

West Pittston Community Ambulance Assoc. Scholarship



The West Pittston Community Ambulance Association was incorporated in 1952 under the auspices of “Reggie” Ellis, Don Foster and former Mayor “Red” Campbell. Under their guidance and with the co- operation of the Strubeck Funeral Home whose hearse doubled as the borough’s ambulance (which was a common practice back then), emergency transport was born. A first aid kit, an oxygen tank and stretcher were the only equipment at the time.

Volunteers were required to take Reggie's first aid course at the West Pittston Hose Co #1 building.

Over 50 years later, state requirements have mandated an Emergency Medical Training Certificate requirement for basic life support on scene and transit, and an advanced training certificate for Paramedics working advanced life support. The modern day ambulance is stocked well beyond the humble beginnings and their costs are staggering approximately \$200,000 for a new vehicle plus the medical stock.

Sadly volunteerism has declined while requirements have risen. Most ambulance associations have had paid duty crews for over 20 years. That’s why the West Pittston Community Ambulance Association (WPCAA) has partnered with Commonwealth Health Emergency Management Systems to provide us with basic and advanced support 24/7 resulting in the very best service possible for our community.

Many of our volunteer board members started at your age as a volunteer for the ambulance and/or a fire company. We encourage you to get involved at this level to experience the wonderful feeling that comes from helping people in distress Gain the basic certificates that will augment your life skills and perhaps you will save a life one day.

Therefore, it is our pleasure to offer a \$1000 scholarship to a Wyoming Area graduating senior from WEST PITTSTON who is interested in the medical field at any level. Out basic requirements include a strong “Volunteer Spirit”, good academic standing, and acceptance into a health care program. Thank you for your interest and we look forward to hearing from you in the form of the criteria listed below.

CRITERIA: Applicant must be a WEST PITTSTON resident who is a Wyoming Area graduating senior who is interested in the medical/health care field at any level. One who has a strong “volunteer spirit”, is in good standing academically and has been accepted into a healthcare/medical program at an established/ accredited educational facility ranging from a certificate program, a technical or trade school, a community college or a 2 or 4 year college or university may apply.

Applicant may want to be an EMT or a doctor, a pharmacist or an OT, a dental hygienist or a nurse these are examples of a few health professionals BUT there are many others that may qualify.

ESSAY: In an essay of at least 500 words tell us about your strong “**Volunteer Spirit**” and what has motivated you to pursue a career in the health/medical field?