INTRODUCTION

Environmental Protection Scholarships are available to college juniors, seniors, and graduate students. The Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection (DEP) sponsors this scholarship program through the Kentucky Water Resources Research Institute (KWRRI). Scholarships will be awarded to students in academic disciplines that are of critical need to the Department. The number of scholarships awarded each year depends on the availability of funds.

Scholarships cover the cost of in-state tuition, room and board, books, and fees. The amount of support is determined from information provided by the Financial Aid Office at the respective university. Students who accept the scholarship are obligated for employment with the DEP following graduation.

QUALIFICATIONS

Applicants must be or become full-time students who, by their initial funded semester, will have completed a minimum of 60 semester hours, or have met the entrance requirements for graduate school. Applicants must be enrolled in a public university in Kentucky. Major course work must be in an academic discipline of critical need to the Department.

Needs: Hydrogeologists, Environmental Engineers, Chemical Engineers, Data Managers, Epidemiologists, and Chemists

METHOD OF SELECTION

Scholarship recipients will be selected on a competitive basis. Selection criteria include: GPA, a written essay, letters of recommendation by faculty advisors, and evidence of leadership/service. Upon receiving the recommendations of the KWRRI, the DEP will invite selected candidates for a personal interview. After the interviews, the DEP will extend a scholarship contract to those students the Department thinks have the greatest promise as future employees.
AGREEMENT WITH THE DEP
For the student to be awarded a scholarship they must agree, by contract, to work full time for the DEP immediately after graduation. The term of employment obligation is six months of employment for each semester of financial aid.

The Department can provide summer employment for scholarship students if they do not enroll in summer school. Alternative work or study plan for the summer are to be presented by the scholarship student to the Department.

CONDITIONS OF THE SCHOLARSHIP
Students awarded a scholarship must maintain full-time student status, make normal progress toward the degree indicated, and maintain a satisfactory GPA leading to graduation. The scholarship is awarded each semester based on the above and the availability of funds from the Department. If the student fails to meet the above criteria they may be dropped from the program. They may re-apply when such deficiencies are corrected.

Out of state students will be supported at the in-state level.

If the student fails to meet the terms of the scholarship contract, repayment will be due to the KWRRI including an interest rate of 12% per annum.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:
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The completed application for the Environmental Protection Scholarship is to be sent to arrive at KWRRI on or before February 15.

The Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age or disability.

Upon request, reasonable accommodations including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford an individual with a disability an equal opportunity to participate in all services, programs, and activities will be provided.