



Professional Fire Fighters of Eastern Missouri
International Association of Fire Fighters Local 2665
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Brothers and Sisters,

Today, Governor Mike Kehoe announced that the application for Missouri's Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Act Scholarship is now open. Championed and developed by the International Association of Firefighters Local 2665 in partnership with the SLCPA, the Act was established through [Senate Bill 71](#), sponsored by Senator David Gregory and Representative Dave Hinman.

The scholarship delivers tuition support for first responders and our families. The scholarship helps cover the cost of tuition for eligible public safety personnel and their dependent children pursuing a qualifying license, certification, or post-secondary degree from a Missouri public or independent college or university or a Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) accredited training provider.

"The Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Act Scholarship provides support and a path toward a quality education for Missouri's dedicated public safety professionals and their children," said Governor Kehoe. "We know that the recruitment and retention of first responders is a major concern across our state, so that's why we are proud to invest in the future of those who have made incredible sacrifices for our communities and who help keep Missourians safe. We appreciate the members of the General Assembly for supporting this scholarship and delivering real support to first responder families."

Full-time Fire Fighters, Paramedics, Telecommunicator first responders, Emergency Medical Technicians, and Police Officers with at least six years of service may be eligible to receive the scholarship. Additionally, the dependent children of those with at least 10 years of service may also qualify. Applicants must also meet certain eligibility requirements, including be a Missouri resident and complete a [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#).

"The Public Safety Recruitment & Retention Act Scholarship will offer public safety personnel and their children a cost-effective opportunity to invest in their future by earning a certificate or degree," added Dr. Bennett Boggs, Commissioner of the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development. "We are honored to extend this support to the incredibly courageous Missourians committed to protecting our citizens and communities."

To apply, interested individuals must create an account and complete the application through the [State Financial Aid Portal](#). In addition to the application, individuals will be required to upload and submit documentation verifying employment, Missouri residency, and other eligibility requirements.

The scholarship application and supporting documents must be submitted to the Missouri Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development (MDHEWD) by November 5, 2025, to be considered for the 2025-2026 school year. This covers tuition and fees for the entire academic year, including the current fall semester.

Additionally, the scholarship application for the 2026-2027 school year will be available in the State Financial Aid Portal by late October with a statutory deadline of December 15, 2025. Interested individuals will need to apply for the scholarship each academic year to be considered for the award.

For more information about the Public Safety Recruitment & Retention Act Scholarship, visit the [MDHEWD website](#). Detailed information about qualifying majors, eligibility requirements, application instructions, and more is available in the [Public Safety Recruitment & Retention Act Scholarship FAQs](#).

Fraternally,

Cory Hogan
Executive Vice President
I.A.F.F. Local 2665