid for a period of one (1) year from the date it is awarded.
 - 6.3 The scholarship may be used only for tuition, books and lab fees.
 - 6.4 Scholarship funds will be used to reimburse for expenses incurred up to the maximum scholarship amount and submitted in accordance with the procedure outlined in Section IV.
- 7.0 The I. Otto Rhoades Scholarship is awarded on a 'reimbursement of expenses' basis. The following conditions must be met by the recipient:
 - 7.1 Detailed, dated receipts must be presented in order to claim reimbursement for qualified expenses (tuition, books and lab fees).
 - 7.2 All reimbursements will take place at the end of the academic period(s) (quarter, semester, etc).
 - 7.3 The recipient must maintain an overall equivalent of a 'C' average for the academic period in which qualified expenses are claimed. The recipient must furnish an official copy of the grade report for the academic period in which qualified expenses are claimed.

- 8.0 The Illinois APCO Scholarship Committee is standing committee comprised of five- (5) members appointed by the Chapter President.
 - 8.1 No more than two (2) committee members shall be employed by the same local governmental agency, department of State government, or company.
 - 8.2 The five (5) members shall include:
 - 8.2.1 One chapter officer.
 - 8.2.2 One Active category member.
 - 8.2.3 One Commercial category member.
 - 8.2.4 One member whose work is primarily in the function of a Communications Technician.
 - 8.2.5 One member whose work is primarily in the function of a Telecommunicator
 - 8.3 Should members from a particular category not be found or available to serve on the committee, the Chapter President shall fill the committee assignments from the chapter membership without regard to membership class or job function.
 - 8.4 All Scholarship Committee members must have current membership in the Illinois Chapter and must have been a member of the Illinois Chapter for a minimum of two (2) years prior to the date of appointment to the committee.
 - 8.5 In addition to the five (5) committee members, an additional person shall be appointed to receive all applications and to act as liaison between the Scholarship Committee and the chapter as a whole.
 - 8.5.1 This person shall be appointed by the Chapter President and can be from any membership category.
 - 8.5.2 This person must have current membership in the Illinois Chapter and must have been a member of the Illinois Chapter for a minimum of two (2) years prior to the date of appointment to the committee.
 - 8.6 The five (5) committee members, the person appointed as liaison, the Chapter President and their family members are ineligible to apply for or be awarded scholarship funds for the year they serve in their office.
9. The Scholarship Committee shall not award the scholarship fund in any given year, if the committee determines there are no qualified applicants available
10. All decisions of the Scholarship Committee are final.
11. Illinois APCO reserves the right to verify application data submitted to confirm the eligibility of any applicant.
12. Application forms and other supporting documents submitted to Illinois APCO become the property of Illinois APCO and will not be returned.