

Application for the A.C. Apfelbeck Certified Fire Protection (CFPS) Scholarship Program Administered by the Florida Fire & Emergency Services Foundation

The Florida Fire & Emergency Services Foundation has partnered with Tony Apfelbeck to extend scholarships to individuals who wish to achieve a higher level of certification as a Certified Fire Protection Specialist. The Foundation will reimburse the applicant for the \$350.00 cost once the approved scholarship applicant has passed the CFPS exam and achieved certification. (Reimbursement will be made upon documentation of certification provided to the Florida Fire & Emergency Services Foundation.)

The CFPS Board credential has been awarded to more than 2,000 professionals and is internationally recognized as a mark of achievement within the fire protection field. This group of certified professionals includes risk managers, loss control specialists, fire officers, fire marshals, fire inspectors, safety managers, fire protection consultants, designers, loss prevention professionals, building code officials, building inspectors, commercial real estate managers and others who have responsibilities dealing with the application of fire safety, fire protection, prevention, and suppression technologies.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the CFPS Scholarship program is to assist governmental fire code officials to achieve a higher level of performance and professionalism through certification as a Certified Fire Protection Specialist (CFPS).

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The purpose of the Certified Fire Protection Specialist designation is to recognize, through certification, qualified individuals who are dedicated to curtailing fire loss, both physical and financial, and who have acquired a level of professionalism through applied work experiences and related education opportunities, and through successful completion of a certification examination.

The goal of the CFPS designation is to promote the discipline of fire protection and prevention. A specific degree is not mandatory for obtaining your CFPS designation. The credential is a balance of education and experience and provides an opportunity for the fire protection specialist to achieve professional recognition. The CFPS Board maintains certification and recertification criteria as related to fire protection specialists.

CFPS certification provides two distinct opportunities for candidates. First, the process provides the individual with a period of self-assessment and self-improvement during the process of preparing for the examination and documenting professional experience.

Second, achievement of certification provides the individual with recognition by his or her peers and employers or potential employers. The website for the CFPS program is: www.nfpa.org/certification

ELIGIBILITY FOR THE CFPS EXAMINATION

To be eligible to take the CFPS examination, candidates must demonstrate on the CFPS examination application that they meet one of the following criteria:

1. Bachelor's degree in engineering, technology, or other related discipline from an accredited college or university, plus two years of verifiable work experience dedicated to curtailing fire loss, both physical and financial.
2. Associate's degree in engineering, technology or other related discipline from an accredited college or university, plus four years of verifiable work experience dedicated to curtailing fire loss, both physical and financial.
3. High school diploma, plus six years of verifiable work experience dedicated to curtailing fire loss, both physical and financial.

ELIGIBILITY FOR FFCA CFPS SCHOLARSHIP

To be eligible as a scholarship recipient the applicant must:

1. Currently be a member of the Florida Fire Chiefs' Association or the Florida Fire Marshals' and Inspectors' Association.
2. Currently be certified as a Florida Fire Safety Inspector
3. Currently be performing a role where a majority of the applicant's time is in Fire Inspection, Fire Plans Review or Fire Code Management field.
4. Currently be employed by a Florida municipality, county, special district or the State of Florida.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Scholarship applicants must:

1. Have their direct supervisor provide a letter stating that there is no internal funding source available from the employer to support the applicant in achieving the CFPS.
2. Provide a copy of your current Florida Fire Safety Inspector certificate.
3. Provide a copy of their current job description.
4. Provide documentation of current membership in the FFCA or FFMIA.
5. Attest, by signature below, that if approved for the scholarship, the applicant will:

- a. Test for the CFPS within six months of scholarship approval. If the applicant does not test within six months of application approval, the scholarship is void unless specific written approval is provided by the Foundation allowing for an extended testing timeframe and;
- b. Maintain their CFPS certification for the term of their employment in the Fire Inspection, Plan Review or Fire Code Management fields.

Scholarships are awarded on a first come, first served based on funding availability. If approved for the scholarship, the applicant will receive confirmation of the approval from the Foundation. In order to receive reimbursement for the CFPS exam, the scholarship recipient must provide a copy of the CFPS designation letter and CFPS certificate to the Foundation within 30 days of receiving the designation. (Funds will not be reimbursed if the CFPS designation letter and CFPS certificate is not received within the 30 calendar days of the date of designation letter and within six months of the initial scholarship approval.)

I attest that I agree to the eligibility and responsibilities as listed above.

Print Name

Signature

Employer

Job Title

Address

City, State, Zip

Phone

Please remember to provide the documentation listed in the responsibilities section along with the completed information above to the FFCA by FAX, email or mailed to the address below.

Florida Fire Chiefs Association

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