



# Virginia Fire Prevention Association

*"Serving Virginia's Fire Service and Code Enforcement Communities Since 1968"*

Jeremy Luttrell, *President*  
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PO Box 504  
Bristow, Virginia 20136  
[www.vfpa.org](http://www.vfpa.org)

## **Howard Summers Memorial Scholarship**

The Howard Summers Scholarship program honors the accomplishments of Howard H. Summers, Jr. Howard Summers served as Chief Fire Marshal for the Commonwealth for 37 years and was a founding member of VFPA. He was an activist in promoting automatic sprinklers and robust fire prevention programs. Raised in Norfolk, he graduated from Norview High School in 1941, the year the U.S. entered World War II. He was a WWII veteran and served aboard the destroyer USS Hugh Purvis - DD-709 during the war. He graduated with mechanical and engineering degrees from Duke University and Virginia Polytechnic Institute after the war. In addition to serving as State Fire Marshal, Howard Summers served as a fire science instructor at several colleges and was a strong advocate of fire inspector training and development. Before retiring as a Lt. Commander from the Coast Guard Reserve, he served as an instructor in Port Security. He was a life member of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE) and VFPA. He was also an active member of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and a board member of the American Fire Sprinkler Association, VA Chapter (AFSA).

### **Scholarship Rules**

1. Scholarships are limited to Virginia residents for use at an accredited degree-granting institution of higher learning in the United States, in fields of study with an emphasis on fire safety, fire protection, fire prevention, fire protection engineering, or a related field.
2. Scholarships are paid directly to the candidate based on written acknowledgment that the scholarship award will be used for the intended purpose.
3. Scholarship funds may be used for any purpose associated with education, such as tuition, books, computing equipment, etc.
4. Scholarships are open to any Virginia student entering or attending an accredited degree granting institution, with an emphasis in a field listed in item #1. Evidence of enrollment is required.
5. Full-time and part-time students are both eligible for consideration.
6. Applications must be postmarked by April 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year. Applications postmarked after April 1<sup>st</sup> will be discarded without notification and not returned.
7. The number and value of scholarships each year are subject to annual funds availability as determined by the Board of Trustees.
8. Scholarships are limited, one per applicant.
9. Scholarships will be awarded without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or state of physical handicap.

10. All essays must be an original, unpublished work and comply with the provisions list under *Application Process* below.
11. Essays must be between 500 - 1,000 words, typed, not handwritten, in the English language.
12. Decisions of the judges are final.
13. The author retains copyright and ownership of their essay, but VFPA reserves the first right to submit the essay to *Virginia Town and City* or a similar publication for publication, under the author's name as the scholarship winner.
14. All entries become the property of VFPA and will not be returned.

### **Application Process**

All application materials must be mailed in hard copy to:

**Howard Summers Scholarship c/o VFPA**  
P.O. Box 504, Bristow, VA 20136

Submissions must include an application (available in PDF format at [www.vfpa.org](http://www.vfpa.org)) and an essay describing **ONE** of the following topics:

- A trend in fire safety or fire protection and its impact on the Commonwealth
- A significant fire incident in the United States and efforts within the Commonwealth aimed at preventing the same.
- A successful fire prevention program by a department or agency of the Commonwealth, or a political subdivision of the Commonwealth.
- The applicant's suggestion for a fire safety/fire prevention program that can be used by the State or local governments.
- A significant fire in the U.S. and lessons learned that may be used by State or local government agencies in fire prevention programs.

### **Candidate Evaluation and Selection**

Applications and essays will be judged by a panel consisting of:

- One member of the VFPA Board of Trustees, selected by the President (this member will serve as the chairperson for the selection committee).
- One member of the State Fire Marshal's staff, selected by the State Fire Marshal
- One member from the Virginia Fire Services Board, appointed by the Chairperson

Applications and essays will be forwarded to the committee by **April 15<sup>th</sup>**.

The chairperson will report the results to the President by **May 15<sup>th</sup>**.

Scholarship winners will be notified by telephone or mail immediately.

Scholarship winners will be invited to the annual business meeting to receive their scholarships.

Attendance is not required, and travel and lodging expenses will not be provided by VFPA.

Winners who choose not to attend will receive their checks by mail within one week of the Spring Conference.